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研究課題名(和文) Factors influencing learner outcomes in dual-language study abroad programs

研究課題名(英文) Factors influencing learner outcomes in dual-language study abroad programs

研究代表者

RAMONDA Kris (RAMONDA, Kris)

関西大学・外国語学部・教授

研究者番号：10626427

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研究成果の概要(和文)：COVID-19のパンデミックは2020年1月に宣言され、教育分野に大きな影響を与えました。本研究では、日本の学部生の留学体験に焦点を当て、パンデミックが学業成績、文化的没入、および全体的な満足度にどのような影響を与えたかを詳細に調査しました。調査結果は、社会的距離とリモート学習が学生の経験に与える正負の影響を示しています。特に、社会的距離措置が友人作りや文化交流に及ぼした影響、リモート学習が学習効率やモチベーションに及ぼした影響について具体的な事例を通して分析しました。これにより、パンデミック時の留学プログラムの改善策についても考察しました。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

This study investigated the impact of COVID-19 on Japanese undergraduates' study abroad experiences. It revealed the effects of social distancing and remote learning on cultural immersion and learning efficiency. The research provides key insights for improving educational programs during pandemics.

研究成果の概要(英文)：The COVID-19 pandemic, declared in January 2020, significantly impacted the educational sector globally. This study examines the study abroad experiences of Japanese undergraduate students, investigating how the pandemic affected their academic performance, cultural immersion, and overall satisfaction. The findings highlight both positive and negative impacts of social distancing and remote learning. Specifically, it analyzes how social distancing affected students' ability to form friendships and engage in cultural exchanges, and how remote learning influenced their efficiency and motivation. The study outlines challenges and benefits, such as closer relationships with host families and increased self-study opportunities, and offers insights into potential improvements for study abroad programs during pandemics.

研究分野：Applied linguistics

キーワード：study abroad COVID-19 student experiences remote learning social distancing

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1 . 研究開始当初の背景

The COVID-19 pandemic, declared in January 2020, led to worldwide lockdowns and social distancing measures, significantly impacting the educational sector. As a response to the pandemic, universities shifted to remote learning, affecting the traditional study abroad experience. This research was initiated to explore how these changes influenced Japanese students studying abroad, focusing on their academic performance, language proficiency, cultural immersion, and overall satisfaction.

2 . 研究の目的

The primary objective of this study was to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Japanese undergraduate students' study abroad experiences. The research aimed to identify both the challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic, specifically:

- To evaluate the negative and positive effects of social distancing and remote learning on students' cultural and language immersion.
- To assess students' emotional and academic responses to the shift in their study environment.
- To provide actionable recommendations for optimizing study abroad programs during similar disruptions in the future.

3 . 研究の方法

This study employed a mixed-methods approach, integrating quantitative survey data with qualitative in-person semi-structured interviews to provide a comprehensive understanding of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Japanese undergraduate students' study abroad experiences.

The research began with a survey administered to twenty-five Japanese undergraduate students who had recently returned from a one-year study abroad program. The survey aimed to gather initial data on their experiences, focusing on various aspects such as academic performance, cultural immersion, and overall satisfaction during the pandemic.

Following the survey, in-depth, in-person semi-structured interviews were conducted with a subset of twelve students from the original survey group. These interviews were designed to delve deeper into the individual experiences and perceptions of the students, providing richer, qualitative insights into the challenges and opportunities they faced during their study abroad period.

Each interview was recorded and subsequently transcribed to ensure accuracy. The transcribed data were then analyzed using NVivo software, which facilitated the identification of key themes and patterns within the qualitative data.

The analysis process was twofold. Firstly, the survey data were examined to assess the broad impact of the pandemic on the students' study abroad experiences. This quantitative analysis provided an overview of the general trends and issues encountered by the students. Secondly, the interview data were analyzed qualitatively to uncover more nuanced insights and personal stories that highlighted the specific challenges and adaptive strategies employed by the students during this unprecedented time.

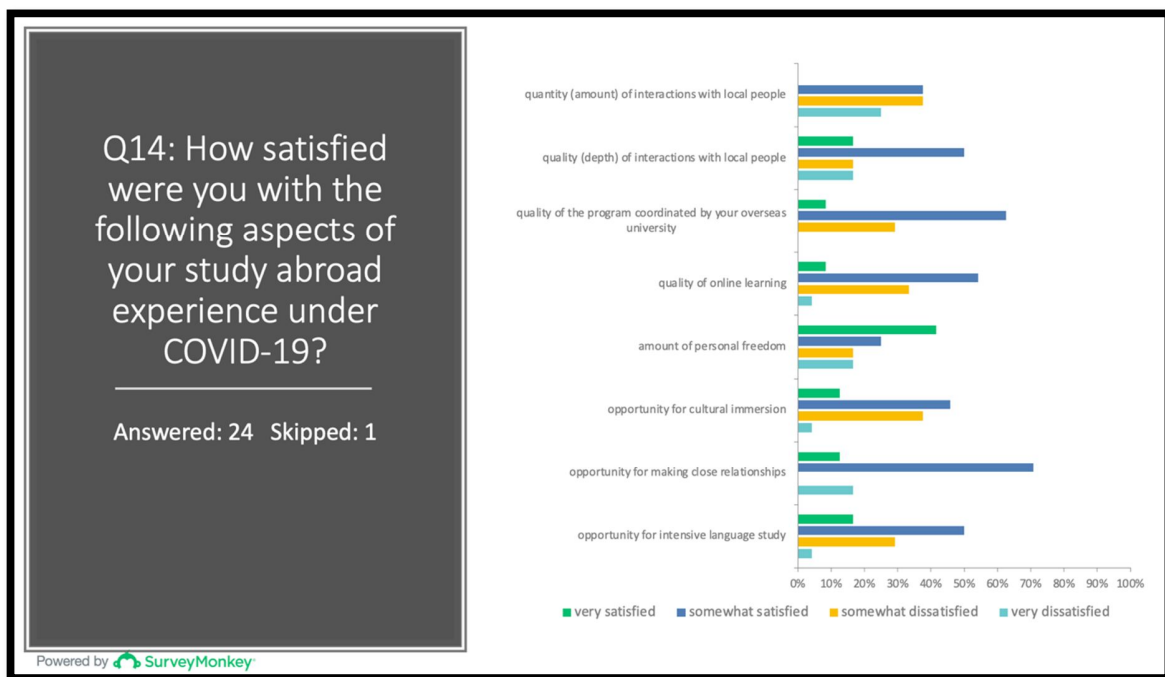
By combining these two methods, the study was able to provide a robust and multidimensional perspective on how the pandemic influenced Japanese undergraduate students' academic and cultural experiences abroad. This mixed-methods approach not only quantified the extent of

the impact but also offered a rich, contextual understanding of the students' lived experiences, thus offering valuable insights for improving future study abroad programs during times of crisis.

4 . 研究成果

The study yielded several key findings regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Japanese students' study abroad experiences. Figure 1 summarizes initial findings from survey data, which were triangulated with later interview data.

Figure 1 Reported satisfaction levels across various facets of study abroad experience



The study highlighted several negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the study abroad experiences of Japanese undergraduate students. One major issue was social isolation, as students reported difficulties in making friends and socializing due to social distancing measures, particularly those living in dormitories. The shift to online learning also posed significant academic challenges, with many students feeling disconnected from their classmates and professors. Additionally, the lack of face-to-face interaction and reduced opportunities for cultural immersion led to increased stress and frustration among the students.

However, the study also revealed some positive impacts. Students in homestay arrangements reported closer relationships with their host families and enhanced language skills due to perceived increased interaction under the constraints of a lockdown. The flexibility of online classes allowed students more time for individual study and reduced commuting time, which many appreciated.

The survey data analysis showed varied responses to the adjustment to remote learning. Some students adapted quickly to the new environment, while others struggled throughout the period. Students expressed mixed levels of satisfaction with various aspects of their study abroad experience, such as cultural immersion and the quality of online learning.

Interview insights provided further depth to these findings. Many students felt that their cultural experiences were limited due to the inability to travel and engage in local activities. However, those in homestays found unique opportunities to bond with their host families. The learning environment also showed a clear preference for real-time classes over on-demand sessions. Furthermore, many students expressed a desire for stricter policies on keeping cameras on during online classes.

Anecdotal evidence further supports the positive impacts of homestay arrangements. Several students reported a perceived improvement in their relationships with host families and language abilities as a result of increased face-to-face time under lockdown conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Table 1 provides a sample of such responses.

Table 1 Anecdotal evidence of perceived improved homestay experience under COVID-19

Examples of Perceived Impact of COVID on Homestay Experience	
Participant #	
5	I could spend much time with my host family, so we could make deeper relationship than normal one.(if there was no Covid, we may spend time together only at dinner time!)
9	I could have more time to spend with my host family. Also, I didn't meet my Japanese friends so often, so I could live in the no Japanese environment.
11	My English is very improved because I always stayed with my host family. If I would have been to school, I think I was speaking more Japanese with my Japanese friends.
12	I was able to spend almost time with my host family, which means I used English almost all of the days.
13	I was staying with my host family whole day and every day because of online classes, so I was able to build a deep relationship with them.
19	I could have much time to stay with my host family, and I could became very close with them. So this is definitely positive impact. And actually, my host sister tells me that they also have a Kansai student this year, but she is not as much close as I was!

Overall, the study concluded that while the COVID-19 pandemic posed significant challenges for students studying abroad, it also offered unique opportunities for personal and academic growth. The findings underscore the importance of flexible and supportive study environments, particularly during times of crisis. Future study abroad programs should consider these insights to enhance student experiences and outcomes in similar situations.

5. 主な発表論文等

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〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

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6. 研究組織

氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考
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7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8. 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
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