

Arturo Pelayo

global media alchemist

T +1 (847) 890-9180

 arturopelayo

arturo.pelayo@gmail.com

The following is a *qualitative skill chart* that encompasses eight years of life abroad as well as The Scholar Ship experience that encompassed living in a cruise ship for 16 weeks while exploring Greece, Portugal, Panama, Ecuador, French Polynesia, New Zealand, Australia and China.

EXPERIENCE	INTERCULTURAL / COMMUNICATION SKILLS	NETWORKING / WORLD VIEW	SENSE OF SELF / ANALYTICS	PERSONAL CAPABILITIES / STRATEGIC THINKING	ACTIVISM & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
living with people	I have a greater capacity to accept differences in others and to tolerate other people's actions and ideas that may be vastly different from my own.	I am more flexible and able to adjust to changes in others.	I am more knowledgeable about another culture and lifestyle.	I have a greater ability to empathize (i.e., to sense how an event appears and feels to someone else).	I have more curiosity about, and respect for, new ideas.
working with people	I have learned how to recognize when I have made a cross-cultural mistake and can use culturally appropriate language and measures to repair any damage.	Building alignment and consensus.	I understand that there are many ways to accomplish the same task and that those approaches are only "different," not necessarily better or worse.	I have improved my ability to communicate with people in a third and fourth language (or understand better the variety and peculiarities of a version of "World English").	I have a greater willingness to take on roles and tasks to which I am unaccustomed.
maturing with people	I have the ability to see situations and issues from more than one perspective.	I have become a more patient person.	I realize why stereotypes can be so harmful and hurtful, both to others and myself.	I think more critically: I am more discriminating and skeptical, particularly of stereotypes.	I am less afraid of making mistakes or being laughed at than I used to be.
communicating with people	I am more balanced in my judgments (i.e., less likely to judge things as "good" or "bad," "right" or "wrong").	I find myself regularly reflecting about the overseas experience and its meaning for me.	I am more tolerant of ambiguous situations, that is, of situations that are confusing and open to differing interpretations.	I am aware that cultural changes can have unexpected consequences.	I see the world as more interconnected than ever before.

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learning with people	I have learned to improve interpersonal communication through increased abilities in listening well, speaking clearly, and paying attention to nonverbal cues.	I can evaluate advantages and disadvantages of my own culture and society more objectively (i.e., from the perspective of an outsider).	I understand and appreciate how much educational systems can differ across cultures.	I am confident that I can meet and make friends abroad.	I have an increased motivation to go abroad again.
growing with people	I understand more fully my own strengths and weaknesses.	I feel a greater need to have diverse experiences and friends.	I see my own cultural values more clearly and understand how and why they differ from others.	I can adapt and cope in vastly different settings.	I have increased my capacity to experiment and take risks.
planning with people	I have generally improved my observation skills.	I am more determined to develop fully my skills and talents, especially those recently gained through overseas living.	I feel that being abroad helped clarify my goals and values.	I can set more realistic priorities, both short-term and long-term, for myself.	I want to be able to use my skills in future work and can articulate what those are to a prospective employer.
networking with people	I seek out international news and want to know what is going on in the world more than ever before.	I value human diversity and respect others from a variety of backgrounds different from my own.	I have a deeper understanding of the common problems and issues that confront all human beings on this planet.	I have greater awareness of political, economic, and social events occurring around the world.	I understand better another country's role in world affairs.

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traveling with people	I am more confident and assertive when facing new situations.	I have a greater sense of responsibility for other people.	I have increased my perseverance and self-discipline.	I am more aware of the way I use and structure time.	I feel more confident in undertaking new travels or projects.
strategizing with people	I can "analyze" a social situation more quickly than before (i.e., figure out what is going on and react appropriately).	I have the ability to create personal peace and satisfaction in my life.	I am more deeply committed to an idea, cause, or goal.	I have increased my perseverance and self-discipline.	I am more aware of opportunities in life that are open to me.
leading with people	I can see myself more objectively (i.e., I see my own day-to-day problems in a broader, more realistic context).	I am more willing to share my thoughts and feelings with others, and to be open when others wish to share theirs with me.	I am more independent in my relations with family and friends.	I am more capable of solving life's day-to-day problems and accomplishing necessary tasks	I am more likely to do things spontaneously.