PEACE CORPS PREP STUDENT GUIDE

The Peace Corps Prep program will prepare you for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service. To accomplish this, you'll build four core competencies through interrelated coursework, hands-on experience, and professional development support. These four competencies are the following:

1. Training and experience in a work sector
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Use this guide to map out your

There are six sectors (www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/what-volunteers-do/) in which Peace Corps Volunteers serve—detailed below. **Choose one sector to focus on** then complete at least 3 courses + 50 hours of related experience in that sector. *Note: Actual Peace Corps assignments are based on local needs, and thus may or may not align seamlessly with your qualifications. Flexibility is central to the Peace Corps experience!*

#1 EDUCATION

Teach lessons that last a lifetime. Education is the Peace Corp's largest program area. Volunteers play an important role in creating links among schools, parents, and communities by working in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools as math, science, conversational English, and resource teachers or as early grade reading and literacy teacher trainers. Volunteers also develop libraries and technology resource centers.

If you choose Education, take 3 courses from one of the following areas:
- o Elementary, Secondary or Special Education
- o English or Linguistics
- o TEFL/TESL
- o Math
- o Computer Science
- o Engineering
- o Any Physical or Biological Science

Recommended courses:
EDF 2085 Intro to Diversity for Educators
LIN 4721 Second Language Acquisition
ANT 2410 Cultural Anthropology
ANT 4401 Exploring Cross-Cultural Diversity
ANT 4462 Health, Illness and Culture
SPA 3470 SPf001 Tw 12 h3BDC Tc 0 Tw 10.39 [(SP)-f 2.2m Tcfm TcftA /Pg6s& â

If you choose Health, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- o Nursing
- o Nutrition or Dietetics
- o Health Education
- o Bio-medical Sciences

- o Biology
- o Technical Education
- o Public Health
- o Pharmacy

- o Environmental or Sanitary Engineering

Recommended courses:
GEY

Participate in:
Volunteer MATCH website: http://www.volunteermatch.org/

Join:
BullSync connects student organizations, community service partners, and engagement at USF:
https://orgsync.com/login/university-of-south-florida?redirect_to=%2Fhome%2F695
The Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) http://www.leadandserve.usf.edu/

#3 ENVIRONMENT

Help forge a global movement to protect our planet. Volunteers lead grassroots efforts in their communities to protect the environment and strengthen understanding of environmental issues. They teach environmental awareness in elementary and secondary schools and to youth groups and community organizations, empowering communities to make their own decisions about how to protect and conserve the local environment. Volunteers also address environmental degradation by promoting sustainable use of natural resources.

If you choose Environment take the summer 101 (ad)65i)-5 Φhf (e)-rom (e)-1one)-125e

Study Abroad Options include:

<u>If you choose Agriculture, take three courses from one of the following areas</u>:
- o Agronomy   o
- o Horticulture
- o Botany

Shriner's Hospital: http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/locations/tampa
Special Olympics Hillsborough County FL: http://specialolympicsflorida.org/hillsborough/
Alliance of Health and Fitness Professionals:
http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/departments/physed/programs/StudOrg.html
Association of Physical Education College Students: http://tinyletter.com/USF-APECS
SunCoast Area Teacher Training & Education Research Honors Program:
http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/SCATTER/scatter.html
Living Learning Community – eduCARE: http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/sas/LLC.html
Florida Department of Children and Families – to support Refugee Services:
http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/refugee-services

Participate in:
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BullSync connects student organizations, community service partners, and engagement at USF:
https://orgsync.com/login/university-of-south-florida?redirect_to=%2Fhome%2F695
The Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE): http://www.leadandserve.usf.edu/

Join:
Habitat for Humanity: http://www.habitathillsborough.org/
MOSI Museum of Science and Industry: http://www.mosi.org/get-involved/
Big Brothers Big Sisters: http://www.bbbstampabay.org/Default.aspx?navigationid=2
Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay: http://www.bgctampa.org/
Metropolitan Ministries: http://www.metromin.org/
Volunteering with Tampa Bay Sports: http://tampabaysports.org/Volunteer/Info

#6 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Harness 21st-century tools to help communities lift themselves. Volunteers work with development banks, nongovernmental organizations, and municipalities to strengthen infrastructure and encourage economic opportunities in communities. They frequently teach in classroom settings and work with entrepreneurs and business owners to develop and market their products. Some Volunteers also teach basic computer skills and help communities take advantage of technologies such as e-commerce, distance learning, and more.

If you choose Community Economic Dev., take three courses from one of the following areas:
- Business
- Public Administration
- Nonprofit Management
- Accounting, Banking or Finance
- Computer Science and

College of Engineering Undergraduate Catalog: *http://ugs.usf.edu/pdf/cat1617/15Engineering.pdf*
College of Business

I-Corps: http://innovation.usf.edu/icorps/
MOSI Museum of Science and Industry: http://www.mosi.org/get-involved/
Toastmasters: http://www.tampatoastmasters.org/

> Nearly two-thirds of Peace Corps Volunteers serve in Education or Health. Coursework and meaningful experience in one of these areas especially teaching English as a second/foreign language produce some of the strongest candidates.

The USF Office of National Scholarships (ONS): https://ons.usf.edu/ encourages students to apply for one of the scholarships below. Gilman Scholarships facilitate international engagement by Pell Grant recipients and language acquisition can be funded through the Critical Language or Boren Scholarships.

1. Gilman Scholarships - ONS will certify all Gilman scholarship applicants who have also expressed an interest in the Peace Corps Prep Program: http://www.iie.org/programs/gilman-scholarship-

3. **Optional: Intercultural experience in place of elective(s): You have the option of substituting intercultural experiences for one or both electives.**

      a. **Studying or volunteering abroad** may count *if* you visit a country that has at some point hosted Peace Corps Volunteers (see the list of current and past countries here [www.peacecorps.gov/countries]. Studying or volunteering

Leadership Experience

Host a Peace Corps Prep workshop for students to share their experiences during the *Intercultural Student Leadership Conference* (Office of Multicultural Affairs) as a way to gain professional experience and energize others about your passion for global service: http://multicultural.usf.edu/islc/

Join the USF Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE): http://www.leadandserve.usf.edu/ Explore the many leadership development opportunities that the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement has to offer! The CLCE provides courses, one day workshops, weekend retreats, and yearlong leadership development programs that can meet any student need. Students are able to earn a minor in Leadership Studies by enrolling in a sequence of course approved by the CLCE. Or, attend a workshop or event during the Lunchtime Leadership Series.

The Certified Student Leader Program is a co-curricular certification available to students who are interested in enhancing their leadership knowledge, application, and skills through a variety of leadership opportunities. These opportunities may be tailored to students' own interests, many of which are offered over the course of the academic year. Students may join this program at any point during their college career and will be enrolled as part of a cohort. Students who complete the program and are in good academic standing will receive a certificate and will have the achievement noted on their co-curricular transcript. For more information, visit: http://www.leadandserve.usf.edu/leadcsl.php

Become a Peace Corps Ambassador: https://www.facebook.com/PCUSF/ Get to know USF's dedicated Peace Corps Recruiter and help spread the word about the unique opportunities available through Peace Corps service.

Assume a leadership position in a student organization. There are over 600 registered student organizations at USF. From academic and professional organizations and special interest groups to fraternities and sororities and multicultural student organizations, there are so many ways to get involved in a student organization. All registered student organizations can be found on BullSync. USF BullSync is a system-wide intranet that connects student organizations,