There is no better way to understand an issue than to encounter it yourself; being immersed in a culture is the only way to truly know it; you can’t identify your limits until you stretch them. These are the basic philosophies behind this year’s expeditions offered by the Office of Experiential Education. These student-designed and led trips range from mountaineering to trekking, from Canada to Africa, and from learning about yourself to grappling with your place in the world. These unique expeditions were designed by Gettysburg, for Gettysburg—you won’t find them anywhere else.

**British Columbia** ($875): Originally established as an escape route for stranded sailors, the Canadian section of the West Coast Trail is a playground of rope ladders, bridges, and wooden walkways suspended over marshes and coastal inlets. Your time will be split between walking along the rugged coastline and through lush, temperate rainforests; this is every kid's fantasy, and for ten days it will be your reality. Whale sightings and sea lions basking in the sun, working as a group to cross a river in a human-powered tram, and the unique combination of culture and remote seclusion only British Columbia can offer all await you on this hiking trip.

**Ethiopia** ($2390, airfare included): Nearly half of the world’s population cooks over an open wood or biomass fire. This year, cooking-smoke related illnesses will kill four million people—more than twice the death toll of HIV/AIDS and malaria combined. The smoke is also Africa's primary contribution to global warming. These may not be obvious selling points for an expedition, but they were the inspiration for this one. GRAB’s first ever trip to Africa will head to the ruggedly beautiful Highlands of Ethiopia to learn about energy access, deforestation, gender issues, and more in developing nations. In conjunction with Project Gaia Inc., a locally based non-profit dedicated to promoting clean burning ethanol cook-stoves, the expedition will provide a challenging and interdisciplinary immersion experience. A six day trek through the rural communities of Bale Mountains National Park, navigating the chaos of Addis Ababa, a homestay near an ethanol micro-distillery, and unique interactions with the people and culture all lay at the end of a multiple month, student-driven learning project.
Lake Tahoe, CA ($845): The trail selected for this expedition stretches for over one hundred and sixty five miles over the mountain passes and forests surrounding the spectacular Lake Tahoe. You aren’t working up to a breathtaking viewpoint on this one—the entire Tahoe Rim Trail is the view. If that’s not enough, the picture to the right should convince you that tackling a section of this trail on foot is worth the challenge. End your year on a high note by working as a tight-knit team to see how many miles, sights, and accomplishments you can squeeze into this ten day backpacking experience.

Peru ($1780): The mountains will be your classroom for this two week experience—with the assistance of porters, donkeys, and alpine guides, you will learn mountaineering techniques and the satisfaction of a real challenge. Your journey begins in Lima before a quick flight to the mountain city of Huaraz. After two days of acclimatizing, the group will head to the Way Inn, an alpine bed and breakfast located in the foothills of the Cordillera Blanca range. Beautiful peaks, open ranges, warm people, and a dynamic community await you on this trip—a community you’ll encounter first hand through an immersive service project part way through the experience. Prior experience not required.

Italy ($1780): It’s hard to imagine a more perfect place to be than Tuscany in the spring. The allure of the vineyards, the smell of fresh pasta, and the Mediterranean sunshine will follow us as we trek through the Italian countryside. This unique opportunity allows us to fully engage in Tuscany’s rich culture and history without sacrificing an experience with the natural environment. Along the way from Montepulciano to Siena we will stop to sample wine, explore museums, nibble on Pecorino cheeses, and experience true Italian gelato.
Registration and Payment

Registration and detailed, trip-specific information will be available on Friday, November 8 at https://www.gettysburg.edu/about/offices/college_life/grab/program/expedition/

Registration is simple. A $150 non-refundable deposit is due at time of registration to secure a place on the trip of your choice. We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, & DISCOVER, e-checks or cash. The final payment will be required 60 days prior the trip departure date. To register, please fill out the online form or call John Regentin at 717.337.6319 to register over the phone/or to receive a fax.

Pricing and Equipment

The prices listed cover all the expenses for the land costs (ground transportation, permits, necessary guides, double occupancy lodging for one night at the end of the trip, and most meals); airfare is not included in land costs (see below). We also provide the necessary expedition group gear such as tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, cooking gear, etc. You will be responsible for your own personal clothing, footwear, accessories, and toiletries.

Not Included in the Price: Airfare (unless otherwise noted), hospitalization, individual evacuation costs, insurance, meals in destination cities prior to and at the conclusion of the trip, souvenirs, alcohol, excesses baggage charges, or other personal expenses incurred outside the scope of the trip.

Airfare: We DO NOT include airfare in the pricing of our trips with the exception of the Ethiopian expedition. We want to give participants the opportunity to have flexibility in their travel arrangements. Some people will have frequent flyer miles, many people will be traveling from various destinations, while others may already be at the site location or decide to extend their trip once our expedition has concluded.

Travel: Participants are in charge of their own travel arrangements. We will give you a destination time and location and ask that you work within the schedule. You are more than welcome to arrange your travel so it coordinates with our schedule if you are within the proximity of Gettysburg. This will not apply to the Ethiopia expedition.

Insurance & Medical: We require each participant to fill out medical/liability forms for Gettysburg College and for any contracted services who request similar documentation. There is information available on purchasing short term insurance that covers baggage, accident/life, and trip cancellation which is required for our international programs. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Cancellation of Trips: We reserve the right to cancel trips due to lack of participants, State Department warnings, or natural occurrences that may be potentially hazardous. If you cancel the trip 60 days or more from the departure date, you will receive a full refund minus the $150 deposit. If cancellation occurs 45 - 60 days prior to the departure date a 50% refund is available. If cancellation occurs 21 - 45 days prior to the trip a 25% refund will be available. There will be no refunds for cancellations made within 21 days of the expedition.