

The Value of Study Abroad: Growth of Global Citizens

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- ◆ Understand social/cultural constructs
- Cultural awareness and acceptance

“It gave me lessons about life and helped me to be a more complete person.”



- ◆ Respect for diversity-Reduce stereotypes
- View new cultures with understanding

“The thing I will take with me forever from this trip is the relationships I made while there.”



- ◆ Assimilation and application of knowledge
- Career preparation/hands-on experience

“Traveling to Cape Town this winter break changed my outlook on life, healthcare, and childcare...”



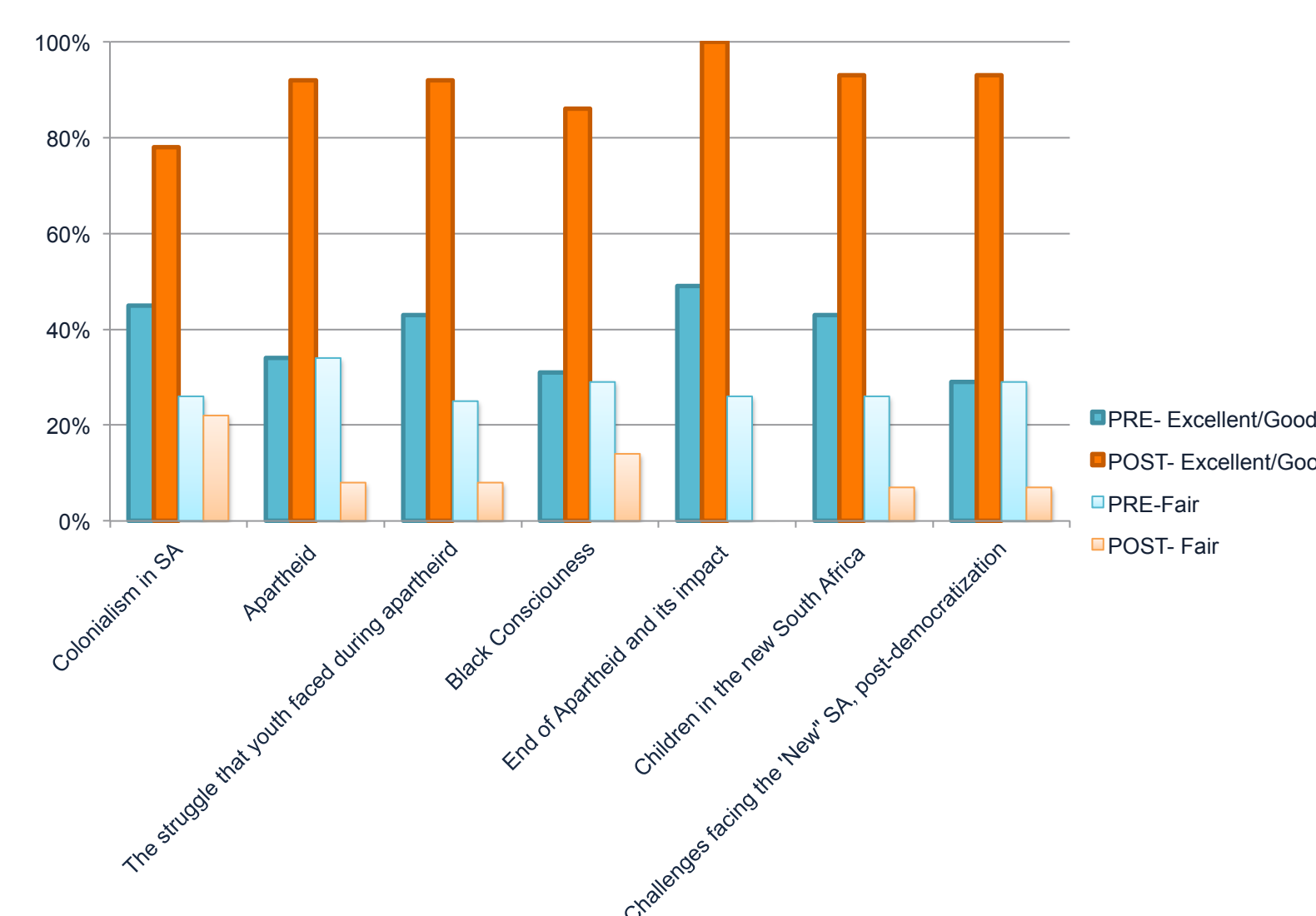
- ◆ International Collaboration
- Leadership and problem-solving skills

“Some of the experiences will help me in the future everywhere I go, and that is priceless.”



- ◆ Personal growth and increase in maturity
- Expanded values

“South Africa is a place where you can find yourself while seeing the world....”



INTRODUCTION

- ◆ Purpose of study abroad programs is to foster personal and academic growth, appreciation for diversity, independence, higher order thinking, problem-solving skills, global citizenship, solidification of early adulthood identity.
- ◆ Adjustment to a new setting and society brings challenges, a period of feeling out of one's comfort zone, adaptation to new culture and understanding of different social expectations.
- ◆ Students are confident in their fields of study, but when abroad they must confront various ways of thinking, and they must collaborate with people who manage time, resources, and solve problems in new and different ways that may be tied to historical and social constructs.

CONCLUSIONS

- ◆ After Study Abroad, students are expected to:
 - ◆ “Unpack” feelings, thoughts and experiences exhibiting growth, understanding, and maturity.
 - ◆ Articulate important aspects of more global understanding gained on the trip in job interviews and grad school applications, and in sharing experiences with family and friends.
 - ◆ Gain ability to recognize bias, and seek more global, culturally accepting and understanding interactions in future professional and personal relationships.

- ◆ Understand social/cultural constructs
- Cultural awareness and acceptance

“My views on many things changed as I learned from experiencing the culture first hand.”



- ◆ Respect for diversity-Reduce stereotypes
- View new cultures with understanding

“Through living in a different environment and learning about the culture helped to give me a new perspective on life.”



- ◆ Assimilation and application of knowledge
- Career preparation and hands-on experience

“Not only did I learn so much about life and myself but I also learned so many skills from this trip.”



- ◆ International Collaboration
- Leadership and problem-solving skills

“I found out about ways in which Scientist work on conservation in Tanzania.”



- ◆ Personal growth and increase in maturity
 - Expanded values
- This program has not only taught me a lot of life skills but also taught me more about myself.*

