



**LEAD
ENGAGE
ADVANCE *and*
DISCOVER**

You can be a LEADer!



Asian Affairs Center
University of Missouri

Updated on: June 9, 2023

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Dear Future LEADers,

The MU Asian Affairs Center has been working with university students from Asia for over 20 years, accumulating the knowledge on how to help prepare them to be global and international professionals. Through this program, you will gain the confidence and skills to become cross-culturally competent and more marketable internationally. Our excellent faculty provide courses that are globally relevant and will increase your leadership skills, English fluency, and intercultural acuity. Your coursework will be enhanced by community involvement, American peers, and diverse hands-on activities, allowing you to LIVE in ENGLISH while you are here.

LEAD is designed with your future in mind. We will give you the tools to succeed; all you have to do is engage in the program with an open-minded attitude to transform yourself to be more international and global. I truly look forward to welcoming you in person on the Mizzou campus.

Sincerely,



*Sang S. Kim, Director
MU Asian Affairs Center &
Missouri International Training Institute*



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

CLASSES

Coursework provided by the AAC's Missouri International Training Institute is designed to develop student confidence in English by building students' presentation, general conversation, and facilitation skills. In content-specific classes, students will have a safe space to explore personal leadership skills and improve upon key areas that will improve their leadership competency in a variety of settings, better understand how global competency is shaped from the community level up, and how cultural trends in the US connect to the global stage.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FIELD EXPERIENCE

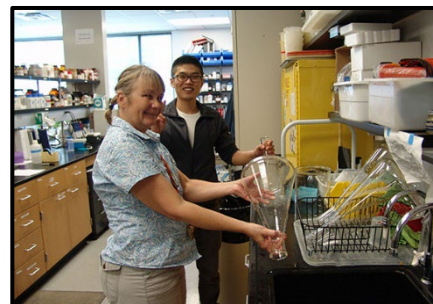
Students will learn about healthy community-building through interactive field experiences that will complement coursework in the same arena. Students will have the opportunity to select a variety of site visits or volunteering based on their interests, curiosities, and career goals. The diversity of experiences will allow students to learn about a wider breadth of professions and community service organizations and help them to understand how these organizations strengthen our local community. Field experiences will include companies or organizations related to business, technology, hard sciences, environment, education, community, and government.

AMERICAN AMBASSADORS

American Collegiate Ambassadors are what bring the program together making it an authentic and valuable experience. These American college students come from a variety of backgrounds and are integrated into the program in many ways. They will not only participate as conversation partners to enrich students' language and culture development but will also join in-person activities and cultural site visits. Ambassadors serve as students' go-to-persons when they have questions about American daily life, culture, and every day spoken English. They provide a cross-cultural peer relationship and network that can continue long after the program ends.

CULTURAL SITE VISITS and ACTIVITIES

Participants will participate in a variety of activities designed to develop cultural awareness and provide a context for life in America. These will include festivals, sporting events, and other historical and recreational sites locally and around the state of Missouri.



THE SPECIFICS

“It was a really good experience abroad, and the best way to learn American culture.”



Program Dates

FALL 2023

Tuesday, August 22 – Friday, December 8

(arrival date Aug 18, 19, 20 | departure on/after December 9)

SPRING 2024

Tuesday, January 23 – Friday, May 10

(arrival date Jan 19, 20, 21) | departure on/after May 11)

Application Deadline

FALL 2023

May 1, 2023 (or earlier)

SPRING 2024

October 15, 2023 (or earlier)

ELIGIBILITY

Must be a current international university student or recent graduate.

ENGLISH REQUIREMENT:

Minimum requirements: TOEFL iBT 55 / IELTS 5.5 / TOEIC 550/ Duolingo 80

Preferred requirements: TOEFL iBT 61/ IELTS 6.0 / TOEIC 800/ Duolingo 85

VISA TYPE:

J-1 Student, Non-Degree DS-2019

SAMPLE Calendar

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00am-12:00pm	Strategic Communication Skills for Global Success	NextGen Leadership Essentials	Building Blocks for Strong Communities		Grocery Shopping (every 2-3 weeks)	Cultural Activities or Field Trips (approximately once per month)
12:15pm-1:30pm	~ Lunch Break ~					
1:30pm-4:30pm			Professional Site Visit or Volunteer Experience	Trends & Culture in the U.S.		

NOTE: Professional site visits and cultural field trip times and days of the week will vary.

“I would recommend the program because it gives really good, professional experience. I participated in a meeting at city hall, and I could feel real business atmosphere, and that gave me an opportunity to think about my future career.”

(Academic transcript will be provided upon completion of the program.)



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR GLOBAL SUCCESS (45 HOURS)

The main objective of this course is to improve the students' English skills and confidence in a variety of settings. By introducing students to multiple situations, they will be able to discern the appropriate tone and demeanor to use in any given interaction. This is done through:

- Activities focused on improving pronunciation, intonation, and non-verbal communication.
- Teaching new vocabulary relevant to modern American culture.
- Examining proper usage for emails and professional correspondence.
- Increasing ability to speak comfortably in natural English settings.
- Using podcasts to increase listening and conversation skills.
- Creating individual podcast, “TED Talk,” and giving a final presentation to the public on their growth and experience while in the U.S.

“ Every class, I could enjoy learning, and I never became bored. Because we participated a lot, it’s a very good thing. ”

TRENDS AND CULTURE IN THE U.S. (45 HOURS)



This course aims to increase students' cross-cultural understanding through an in-depth look at what makes the United States unique culturally. Students will learn to recognize the stereotypes they have learned and will challenge how they understand American culture by examining U.S. history and social movements. The class will incorporate guest speakers and collegiate ambassadors, allowing the students to understand American culture more deeply. Throughout the semester, students will examine topics of American culture, leading them up to a capstone project where they will present their thoughts and findings in a formal presentation. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand many aspects of American culture, both from a broad perspective as well as through more individualized lens.
- Identify how history has led to social justice movements, which change cultural trends over time.
- Recognize what authentic American culture means and how it varies across regions.
- Interact with American collegiate ambassadors and better understand American college life.
- Build their knowledge of a specific cultural topic to be presented in a capstone presentation to an audience.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(continued)

NEXTGEN LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS

(45 HOURS)

In this course, students will learn about leadership skills that have aided leaders across the world stage. They will spend time developing their own leadership skills through introspective activities. By learning about effective leaders and working with peers who have different skills, students will better understand the strengths and challenges of their own unique leadership style. By the end of the course, students should:

- Understand how different leadership styles can affect teamwork and management.
- Know the difference between managing and leading.
- Be able to articulate their own leadership style.
- Recognize leadership traits in people around them and apply skills to more effectively work with others.
- Have a solid leadership portfolio for future reference and continued learning.

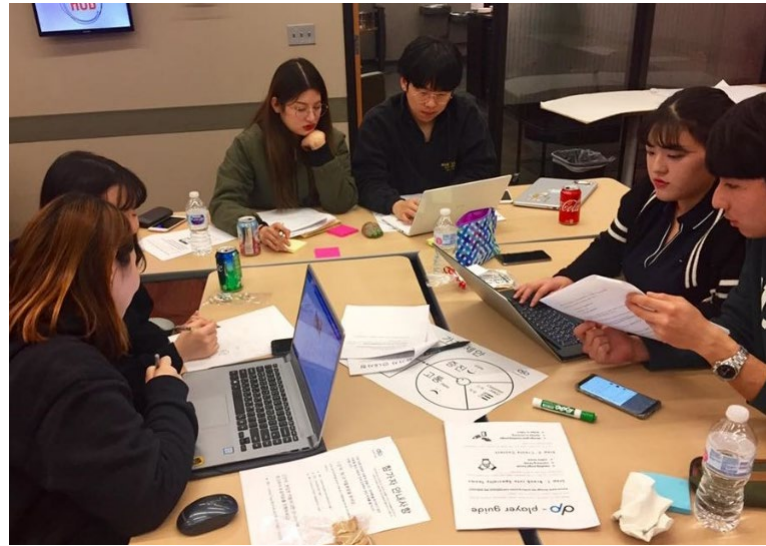
“I can enjoy learning what leadership is and how to solve conflict. It’s really important for my future.”

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES

(45 HOURS)

Strong communities consist of governance, civic engagement, healthy business ecosystems, culture, education, the smart use of resources, and offer equitable opportunities and are considered safe and inclusive by its residents. This course will explore healthy communities, as well as learn about assets, areas of need, and potential barriers within the change process. The aims of the course are to:

- Introduce students to and help students clearly identify the characteristics of a healthy community ecosystem.
- Engage students in experiential learning through the creation of individual community maps.
- Introduce the importance of community feedback for community-based policies and services.
- Highlight need for community involvement including volunteering to be a positive force for change within their communities.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FIELD EXPERIENCE

(HOURS VARY)

Designed to complement the Building Strong Communities course, this field experience will include opportunities for students to engage with the community through group volunteering, self-directed volunteering, local cultural experiences, and professional site visits. Students will see how all of these pieces fit into the wider community ecosystem. Students will increase their community awareness by:

- Having hands-on experience in the community.
- Seeing how various organizations affect real people.
- Understanding how organizations work together.
- Immersing themselves in community activities.



LIVEⁱⁿ ENGLISH

The Asian Affairs Center's educational philosophy on language and cultural acquisition is a full immersion approach. Program participants start "living" English and American culture, rather than studying them. The center provides an optimal learning environment for participants to pursue that goal with community involvement, American collegiate ambassadors and an English-only policy throughout the program.

"The AAC gave me a special opportunity. It gave me the chance to know myself, live in an English environment, and lots of new experiences to help me grow!"

ABOUT US

The Asian Affairs Center, created in 1998 by the MU Office of the Provost, reflects the university's formal recognition of cultural, strategic and economic importance of the nations of the Pacific Rim. The center has a mandate to build upon MU's substantial Asian programs, university and alumni linkages, and teaching and research connections in the region to benefit citizens, government entities and businesses in Missouri and the region.

The Missouri International Training Institute (MITI), housed in the MU Asian Affairs Center, was created as a joint venture by the University of Missouri and the Missouri State Department of Economic Development to promote global trade links and provide international professionals and visiting scholars with training programs in numerous academic and professional fields. Drawing upon the wide array of resources available from the university, state and local governments and Missouri corporations, MITI has provided customized and specialized educational programs ranging from one week to one year in length. To date, our alumni includes more than 3,000 government officials, faculty, professionals, and students from Asia.

40+

University

Partnerships

in Asia

“Best academic courses, best staff, best faculty, and dedicated services for scholars. I cannot find any reason not to recommend AAC programs to my friends and colleagues.”

3,233 PARTICIPANTS

from 12 COUNTRIES

22

**YEARS OF
TRAINING PROGRAMS**

9.6

Course Satisfaction Rate



THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI (Mizzou) is a land grant, AAU (Association of American Universities), flagship university, located in Columbia, Missouri, U.S.A. Established in 1839, Mizzou is the oldest public university west of the Mississippi River, an institution with rich traditions, a physically beautiful campus, and a strong commitment to furthering the tenets of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence.

With 13 schools and colleges offering more than 300 degree programs, and a total enrollment of more than 30,000 students, Mizzou is the birthplace of world class research breakthroughs, home to Nobel prize winners, and produces Mizzou-made leaders of tomorrow. Find out more at <http://www.missouri.edu>.

Our Values

WHAT MAKES A TIGER

Respect

We commit to acting ethically, welcoming difference and exchanging ideas openly.

Responsibility

We are accountable to ourselves, each other and the public we serve.



Discovery

We foster the lifelong process of seeking knowledge and greater understanding.

Excellence

We reach for excellence through diligent effort and collaboration.



PROGRAM FEES & OTHER EXPENSES

PROGRAM FEES

\$ 4,950 including:

- All courses including instruction and course materials
- University facility access/usage fees ⁽¹⁾
- Instructional site visits, field trips, and related costs ⁽²⁾
- Application and visa document (DS-2019) processing

HOUSING, DINING, INCIDENTALS

Costs will vary

- You will complete your application directly through the MU Residential Life portal.
- We encourage you to select a room with a domestic roommate
- Your fees will vary depending on your preferences and selections during the application process, as well as residence hall availability.

<https://housing.missouri.edu/rates-amenities>

* Prices for a one-semester program are approximately half of the academic year prices

EXPENSES BREAKDOWN:

Program Fees

Tuition:	\$ 3,800
University facility fees ⁽¹⁾ :	\$ 400
Activity fees ⁽²⁾ :	\$ 500
Application and DS-2019 processing:	\$ 250

Housing, Dining, Incidentals

(approximate and subject to change)

Dormitory (1 semester)	\$ 3,300 – 5,500
Dining (Zou Gold)	\$ 1,675
Health Insurance	\$ 950 - 1,150
Personal expenses	\$ 1,500

TOTAL PROGRAM FEES:

\$4,950

TOTAL OTHER:

\$ 7,425 - \$ 9,825

⁽¹⁾ These fees include computer labs and on-campus Wi-fi, libraries, recreation center (swimming pools, sauna, gymnasium, racquetball/squash courts, basketball courts, indoor track, outdoor track, soccer field, etc.).

⁽²⁾ This is for cultural and campus activities (often with collegiate ambassadors). For example, orientation, welcome dinner, festivals, field trips, graduation dinner. Includes all land transportation and entrance fees. For full-day field trips, 1-2 meals will also be included.

Cancellation Policy

Selected students will be responsible for the following percentage of program fees:

- **\$300** any time after visa materials are submitted to the Asian Affairs Center **PLUS**
- **10%** if cancelled between 45 and 21 days prior to the beginning of the program; OR
- **20%** if cancelled between 20 and 0 days prior to the beginning of the program
- **NOTE:** You will also lose any deposits paid to MU housing or dining departments.



YOUR VISIT TO THE USA

- ✓ Gain the confidence and skills to market yourself effectively.
- ✓ Develop tools and strategies to become a forward-thinking leader.
- ✓ Receive instruction from experienced faculty with years of career experience and education.
- ✓ Make lifelong friendships with American students and your program peers.
- ✓ Visit a variety of professional, historical, and cultural sites in Missouri.
- ✓ Live in English!

16 Weeks = A Lifetime of Experience!





Asian Affairs Center

University of Missouri



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