

Memorandum of Understanding

Courtesy of University of Tampa



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Office of Student Leadership and Engagement and Life Skills Programs/Spartan Ready Initiatives

Program Overview

The Leadership Exchange program is based on the partnership between the University of Tampa and Kennesaw State University. Staff members at each institution facilitate the six-month (October-March) exploration of leadership, service, and the social injustices of homelessness and poverty as they exist in Tampa, Kennesaw/Atlanta, nationally, and worldwide.

The partnership affords students at each institution the opportunity to learn about the complexities of poverty and homelessness in each city. Through the coordination of (two) four-day immersion experiences throughout the course of the program, students meet with community leaders, engage with nonprofit agency staff, and directly serve the organizations working to address social injustices in each host city.

Students who participate in the Leadership Exchange Program will:

- Build relationships with students from another institution
- Develop a better understanding of self through identity development workshops, personality inventories, and values exercises
- Be exposed to the social injustices of homelessness and poverty in Tampa and Kennesaw/Atlanta
- Engage in direct service at nonprofit agencies and community organizations in each city
- Gain a better understanding of ways they can address homelessness and poverty in their local community through post-immersion activities and dialogue

Spartan Ready Competencies

The Leadership Exchange program upholds and advances the Spartan Ready competencies in a variety of ways. Workshops, pre-trip meetings, and service experiences support the competencies as follows:

Pillars of Spartan Ready:	Program Components:
Communication	 Participants will facilitate dialogue about current events related to homelessness, poverty, and an interconnected social injustice (i.e. mental health, LGBTQ rights, youth, education, veterans).
Interpersonal Abilities	 Participants will develop relationships with Kennesaw State University cohort members by

2	making a positive first impression, and
	handling difficult conversations.
Critical Thinking	 Participants will analyze root causes of
	homelessness and poverty in each city (Tampa
	and Kennesaw/Atlanta).
Organization	 Participants will work with their cohort to
	develop, plan, and implement the Tampa
	immersion for their partner institution's
	cohort. This aspect of the program involves
	scheduling, coordination, communication
	amongst various stakeholders, and dealing
	with the unexpected.
Global Engagement	 Participants will directly serve diverse
	communities in Kennesaw and Tampa.
	Through these direct service experiences,
	students will be able to discern and account for
*	their own and others' worldviews because of
	this exposure.
Teamwork	 Participants will come to understand the
	fluctuating roles of effective team members
	through cooperation, conflict resolution, and
×	delegation.
Self-Awareness	 Participants will understand their privilege,
-	power, and identities through workshops, pre-
	trip meetings, and direct service at agencies in
	Tampa and Kennesaw. By being exposed to
	diverse others, they will recognize and utilize
	their awareness to effectively function within
	the team.
Professionalism	 Participants will synthesize and reflect upon
	their experiences in order to link their
	academic majors to a co-curricular experience,
	and a projected career of interest.
Life Skills	 Participants will be empowered to be engaged
	citizens as a result of their awareness of
	community needs and social injustices.

Staff Partner Expectations

In order to ensure a meaningful and educational experience for all students in the program, staff partners will:

- Actively engage and participate in all meetings and immersion trips listed below. If a staff member is unable to attend after materials (including but not limited to airline tickets and hotel rooms) have been purchased, the staff member will be financially responsible for compensating for items which have already been purchased on his or her behalf as a facilitator.
- Jointly facilitate meetings with the University of Tampa cohort of participants in preparation for the service immersion experiences. The meeting dates are listed below. All meetings will be held from 4-5 pm in North Walker Hall room 134.

October 2nd October 9th October 16th October 23rd November 5-8th: Service immersion in Kennesaw, GA December 4th January 22nd

January 29th February 5th February 12th February 26th March 3-6th: Service immersion in Tampa, FL March 18th

- Serve on the Leadership Exchange planning team and maintain strong communication with the Assistant Director of Leadership and Student Coordinator of Leadership to execute program logistics and curriculum.
- Facilitate and attend the service immersion in Kennesaw, GA on November 5-8, 2015.
- Coordinate aspects of the service immersion in Tampa in conjunction with the Assistant Director of Leadership, Student Coordinator of Leadership, and UT cohort of program participants.
- Facilitate and attend the service immersion in Tampa, FL on March 3-6, 2016.

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