

A&SRC Explorers



TRAVEL ABROAD PROGRAM

Description: *A&SRC Explorers* is a curricular program open to members of the Arts and Sciences Residential College (A&SRC). This competitive program is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Center for Global Education, and Housing and Residence Life. Consideration for participation in this exclusive program requires the submission of this completed application and supporting materials by the November 1, 2023 deadline.

Selected students will enroll in the course ***Encountering Global Cultures*** (MLNG2000) for one (1) credit hour in the Spring 2024 semester. As part of the course curriculum, students will travel abroad during Spring Break week (from March 9-16). This year's travel destination will be Mexico, with stays in Merida and surrounding areas in the Yucatan peninsula. Students will explore sites of historical cities of two significant pre-Columbian civilizations, consider the confluence of these cultures with those of the European colonists that created the Mexican cultural identity, and experience a glimpse of daily life in modern Mexico. Upon returning to UTC, students will use their experiences abroad as the topic for their final projects consisting of a presentation with visual aids (e.g., PowerPoint slideshow, cultural artifacts, audio samples, etc.).

Eligibility: Full-time students meeting the following requirements may apply for this competitive opportunity:

- Enrolled in at least 12 credit hours, including MLNG2000 (1 credit hour) during the Spring 2024 semester.
- Active participants in one of the ASRC's RLCs (i.e., AdvanceU Leadership, CAS General, Content Creators, Data ChAMPs, Life Out Loud, MEDIC, Music Row, PHASES, or Sustainable Mocs).
- Must be in good academic standing (a 2.75 minimum GPA is required for consideration).
- Demonstrated engagement in the RLC by attending at least six ASRC, RLC, Center for Global Education, and other campus events by the time of the application deadline.
- Eligible and prepared to secure a passport.

Program Cost: Students will contribute \$425.00 for the cost of the trip. Additionally, they are responsible for the cost of obtaining a valid passport. The remaining cost will be subsidized by the Center for Global Education, College of Arts and Sciences, and Housing and Residence Life.

* Fundraising activities will be organized to help students needing financial assistance to participate in this program. For more information about fundraising opportunities, please contact A&RC Director, Dr. Tejero (Nikolasa-Tejero@UTC.edu / (423) 425-4621).

Deadlines: Application deadline is November 1, 2023. Admitted students will be notified by November 15, 2023. Deadline to renew or apply for a new passport is December 1, 2023. Last day to withdraw from the program without a fee penalty is January 3, 2024.

APPLICATION

Name: _____ UTC ID: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

RLC Name: _____ Major: _____

Current GPA (first-year students list your final high school GPA): _____

List any previous experience traveling abroad: _____

Demonstrated Engagement: Meeting the learning outcomes for this special program requires your willingness to engage with the world around you; therefore, your application should reflect a clear interest in engagement. To do this, include a list of all the events you have attended since moving into the ASRC. To be eligible for this program, your activity list **MUST** contain **AT LEAST SIX** activities/events you participated in or attended.

Enter the events you participated in/attended (with event dates in parentheses) in the spaces provided:

1. Community Service activities, including IRONMAN Chattanooga (required) and at least two other activities):

Volunteer service for the IRONMAN Chattanooga (Sunday, September 24, 2023).

2. Two activities sponsored by the Center for Global Education:

Center for Global Education's *Introduction to Global Engagement* seminar

Select at least one of the following:

International Tea Time _____

Global Spotlight _____

3. At least two co-curricular RLC events:

4. At least one RLC social event:

5. At least one campus community event:

Essay Portion: Compose and attach an essay describing your interest in participating in a travel abroad program, explaining how you imagine the experience will impact you. Consider the following questions to help frame your essay: Why are you interested in traveling abroad? What are your goals for this experience? What do you hope to learn? What skills do you bring to the experience you anticipate will be helpful? What skills do you wish to develop or refine? (Maximum essay length = 1000 words)

Program Participation Acknowledgment: By signing and submitting this application and supporting materials, I acknowledge my commitment, if selected, to fully participate in the Travel Abroad experience. I agree to be held liable for all fees associated with my participation in this program if I withdraw after the withdrawal deadline (January 3, 2024). I understand that incomplete applications will not be considered; moreover, I must maintain eligibility status throughout the time of travel.

Signature

Date