

LGBTQIA+ Student Success for International Educators

Scott Tayloe, Rainbow SIG (NAFSA) and CISabroad



Learning Objectives of this Session:

Learn supportive terminology within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Be able to support and advocate for LGBTQIA+ international students coming to your campus.

Be able to support and advise your LGBTQIA+ student population when wanting to study abroad.

Learn about LGBTQIA+ rights internationally.

Learn about the top 10 dos and don'ts for advising LGBTQIA+ students.

Why offer this session?

More and more college students are coming out (or already out coming into college) as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+).

Many LGBTQ+ students are interested in studying abroad but often don't feel their questions or concerns will be welcomed on their campuses.

More US students are studying abroad and often expecting similar services to what they receive on their home US campuses.

To provide information about appropriate and inappropriate LGBTQIA+ related terminology

Transgender instead of transgendered and LGBTQIA+ instead of homosexual.

(con't) Why offer this session?

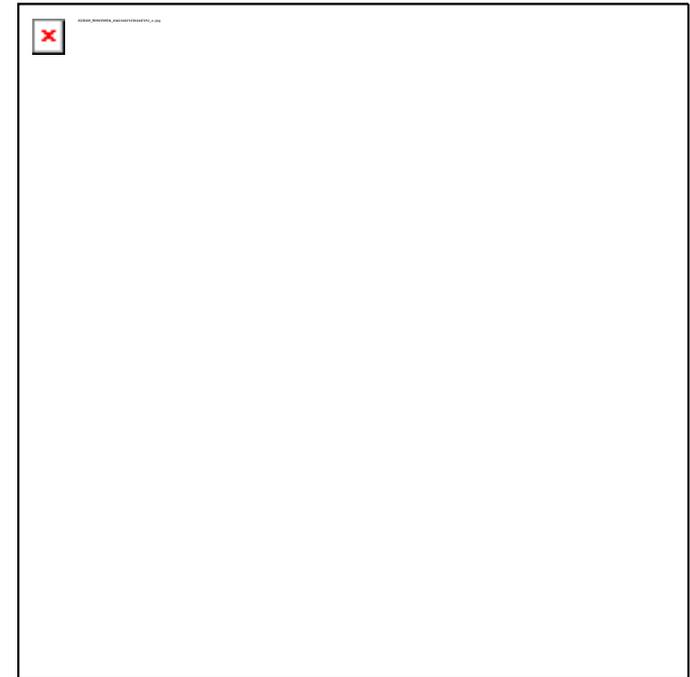
Increase awareness of the ways in which LGBTQIA+ people face discrimination in this country and internationally.

Identify strategies for people to counter sexual and gender prejudice and to be better LGBTQIA+ allies.

It's being aware of key concerns with your LGBTQIA+ students such as asking a student to "go in the closet" on a study abroad program. For cultural and safety reasons they may need to, but what if that student has never been "in" the closet.

About Me

Scott Tayloe
Vice President of Custom Solutions, CISabroad
Founder, Hayden's List
Gay Dad
Straight-friendly, love of all allies.
Co-Chair, NAFSA's Rainbow SIG



About Rainbow SIG

Comprised of a group of LGBTQIA+ International Educators and our allies.

We educate and advise gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender international and study abroad students and those who might be questioning these aspects of themselves.

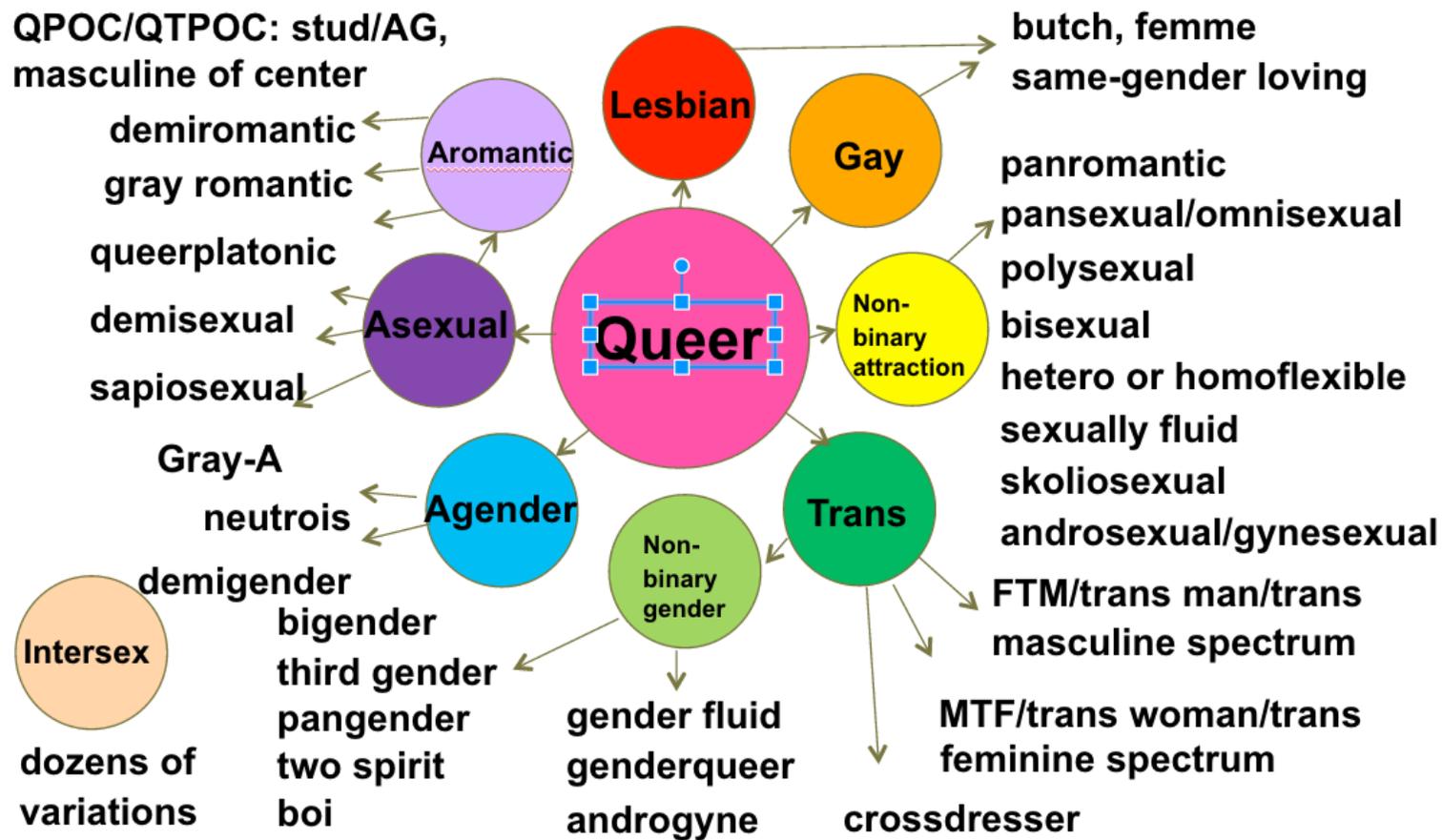
Provide a supportive network for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender professionals in international education including mentoring new professionals who identify as LGBTQ.

Challenge homophobia, heterosexism, and transphobia within NAFSA and the field of international education through educational outreach.

Raise funds to benefit our Rainbow Scholarship Program, which provides financial support to LGBTQ students wishing to participate in an education abroad program.

What does LGBTQIA+ stand for?

LGBTQIA+ Term Chart



(con't) What does LGBTQIA+ stand for?

Don't stress! You don't have to know and understand all of the terms. Just being open to understanding and asking questions to those who disclose shows your support and welcoming environment.

L: Lesbian

G: Gay

B: Bisexual

T: Transgender

Q: Queer or questioning

I: Intersex

A: Asexual

The I of LGBTQIA

An umbrella term used to describe a wide range of natural biological variations of individuals who are born with a chromosomal pattern, a reproductive system, and/ or sexual anatomy that does not fit typical binary notions of male or female bodies (outdated term - “hermaphrodite”).

Not all intersex variations are the same. Intersexuality covers more than 25 genetic and hormonal variations and is not rare.

The A of LGBTQIA

Individuals who do not experience sexual attraction

Asexuality differs from celibacy in that celibates have a sexual attraction but choose to abstain from sex.

Demisexuals experience sexual attraction only to people with whom they have a strong emotional connection.

Gray-A's (gray asexuals) are in the gray area between asexuality and sexuality: they sometimes experience sexual attraction or to a lesser degree.

Terminology: Good and Bad

Trans or Transgender people

Some trans people transition medically in various ways (surgeries, hormone replacement therapy, etc). Others may choose not to have any type of medical intervention, and others may not have access to desired interventions.

Trans Women: Individuals assigned male at birth but identify as female.

Trans Men: Individuals assigned female at birth but identify as male.

Homosexual: An outdated term, often used by other countries, older lesbians and older gay men.

The term gay man or LGBTQ+ person should be used.

Many of the younger generation prefers queer or LGBTQ+.

Queer however, isn't always accepted by the older community.

(con't) Terminology: Good and Bad

Sexual Preference: This implies it's a choice, rather than a facet of identity. Use the term sexual orientation instead.

Lifestyle: Often used to disparage the lives of LGBTQ+ people.

A 'normal' group and/or a LGBTQ group.

Don't assume sexual orientation, straight or gay!

How can you support International Students?

First, know your local laws.

What are the cultural attitudes towards sexual orientation and gender identity in Brazil?

What are considered typical male and female social behavior and customary gender relations and social patterns in Brazil?

What is the attitude of local residents toward international students, people of other nationalities “tourists” and LGBTQ+ “tourists”?

What is the general police attitude towards the same as above?

How can you support International Students?

Does your local community have resources for LGBTQ+ students?

Are there resources on your campus for LGBTQ+ students?

Do you have staff or counselors with ability to address and understand the needs of LGBTQ+ students?

Do you have any LGBTQ+/Women and Gender Studies course offerings?

Do you have a non-discrimination statement inclusive of sexual orientation?

How can you support International Students?

Do you offer LGBTQ+ students a way to be matched with a LGBTQ+ friendly roommate when applying for housing?

Do you have gender-neutral/single occupancy restroom facilities in academic settings? How about in campus housing?

Does your campus offer individual showers in campus housing to protect privacy of transgender students?

Is there gender inclusive housing available to students?

How can you support your students who wish to study abroad?

Can your international partner answer all of the questions we listed on the previous slides?

How open will your student have to be about their sexual orientation and gender identity with their teachers, peers, friends, host family and others?

How important is it for them to find other LGBTQ+ students and friends while abroad? How will they make connections with other LGBTQ+ students, local residents, or community organizations? How will they make connections with others, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, in my host country? What are their expectations about seeking and finding community?

How can you support your students who wish to study abroad?

Will they need access to any medications, supplies, or services due to my transgender status? Are they available in my host country? If not, will they need any additional documentation to travel with my medication or supplies?

What are their safety needs and perceptions, and how can they best be met?

Is the program able to make accommodations for students who request single rooms, private baths, or specific roommates?

What resources are available in the host country for LGBTQ+ people?

Are there any LGBTQ+ friendly establishments nearby? How can I find them?

Top 10 Do's and Don'ts!

1. Do use appropriate and avoid demeaning terminology
2. Do validate people's gender expression/identity in the use of names and gender pronouns.
3. Do not assume someone's gender or sexual identity
4. Do use LGBTQ+-inclusive language on websites and forms (e.g., ask chosen name and pronouns, do not assume M/F)
5. Do recognize that transgender is separate from LGB
6. Do educate yourself on the experiences and concerns of LGBTQ+ people in different countries.
7. Do get ally training and display a placard/sticker on your office door.
8. Do find out more about gender neutral accommodation and bathrooms in your popular locations.
9. Do not be afraid to ask the LGBTQ+ center on your campus for help!

LGBTQ+ Rights Internationally

There are a wide range of laws and beliefs:

94 countries signed an LGBTQ+ rights declaration

54 countries signed a statement in opposition.

Generally supportive regions and countries.

North, Central, South America; Europe; Australia; New Zealand; South Africa;
Japan

Generally hostile regions and countries.

Northern Africa, the Middle East, Russia, Indonesia.

With the exception of South Africa, no other country in Africa or Asia
recognize same-sex marriages.

At least 18 countries allow same-sex civil unions.

LGBTQ+ Rights Internationally

21 countries have passed laws allowing same-sex marriages.

Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, and Wales), the United States, and Uruguay.

76 countries have laws criminalizing same-sex relationships:

34 in Africa, 23 in Asia, 11 in the Americas (Belize, Guyana, and some Caribbean Islands), and 8 in Oceania.

8 countries have the death penalty for engaging in same-sex relationships.

Iran, Iraq, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen, and large parts of Nigeria and Somalia.

LGBTQ+ Rights Internationally

Since 2008, the Trans Murder Monitoring Project has documented the murders of 1,731 trans and gender-diverse people internationally.

The vast majority (1,468) were reported in North, Central and South America.

The countries with the most reported murders were:

Brazil, Mexico and the U.S. Followed by, Colombia, Venezuela, Honduras, India, Guatemala, Turkey, Argentina, Philippines, the Dominican Republic.

Only 9 murders were reported in all of Africa.

Resources

[Terminology Database](#)

Diversity Abroad.com

[US State Department, “Students Abroad: For LGBT Travelers”:](#)

[US State Department, “LGBTI Travel Information”](#)

[International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association](#)

[The Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Map of World Laws](#)

Obrigado!

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