Global Education Project  
Academic Year 2014-15

Introduction

The Global Education Project (GEP) is a short term visiting program for international students at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA). The goal of GEP is to assist the visiting students to become more globally-minded and academically motivated while also enhancing the global learning environment at UCA. This Project provides an excellent opportunity for visiting students to learn more about American culture and improve their English skills. Overall, it will create a global learning environment for all students and faculty at UCA.

With an enrollment of over 500 international students and a student to faculty ratio of 17 to 1, UCA offers more than 100 undergraduate programs and more than 30 graduate programs at both the master and doctoral level. U.S. News and World Report of 2014 ranks UCA 28th in the category of “Top Public Schools” among regional universities in the South.

As one of the best educational values in the South, students at the University of Central Arkansas receive a quality education at an affordable cost.

The Project

The Project is uniquely designed to benefit our visiting international students in the classroom and on campus. Students with appropriate English skills are welcome to participate in regular courses with UCA students while those with lower English skills can sharpen their language ability through our diverse Intensive English Program. All students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in American culture by living, eating and socializing with Americans. The package price includes 12 undergraduate credits of tuition, housing with a roommate, unlimited meals at the cafeteria, health insurance, membership to the campus fitness center and other associated fees required by UCA. The program is a great bargain so students can focus on why they are at UCA rather than worry about individual expenses. In all, we hope this project will encourage students from our partner universities to participate in a semester or year-long study abroad experience at UCA benefiting both the sending and receiving communities.

The Procedure

We would like to have partner universities provide information regarding GEP to their students and recommend quality students with good English skills to be candidates for the Project. A final list of recommended students should be sent to UCA’s International Engagement Office. UCA will process these students’ applications and issue a DS-2019 form for the intended length of study to qualified candidates. The students will use this form to apply for their J-1 (exchange student) visa.
Students should take the TOEFL ITP or iBT **before** applying for admission. Those who receive a score of at least 500 on TOEFL ITP (or equivalent TOEFL iBT 61, IELTS 5.5) will be able to take four different courses (maximum of 12 undergraduate credits) from their own disciplines with approval from Department heads of UCA. Students with lower scores will enroll in the Intensive English Program and other approved GEP curricula.

Please note that the Global Education Project package price covers 12 undergraduate credits which is usually equivalent to 4 courses. Students who want to take more than 12 credits or graduate courses will be charged additionally.

Graduate students interested in participating in the Global Education Project can apply through International Engagement, but the applications are approved by the Graduate School and may be subject to credential evaluations. The minimum TOEFL score to be admitted as a graduate student is 550 on the ITP, 79 on the iBT, or 6.5 on the IELTS. Also, an additional $50 per credit hour will be added to the base package price for students taking graduate courses.

### The Projected Time Table for Fall 2014 Semester:

- **Promotion**: March to June, 2014
- **Deadline for Application**: June 15th, 2014
- **Visa Application**: June to July, 2014
- **Student Arrival**: August 8th-10th, 2014
- **Orientation**: August 11th-17th, 2014
- **Welcome Week**: August 18th-20th, 2014
- **Classes Begin**: August 21st, 2014
- **Departure Date**: December 13th, 2014

### The Projected Time Table for Spring 2015 Semester:

- **Promotion**: September to November, 2014
- **Deadline for Application**: November 15th, 2014
- **Visa Application**: November to December 2014
- **Student Arrival**: January 2nd-4th, 2015
- **Orientation**: January 5th-7th, 2015
- **Classes Begin**: January 8th, 2015
- **Departure Date**: May 1st, 2015
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