

## ABSTRACT

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Title: SAILING AROUND THE WORLD, CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE SELF: A JOURNEY OF ANTICIPATION, DISPLACEMENT, AND REFLECTION

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This project explores the proposition that travel is writing, and writing is travel through a collection of texts inspired by my experience on Semester at Sea, a shipboard study abroad program that visits ten countries on four continents. My preparation for and reflection on this experience taught me that writing and travel are inextricably connected. This fact was reinforced by the completion of this project, which attempts to place my travel writing within the longstanding tradition of American travel literature. After comparing 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century travel writing to my own, I decided to focus on a few key concepts: anticipation, displacement, depersonalization, and reflection. The result is this draft of a larger book of stories and artifacts organized in order of my Semester at Sea voyage itinerary. This chronological itinerary mirrors the dynamics of travel experienced and written about for centuries. My hope is that readers come to see travel as synonymous with self-discovery. It is as much about circumnavigating the world as it is about circumnavigating the self.