



NINE CREDIT SUMMER SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS IN CAMBODIA

Global Public Health Education, Teaching English, Buddhist Immersion,
Children & Orphanage Care and Community Development & Youth Leadership Training
JUNE - AUGUST

Program Requirements and Credit

Built on GSC's successful service-learning study abroad past programs in Tanzania, GSC and the University at Albany, SUNY (UAlbany) are now jointly offering a nine-credit Summer Study Abroad Program in Cambodia. During the GSC Cambodia Program, students will gain hands-on community service project experience while living and working with the local people, in and around the capital city of Phnom Penh.

All students will begin their programs together during a one-week cultural orientation and training to acquaint them with the culture and history of Cambodia and prepare them for their project placements. Basic, conversational Khmer lessons will also be included during orientation. Students will keep blogs and/or journals throughout the program and submit a final paper that will be reviewed by UAlbany for grading. The GSC in-country coordinator will be in contact weekly and available for meetings to provide further information, support and assistance. Students successfully completing the course will receive nine college credits from UAlbany.

Program Overview and Student Experience

Prior to departure, GSC will provide all student volunteers with the materials they need for their specific program placement, as well as background information on Cambodian culture and history. During the Summer Service-Learning Program, students will have the unique opportunity to learn while serving alongside local - Cambodians. All program participants will be together during orientation and volunteer outings, before they begin their project placements in the field. While the weekdays will be spent learning and serving the local communities, weekends are free for students to socialize, travel, and explore the beautiful sights of Cambodia. Also included in all of the programs is a weekend trip to the UNESCO World Heritage site Angkor Wat and other Siem Reap attractions, hosted by GSC.

Nine-week summer community service placements are available in the following programs:

GSC Teaching Conversational English Program

Due to the crucial need to improve English literacy, GSC's Teach English Abroad Program in Cambodia teams up with selected local non-profit and community development organizations to provide basic English training to some of the poorest citizens of Cambodia. The service-learning program gives GSC volunteers the opportunity to provide direct education and build the skills of local students in Cambodia.

GSC Buddhist Immersion-Teach Conversational English Program

Students will have the opportunity to experience Cambodian Buddhist culture firsthand in the Buddhist Immersion-Teach Conversational English Program. During their stay at a rural or urban setting, students will either stay on site or visit daily the host wat (monastery). Depending on the wat, students may have opportunities to join monks in their daily activities, including meditation, chanting, and other rituals. The service component of this program includes teaching basic English lessons to students at local schools and to young monks when available.

GSC Global Public Health Program

Participants in the Global Public Health Program will share their talents, experience and knowledge with members of slum and underserved communities in and around Phnom Penh. They will lead health workshops

with the help of local translators and GSC-provided materials and lesson plans. During the Health Education Workshops and follow up activities, volunteers will cover topics such as HIV/AIDS education and prevention, drug and alcohol abuse awareness, hygiene, domestic violence and other public health issues. Participants may also have the opportunity to assist the public health nurse and social worker with administrative work and case visits, as needed.

GSC Children and Orphanage Care Program

GSC works with two unique children's centers that work with children who have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS and children of displaced families living in the slums of Phnom Penh. GSC volunteers have the opportunity to assist the centers' staff as they support, work, play and bond with the children. Student volunteer activities may include providing workshops or training, teaching Basic English, planning and leading educational games, and offering a project based on their own background and skills. These projects include a range of art, recreational, or enrichment activities.

GSC Community Development and Youth Leadership Training Program

In the Community Development and Youth Leadership Training Program, student volunteers have the unique opportunity to work with Cambodian youth to become community leaders and agents of social change. Student volunteers become part of a movement to build a culture of peace and social justice in Cambodia, in response to the devastating effects of the Khmer Rouge genocide.

Note: GSC will place each student volunteer at one of the placements above based on the needs of the community and the student's background, skills and interests,

Accommodations

During orientation all participants will stay at a centrally located hotel in Phnom Penh. Rooms are shared and have private bathrooms. Free laundry facilities, breakfast, and internet are also included. Participants in the Buddhist Immersion, Teach English, Global Public Health, and Community Development & Youth Leadership Training Program will stay at a homestay, guest house, or a local apartment during their placement, while some Orphanage Care program participants will be accommodated in volunteer dorms on the orphanage grounds. All participants will stay in Siem Reap for a weekend excursion provided by GSC.

Program Fee: \$7,000 estimated

Included:

- Nine college credits from UAlbany
- All in-country student expenses: Airport pick-up/return and project transportation; hotel, orphanage, and monastery accommodations; all meals at accommodations or local restaurants; language and cultural orientation and training; project administration; Siem Reap weekend trip

Not included:

- Airfare, travel insurance, visa, and mandatory background checks; required and/or optional reading material

To Apply: (Please Note: Students will have to apply through both GSC and SUNY)

- To apply through GSC go to www.globalservicecorps.org/site/apply/
- To apply through SUNY go to www.albany.edu/studyabroad/

For answers to commonly asked questions, visit <http://www.globalservicecorps.org/site/cambodia-faqs/>

For further information about college credit programs in Cambodia, contact Cambodia@globalservicecorps.org