



EXPERIENCE EL SALVADOR 2019

2019 Experience El Salvador Mission Trip

APPLICATION AND ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please complete application as thoroughly as possible and return to:
Melissa Leigh Grau
Director of Community Engagement & Leadership Development
Casey Hall Room 1D

Application Deadline is Friday, March 19, 2018 by 4:00PM

Decisions will be made by Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

Notifications will be made via DC email and phone

Name _____ Student ID# _____

Permanent Address _____

School Address (if applicable) _____

Cell Phone Number _____ Home Phone Number _____

Major Area of Study _____ GPA (as of FA17) _____

Class Year: ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior

Check all that apply: ___ Male ___ Female

 ___ Full-time student ___ Part-time student
 ___ Resident student ___ Commuter student
 ___ Undergraduate student ___ Graduate student

**Priority consideration will be given to full-time day/evening, undergraduate students. Selection based on quality of application and previous service experience (on and off campus will qualify) with academic performance being used in the need of equally-merited applications. If space permits, part-time and graduate students will be considered. Participants MUST be enrolled for the Spring 2019 semester.*

T-Shirt size: ___ S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2XL

ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE EL SALVADOR PROJECT

Experience El Salvador is a collaborative program between Dominican College and Molloy College; each school will bring 5 students and 1 administrators to La Union, El Salvador for one week in January 2019. Airfare has not

been confirmed, but the projected dates of the trip are January 2- 11, 2019. Participants will be selected before the conclusion of the Spring 2018 semester, so that airfare can be purchased.

In El Salvador we will be working in a camp in Sol Naciente, which is a community in La Union. The camp takes place when the schools are on recess. Children ages 4-12 years are welcome to attend camp, with the permission of their parents. The camp is located in a chapel built by Sister Flor de Maria Buruca. The name of the chapel is the Chapel of St. Dominic/Immaculate Conception. Sister Flor is a Dominican Sister of Amityville and a graduate of Molloy College; she will be our guide and partner in this mission. The children are divided into 2-3 age groups and rotate through 4 sessions each day (arts and crafts, exercise and sports, music, and community service). They are also fed lunch and snacks, which we help to facilitate.

During our time in El Salvador, Sister Flor will work with Father Augustine, a Diocesan Priest of El Salvador, in providing transportation, lodging, and food. Throughout the week, we will have an opportunity each day after the camp ends, to visit historic sites and villages in the area. Our safety is the highest priority, and every precaution will be taken to ensure our well-being on-site, while traveling, and in our "home away from home." Our friends in El Salvador will be preparing for our arrival long before we get there!

The students selected from each college will be required to meet weekly with the participants from their school group, as well as monthly with the whole group. Virtual meetings between the school groups will take place, as time permits. Transportation will be coordinated by the staff participants. During these meetings the group will be responsible for designing lesson plans for the children we are serving in Sol Naciente. We will prepare the plans and supplies for the week that we are in El Salvador, and travel with the supplies from the US.

It is not necessary to speak fluent Spanish, however some familiarity will be helpful. Additionally, all participants must carry individual health insurance, and have a physical examination, prior to the trip.

COST TO THE PARTICIPANT

The fee for this program is \$500.00, and it is due by September 30, 2018. This fee contributes to the cost of your airfare, lodging, transportation, and meals. The remainder of that cost is subsidized by each respective college. The fee can be offset by fundraising. There are additional costs which may apply to you:

- 1) Cost of a passport; new- \$110, or renewal
- 2) Cost of physical examination and required vaccinations- variable- consult your doctor or urgent care
 - a. Routine vaccinations- required for school entrance (MMR, tetanus, chicken pox, polio)
 - b. Flu shot- annual
 - c. Typhoid fever
 - d. Hepatitis A (2 doses)

Please list any allergies or dietary restrictions.

Please list any volunteer experiences.

Please list any clubs or organizations to which you belong.

What skills, hobbies, talents, training or experience do you have that would contribute to your team's well-being and/or benefit the community? (i.e. first aid certification, artistic or computer talents, construction experience, athletics, etc.)

APPLICATION ESSAYS

Please answer all parts of the following questions, in full. Please type your responses, and attach your answers to your application. **Responses should be at least 300 words per question.**

1. Why are you interested in participating in the Experience El Salvador program?
Explain any personal or work experience that has influenced your decision to apply for this program.
2. Please share a quote that has significance for you. Explain what it means to you (positive or negative), and why you carry it with you. How might this translate into a lesson for the children we are serving?

THINGS TO KNOW

Alcohol/Drug Free Policy

The EE program promotes an alcohol/drug free philosophy. Alcohol consumption, illegal drug use, and the use of other controlled substances is prohibited by participants, regardless of age, during the week of EE.

Any group member who does not adhere to this policy will be asked to leave the program, and return to his or her place of residence at their own expense, and may have further implications on campus. Support of this policy, by all involved, is essential for a safe and socially aware experience. EE endorses the Drug and Alcohol Policy of Dominican College.

Please initial here to indicate that you have read and understand this policy:

EE Group Member Expectations

- Completion of all required documentation, in a timely manner.
- Participate in pre-break activities including pre-trip convocation and blessing, and participate in the post-trip presentation session, date TBD after the trip in January.
- Participate in group meetings; group will meet bi-weekly during the Fall semester. Meeting days and times will be determined by the group. Fundraising activities will also be determined by the group.
- Process the EE experience individually and with the group through reflection, journaling and other group activities.
- Willingness to live simply during the trip, as well as flexibility and a positive attitude!
- Understanding that if not able to attend the trip for any reason a refund will not be issued and a replacement is not able to be found, participant is responsible for the additional costs provided by the college including, but not limited to the cost of airfare.
- *Payment for trip is due in full by September 30, 2018.* Payment plans are available throughout the summer months, by request.

Please initial here to indicate that you have read and fully understand these expectations:

Any additional questions please feel free to email or call me.

Melissa Leigh Grau

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& Leadership Development
& Deputy Title IX Coordinator
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