PROJECT Leader Application

Immersion Projects

Leading an Immersion Project provides a significant student leadership opportunity and a chance to create a rewarding and life-changing learning experience for the participants involved. The success of these trips depends in large part on the commitment level of the project leader. Leading a trip requires a significant time commitment: prior to the trip (recruitment, training sessions, trip participant meetings, educating yourself on the issue); leading the trip; and after the trip (post-trip reflection and activities). Please carefully consider your availability and commitment but also know that you will not be left alone in this endeavor. With each step, staff at the CPS Office will support you in your efforts to understand the social justice issue you are learning about and to lead the group to a better understanding of that issue. In addition, each Project Leader will be paired with a Project Mentor, a faculty or staff member from Gettysburg, who will assist you in facilitating the trip.

The Project Leader receives $500 stipend credited towards the cost of their project. This financial assistance is offered to provide opportunities for student leadership development and to encourage participation in Immersion Projects.

**Responsibilities of the Student Leader**

As a Project Leader, you are committing to the following. All of these are mandatory and will require you to plan or adjust your schedule to be able to prioritize these activities and events. This commitment is approximately 3 hours per week, which can be completed in the CPS Office.

**Before** the Immersion Project:

* Participation as a student leader in GIV Day (Training: August 24, 2023; GIV Day: August 25, 2023)
* Recruitment for your trip, including the Engage EXPO (August 30, 2023).
* Regular meetings with your Project Mentor prior to your pre-trip meetings.
* Researching the issue/location and organizing an educational curriculum for participants prior to the project. These six education and training sessions are designed to prepare the group for the experience. This includes both building group cohesion and beginning to educate the group about the social issues and history of the site.
* Facilitating the five pre-trip meetings.
* Participation in weekly meetings with all Project Leaders throughout the fall (tentatively Thurs, 11:45am-1:00pm).
* Attendance at the All Participant Orientation.
* Make sure all student participant forms are handed in on time.
* If possible (if leader has a valid driver’s license or is willing to drive college vans), leaders of domestic trips will be asked to become Gettysburg College passenger van certified.

**During** the Immersion Project:

* Facilitating the Immersion Project, including the following:
  + leading regular reflection activities for the group.
  + managing group dynamics.
  + working with the Project Mentor to ensure adherence to schedule, budget, and policies.
* Take pictures for CPS to use in future publications.
* Be a strong peer contact for all participants during the project.

**After** the Immersion Project

* Convening the group post-trip to organize an activity that extends the project in some way. It could be an educational event that brings the issues you learned back to Gettysburg. It could be a fund raiser to support the work of the organization you partnered with. It could be an article in the paper, a film screening, or a blog.
* Compose a report of the project, noting any mishaps, suggestions for the future, and highlighting the group’s favorite activities.
* Meet with a CPS staff member to review your project report.

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**NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CAMPUS BOX \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please rank the trips according to which ones you would most like to lead. Rank only the trips that you would be willing and able to lead. If you prefer, you could choose to rank only one trip, but that may reduce your chances of obtaining one of the Project Leader positions for next year. This is a list of trips we are considering, but it is likely that we will not offer all of these trips.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Black Lives Matter and the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Immigration on the US-Mexican Border (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Women’s Rights and Islam in Morocco (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Peacebuilding and Development in Rwanda (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Food, Globalization & Sustainability in Nepal (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Decolonizing Education in Senegal (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LGBTQ Rights in Mexico (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sustainability, the Environment and Ecotourism in Costa Rica (Winter)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Music, Ritual, and the Struggle for Human Rights in the Dominican Republic (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Debt, Entrepreneurship, and Statehood in Puerto Rico (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Health Care and Education in Costa Rica (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Criminal Justice Reform in Washington, DC (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Literacy and Education in Nicaragua (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Lakota Culture in the Pine Ridge Reservation (Spring Break)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Models of Urban Educational Reform in Baltimore (Spring Break)

Please be clear if you are available to lead trips during the following times of year:

I am available to lead trips over: \_\_\_\_\_Winter Break \_\_\_\_\_Spring Break

**Application Questions:** *Please provide thorough and thoughtful answers to the following questions.*

* Address your past experiences leading groups and what you hope to gain from leading an Immersion Project.
* Discuss how your top three ranked projects relate to your personal, academic, and/or professional interests?
* In what ways have you been involved in social justice in the past? Choose one of the projects that you ranked and discuss how you would use one of the pre-trip educational sessions to get students to think critically about the issues being studied.
* Provide two campus references.

**1. NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DEPT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DEPT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Interviews will be held April 19-April 22. Should you be offered an interview, we will send an email requesting that you select an available time slot.**

**Please submit to** [**Immersion\_Projects@gettysburg.edu**](mailto:Immersion_Projects@gettysburg.edu)

**Application due April 12, 2023**