

# Lähtöorientaatio vaihto-opiskelijoille

Adaptation in studies abroad &  
intercultural encounters

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# Outcome for today

We will describe

goals of students' exchange studies  
the theory of hierarchy of encounters

# Question

What goals do you have about for your exchange studies?

E.g. Experiences, skills, friendships, etc.

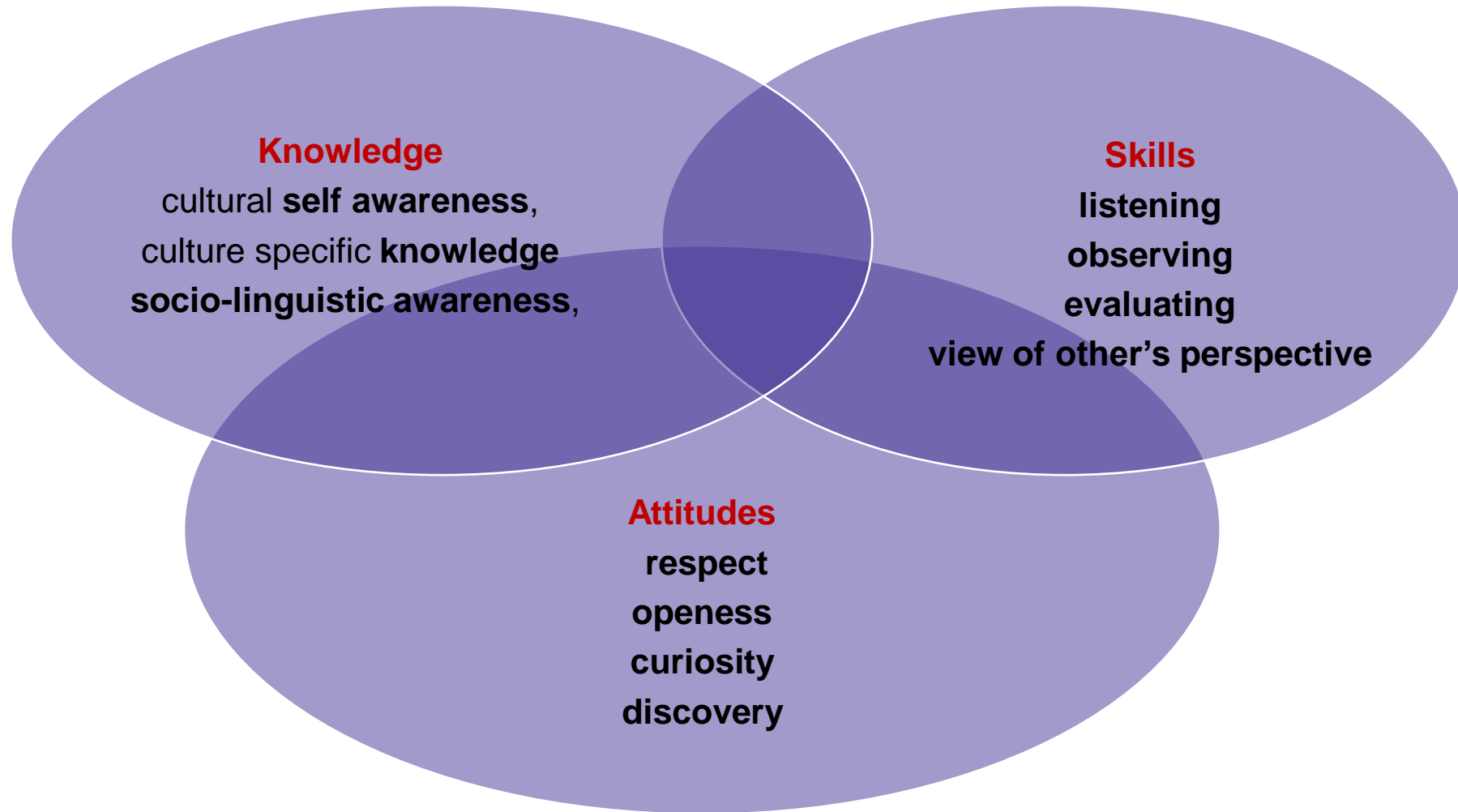
**Write one goal in the chat!**



# Benefits of studying abroad

Several studies suggested that students who study abroad may have greater academic development, language proficiency and intercultural competences than their peers who remain back on campus (Netz, 2021).

# Constituent elements of intercultural competence (Adapted from Deadorff, 2006)



# Imaginarities about goals and plans

*...we are well aware that imaginaries, the capacity to imagine, are part of human life and under no circumstance are we trying to suggest that imagination should be curbed and repressed.*

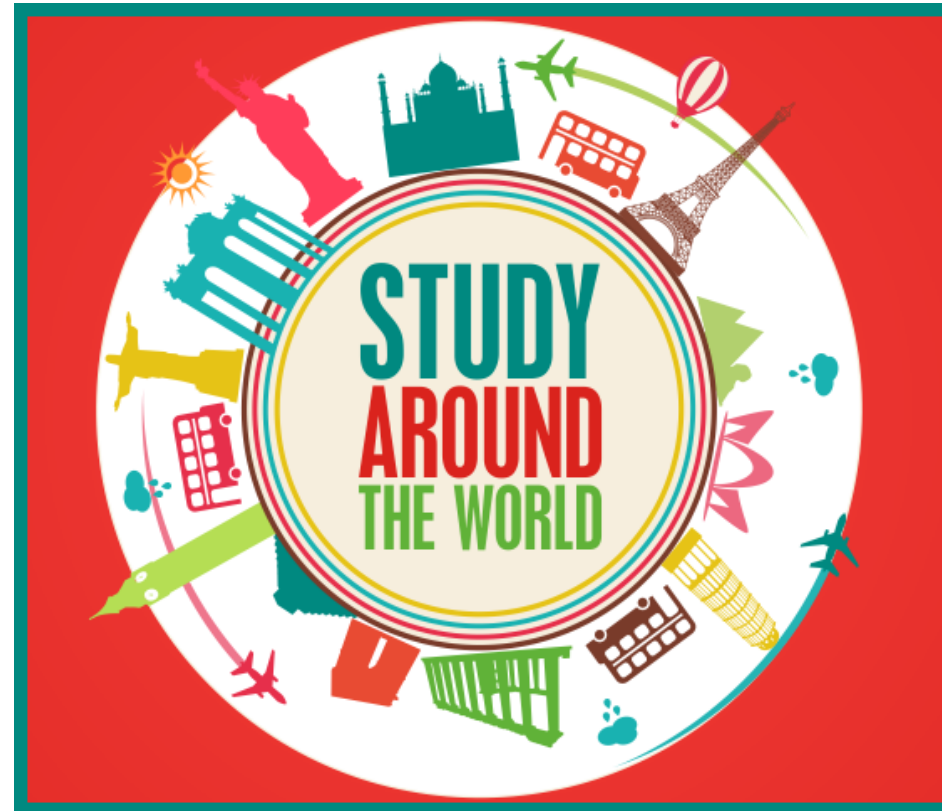
(Härkönen & Dervin, 2016, p. 44)

**Adapting your goals and ways to achieve them according to the environment and the people around you.**

# Acculturation studying/living abroad

Assimilation X  
Behaving like locals

Integration +  
Mutual adjustment



(Berry, 2005)

# Hierarchy of encounters with others (Page and Chanboun, 2019)

**Domestic students**

**International students**

**Co-national students**





# Conclusions

- Find your own way to create and achieve (NEW) goals for your exchange studies
- Appreciate and learn from all types of friendships (intercultural encounters)
- Develop your intercultural competences by reflecting on your experiences and contexts

# Sources

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Page, A. G. & Chahboun, S. (2019). Emerging empowerment of international students: how international student literature has shifted to include the students' voices. *Higher Education* 78, 871-885.