

# Overcoming Geographical Ignorance by Stimulating Students to Travel Internationally outside Their Comfort Zone

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American college students are plagued by geographical ignorance and are devoid of wanderlust. The previous generation of American college students consisted of adventurous backpackers, traipsing across Europe and other parts of the world, fending for themselves, and disconnecting from home and loved ones for months at a time. They steadfastly avoided tours and anything else that limited their freedom or constrained their individuality. The current generation has been raised as trophy children highly-dependent on their overbearing and omnipresent helicopter parents and endeared to their comfort zone. As the world becomes more complex and interdependent, there is an urgent need for this generation to become knowledgeable about the world and to explore it in even greater depth. College professors have an opportunity to influence students' thought on this matter. One method is to discuss the wisdom found in the travel quotes of notables throughout history who have extolled the benefits of personal growth via their individual travels to the far corners of the world.

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