

The Don Difference: Zafar Nazarov Video Transcript

0:00-0:32 Zafar Nazarov: My main intellectual contribution comes to the area of health economics/labor economics an intersection of labor economics and health economics. I had the recent opportunity to teach special study international business with a trip in Cuba. Cuba is at the point of transition from one system to another system, and I grew up in Soviet Union, and Soviet Union had in the past a similar system as Cuba today.

0:33-1:05 Angela Perez: That's what I really enjoyed about the trip is that we had an opportunity to experience three distinct areas of Cuba: Havana, and just the classic city of Havana... of course the old cars, and the incredible architecture; and then Vinales out on the west side of Havana, out in the mountains and the hills and in the incredible valleys, and the tobacco fields, and just the country of Cuba; and then back on the east side the tourist area.

1:06-1:31 Zafar Nazarov: That trip to Cuba allowed the students to understand what is the difference in institutions or the system which they're living and the system which just ninety miles away from the country, and how the differences make people ... How that's impacted the decision making of the people. They interacted with the Cubans and tried to understand what constraints they're facing.

1:32-1:40 Greg Parker: Cuba's such a beautiful country. Just to be able to go see the countryside and understand their economics and kind of get a feel for what's going on in the country.

1:41-1:56 Logan Timbrook: My parents would always talk about the embargo, the sanctions, and my dad had lived through the Cuban missile crisis and the Bay of Pigs and that sort of thing. And he would always tell me stories of how the Cubans always hated us, so I wanted to see for sure if they really did or if that was just a myth.

1:57-2:22 Zafar Nazarov: Again, the students learned from seeing this, from interaction with the different groups of people in the different country. Well, my approach is very simple. Any theory can be very hard to swallow, and if you make it more applied, then the students will be more engaging in the process of learning.