Why Choose to Study abroad in Latin America, Africa, or Asia? By Adam Seper, Gooverseas.com

The world is a big place, yet each year U.S. college students continue to flock in large numbers to only a handful of popular destinations. But, the majority of students who decide to leave their schools for a semester or year want to expand their horizons and challenge themselves. So, **here are 5 reasons** why you should head to a more developing region for your study abroad experience

#1. You'll Really Get Beyond Your Comfort Zone
Leaving your school and home country to go anywhere in the world can be a scary proposition. But having the chance to really go beyond your comfort zone will strengthen you in more ways than you can imagine. It will open your mind and give you the chance to really see how other cultures live. While that's certainly possible to experience in places like Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, it's just different in developing countries, mainly because of money. The poverty in developing regions of the world can be difficult to witness firsthand, but can be important in a young person's development of their worldview. There's no better way to change your perspective on life and western ideals than to witness how people in the rest of the world live.

#2. Developing Countries are Constantly Changing
One of the benefits of living and traveling in developing countries is that they are always changing. If you go to a place like India right now, chances are it's going to be vastly different 5 or 10 years from now. These countries are growing and becoming more popular on the tourist circuit. Ask those who went to Laos 10 years ago. It was a completely different country than it is today, and it will most likely be completely different now than in 2020- and that is exciting, something to tell the grandchildren!

#3. You May Not Be Able to Spend an Extended Time There Later in Life
Living and traveling in developing countries will be much more difficult the older you get. Take advantage of your youth now while you can. Taking an 18-hour bus ride is nothing when you're in your early 20's, but once you start getting up there in age, it becomes harder. Taking off for the weekend and sleeping in dorm rooms in hostels is awesome when you're 19, but not so much when you're 40.

#4. You Can Get the Chance to Make a True Impact on the Community
Living in an area where poverty is high usually means education opportunities are low, which also means that there are plenty of opportunities to lend a helping hand. If you go to an area where English is not the first language but a premium is put on tourism, then there will be a need for English speaking locals. You could get the opportunity to help teach your language. There are also plenty of opportunities to help out in other ways, and making a true impact on the community you're living in is a powerful thing to take home with you.

#5. It's Cheaper
While this shouldn't be tops on your priority list, it's still important. Studying in Peru or Vietnam is going to be *much* cheaper than Ireland or New Zealand. Being able to take advantage of a long weekend to go to a Thai beach with minimal money is pretty awesome. Or taking off for a hike in the Andes during a school break while paying very little to do so. It's much easier to travel around the region you're studying in during your time off when travel doesn't cost very much. The same goes for food and general living expenses. In regions like Latin America and Southeast Asia, it's possible to get by on a quarter of what you would spend in a country like Spain.