

1. I believe our group had an impact in the community in which we worked: 12 strongly agree
2. Please describe the impact you feel you had on the community, both good and bad.
 - I feel that my team exceeded the expectations of the community and they grew to respect us through our hard work and positive attitudes.
 - We helped build and paint and finish homes within the community which meant a lot to them. They also enjoyed learning English and cultural differences from us.
 - I think that we definitely helped out the area's school by the intense amount of craft supplies we brought to donate to them. Some of the community leaders also talked about how we helped show the people how important it was to make an effort to improve the community, and I'm sure our broken Spanish provided some entertainment. In terms of negative impact on the community, sometimes I felt like my lack of skills in construction was more of a hindrance than a help, but all of the community members still seemed to enjoy having us there.
 - I feel that we showed how much we cared and wanted to be accepted in the community. We showed them that even when we complete our assignment jobs, we will find more work to do because they are such a great community and deserve for us to give it our all.
 - Our group worked really hard all week and I feel like the community appreciated that. We made a lot of progress on building a house along with painting.
 - Over our week in the Dominican Republic, I believe our group had a positive impact on the community of Cruz Verde. We gave our all during our work and really tried to get to know the people of the community.
 - I feel we truly made a difference in the community by helping them build houses, repaint and clean older houses and through the donations we made to the local school
 - We helped quite a bit and got a lot done in the construction of a house, finishing a number of houses, and painting a number of houses. We were praised for our work ethic and I feel as though we did a great job.
 - Not only did we make a connection with the local community but we made a physical change by taking part in construction during our week long stay.
 - Not only did we make an impact in terms of the amount of work we did, from the number of houses that were painted and finished, but we made incredible progress on the house that we started from nothing. We also connected really well to the community and were able to learn a lot about their culture while teaching them about our own.
 - We really bonded with the community there and we accomplished a lot of work and helped them make progress in improving their community.
 - Each day we worked are hardest to complete the most amount of work possible for the community, yet take time out of the day to communicate and learn about the Dominican and their way of life.
3. I felt a connection with the local people in the country to which I traveled: 10 strongly agree, 2 agree
4. Why or why not?

- I picked up the dialect fast and was able to make friendships.
 - I think that they were so tight as a community and they were so welcoming and thankful that they embraced us. I could not speak the language but still felt like we could communicate and thus I felt a connection.
 - Through the homestays and working with the people of the community all day every day, I feel like we formed a close connection by the end of the day. All of the workers seemed to enjoy communicating with us in our broken Spanish, and we learned so much about the community by working with them. Working with the children of the community also strengthened our connection, as we learned some of their favorite activities and what it was like to grow up in the community of Cruz Verde.
 - We earned our place in the community and they showed us how much they cared about us and enjoyed our presence.
 - I do not speak Spanish and the whole community of Cruz Verde does so I didn't connect as well as others who speak Spanish however I do feel like we still connected.
 - I was able to work alongside these people as well as get to know them on a personal level, which I found to make our trip extremely meaningful and memorable.
 - Although not everyone spoke Spanish we all fumbled through conversations in Spanish and made bonds with people that we would not have made had we had a translator
 - They were extremely welcoming and most of us were able to make friends with members of the community. They were very grateful for our help and our presence in their community.
 - As we worked with the local people of Cruz Verde, we began to slowly connect with the people of the community which only intensified as we demonstrated our ability to work as hard as we could each day and as we made an effort to communicate and share experiences with them.
 - I felt that we connected through all the hard work we did. and through the conversations we shared.
 - We could joke around with them and dance with them every night, and we felt very welcome.
 - We didn't feel like outsiders or volunteers by the end of the trip -we were equals that get to leave rather than continue on there like they do.
5. **My future goals have shifted or solidified because of this experience: 6 strongly agree, 5 agree, 1 disagree**
- I plan to make use of the opportunities that I was given through fate that were not given to many Dominican children.
 - I really do not think many of my goals have changed significantly. I have always wanted to travel and love experiencing cultures and helping people. I guess this trip made me want to always work on being a better person and be thankful every day and give back as much as I can.

- I have always really wanted to go into a career that involved helping people, and in the back of my mind I always planned to serve abroad again in some way. This trip, however, really helped me to strengthen these goals, and make them a priority in my life. I also know without a doubt that I want to go back to Cruz Verde one day in the near future.
 - I realize how much I take for granite and how I am just gliding through life and I need to do more service work.
 - I have been taking education for granted along with other opportunities some people never have, I'm no longer going to be lazy and apathetic when it comes to school.
 - I've always been extremely interested in a career in community service, specifically related to infrastructure, and learning the processes of country without the amenities in the United States helped motivate me to consider alternative ways of building
 - I intend to pursue a career in the field of work that we took part in during our week in the Dominican Republic and my experience definitely solidified my ambitions to help the poor in developing countries.
 - This trip and overall experience affirmed my desire to work with non-profits and to hopefully one day start my own international non-profit.
 - As a result of having AMAZING leaders, I have been inspired to step up my community service involvement and I have decided to apply for the impACT team.
 - I really love both travel and service work, so I hope to do that more in the future.
 - I am MOST DEFINITELY applying for the Peace Corp. The trip helped remind me why I love service and want to continue to do it.
6. I liked participating in the service work for this class: 11 strongly agreed, 1 agree
7. I learned something new about myself during my involvement with international service: 7 strongly agreed, 5 agreed
8. What did you learn?
- I learned that I was very good at adapting to new environments and assimilating with new cultures.
 - I learned that I am comfortable taking risks and that I enjoy and appreciate new experiences. I also learned that it is not the things you have that bring happiness, and that I could easier do without a number of my comforts.
 - For me, a lot of what I experienced served to reinforce ideas about myself that I already had. I knew I loved working with kids, and this trip proved this true to me once more. My love of service was also strengthened, as was my enjoyment in meeting new people. I did find that I was not as good at Spanish as I wanted to be, which has inspired me to devote more time to learning this language.

- I learned how much I love helping people and how little I need to be happy and to survive.
 - I learned I could do more than I think if I truly want to.
 - I learned that I am rather good at mixing cement. But on a serious note, I am rather good at picking up on a language that I do not know if put in a situation such as this.
 - I learned that I can be a very hard laborer. I've always been a student that works hard and studies hard but have never been required to do large amounts of manual labor
 - I learned that I truly am capable of serving in a third world country. This is incredibly important to me because this has been my goal and the object of my studies for the past few years.
 - I gained confidence in myself in many aspects such as leadership.
 - I learned that I am more capable of dealing with challenges than I had thought I was. I am a stronger person than I even knew.
 - I learned that I'm maybe a little braver than I thought I was. I also learned that people truly value my company and character.
 - I've learned to be extremely flexible and just go with the flow and relax. Somehow everything works out for the best.
9. I am more interested in being a part of service opportunities in the future because of my service experience on this service-learning trip: 10 strongly agree, 2 agree
10. I have more self-confidence because of this experience: 7 strongly agree, 5 agree
- I feel more confident in approaching people and attempting their language.
 - I have been in similar situations in new cultures before where I have had to completely adapt, so the self-confidence really was not a big part for me in this trip. It did help me practice my Spanish though and helped me practice reading non-verbals.
 - This trip was a great opportunity to just be myself around people who I knew would accept me, which I was very thankful for. I also feel like it helped improve my Spanish-speaking abilities, so I now have more confidence in my Spanish class.
 - The friendships I made and the accomplishments I made on the trip.
 - I was able to complete tasks that I never thought of doing (such as finishing the exterior of a home)
 - Going into this experience I was nervous about the people we would meet and the conditions we would face, and although the conditions were rough, we met some amazing people who have been through way more than we know and the conditions opened our eyes to an entirely different way of living.
 - As stated earlier, this experience revealed myself to me in way that was foreign but very beneficial to me.

- Because I was thrown into a community in which I was forced to use another language, I feel that I am less afraid to jump into unknown situations because of the positive experiences I had with this unknown.
 - Being able to go to a foreign country without speaking the language and having to stay in a rural village takes courage, and I think that because I was able to hold my own and have such an amazing time I gained a lot of confidence.
 - I learned how to adapt better in a country unlike my own and that to do service work you have to give your all regardless of surrounding circumstances.
11. The Learning Partner (faculty member) on this trip provided a positive presence throughout the experience: 11 strongly agree, 1 agree
12. Any additional feedback on your learning partner: (9 responses)
- Laurie never failed to brighten my day and encourage me to try new things.
 - She acted like one of the group and worked just as hard as we did. I really appreciated her humility.
 - Laurie was also AMAZING! We all knew that she was there to serve the people of Cruz Verde, just like us, and she was always very real with us. For these reasons, there was never an awkward division between us based on the fact that she was our Learning Partner. She was an irreplaceable part of the group, and there were definitely some points where her Spanish knowledge was very useful.
 - She was so motivated to work and such a good role model. She was always there if you needed to talk or just to hangout. I loved that she was on the trip. She made it such a great experience.
 - Laurie was a GREAT learning partner! She jumped in and set goals for everyone to try and achieve through service
 - Laurie was great!
 - She was amazing!
 - She was fun to have on the trip and helped us with Spanish when we needed it.
 - She didn't treat us like students and her the professor. We were all equals with her getting just as involved, if not more, in service as the rest of us.
13. I am more motivated to learn a foreign language because of this experience: 11 strongly agreed, 1 agreed
14. With this experience, I was part of a team: 12 strongly agree,
15. What helped or hindered your sense of 'team'? (11 responses)
- I knew I could count on everyone on my trip to help and support me in difficult situations of any kind.
 - Negative people within the group setting.
 - I had a blast working with every person in this group, and I know that many of our experiences helped to bond us as a "team." The nightly reflections were also very helpful, as it gave us a chance to debrief and grow closer as a group.
 - What helped was that everybody worked so hard and care about one another.
 - Everyone in our group got along and throughout the week we all helped each other out in someway.
 - All of the pre-trip meetings helped everyone get to know each other and it made the service easier because we knew each others strengths/weaknesses

iASB participant results for Dominican Republic LP: Laurie A. Ramirez

12 participant results

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- We all worked together all throughout the community taking part in different jobs which made everything feel much more together.
- Our leaders along with the positive personalities in our group created a strong sense of team.
- There was one person who was only willing to do one task, and that hindered our sense of team, and brought the others down.
- I have always liked to work as a team, so it wasn't difficult for me to be a team player.
- We were broken into groups more often than I liked (ie. dinner groups, 2 roommate homestay, doing service projects), but it was what we needed to do as a group based on the needs and abilities of the community.

16. I feel that I am likely to get involved in service in my community: 10 strongly agree, 2 agree

17. I feel that I am likely to do international service in the future: 10 strongly agree, 2 agree

18. As part of this experience, I enhanced my skills/attitudes in the following areas (check all that apply): 12 participants

Problem-solving skills	83.3%	10
Cooperation with others	91.7%	11
Self-confidence with international travel	91.7%	11
Personal accountability	83.3%	10
Communication skills	83.3%	10
Language skills	100.0%	12
Self-reflection	83.3%	10
Personal motivation for service	91.7%	11
Critical thinking skills	75.0%	9
Team work	83.3%	10

19. Because of this international service-learning experience, I (check all that apply):

Know more about the country to which I traveled	100.0%	12
Understand basic cultural influences/differences between the people where I traveled and my own background	100.0%	12
Understand the basic social issues of the region where we traveled	100.0%	12
Understand how the service work we did connects with my own life	100.0%	12
Have learned more about my privileges as an American		

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