



2. What is the relationship between interaction, difference, and learning in AB programs?
3. What in AB programs supports students learning from others who are different from themselves?

The results of this study show that students report learning a great deal from their interactions with diverse others on AB programs, and they point to some of the ways in which AB programs facilitate this learning. For example, being emotionally and physically challenged appears to be related to learning from community members, host site staff, and other students on the trip. Group reflection, on the other hand, was only related to the amount students learned from their peers. Interestingly, the extent to which students felt that community members were different from themselves was a positive predictor of learning from the community, but there was a negative correlation (which disappeared in the HLM analysis) between difference and learning from host site staff. The findings from this study can help practitioners create more effective Alternative Break programs to encourage learning across difference.

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