

# **Study Abroad in Australia and New Zealand: Two of the Same?**

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In the past two decades U.S. study abroad enrolment has grown by more than 400%, in part as a response to institutional missions to internationalize colleges and universities, but also as a result of national security concerns to nurture a global citizenry. If new legislation (the proposed Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act) is passed in the U.S., the number of U.S. students abroad is predicted to increase sharply. Our pre-/post-test study of almost 5% ( $n = 651$  U.S. students) of the entire short-term, U.S. study abroad market to Australia and New Zealand between 2008 and 2009, revealed significant differences between cohorts of the two programs, both of which focused on sustainable development. Students who participated in the Australia program not only demonstrated significant increases in global citizenship beyond that of the New Zealand program, but any initial differences between the programs were erased following participation. The two groups of students also differed significantly in their political affiliations (but not on gender). Implications for managing study abroad and in marketing Australia and New Zealand to US students are discussed.

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