

Furman University Study Away Program: Program Expectations

Program Title: The Washington Experience

Locations: Washington, D.C.

Dates: Spring 2026 Term (Typically late January to late April)

Program Description: Students will study political, civic, and cultural aspects of the American political system while living in Washington, D.C. Students will be placed in an internship to match their academic and career interests. Students will work in these internships during the day and take classes in the evening with a Furman faculty member on site. Students will participate in professional development seminars and workshops through The Washington Center and will explore the cultural offerings in Washington on weekends.

Academic, Environmental, Physical & Health Expectations for Participation

Below is a list of academic, environmental and physical expectations and requirements for participation in this study away program. The list captures most, but not all, requirements. If you have questions about the expectati0sn and requirements, please check with the study away office or the program directors. Students requiring a physical or academic accommodation should contact the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR) no less than 4 months prior to the start date of the program.

Frequency		Frequency	
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional	STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional
Course work in a foreign language	Never	Foreign Language Environment	Never
Course work in English	Always	Terrain (Mountains, Tropical, Forest, Desert, Hilly, Flat)	Flat
Laptop Required	Yes	Population: Rural, Urban, Remote, etc.	Urban
Smart phone required (videos, photos, blogs)	Yes	Environment (high altitude, air pollution, dusty, sandy, humid, dry, hot, cold)	cold winters, snow possible, and cool spring
Traditional Classroom	Yes	Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness	No
Group Work	Occasionally	Is tap water safe to drink	Yes
Academic Assessments (tests, journals, presentations, essays)	Tests, journals, presentations, quizzes.	Other Risks (natural disasters, crime, pickpocketing, etc.)	Exercise caution in urban environment to prevent pickpocketing, theft, etc.
Interactions with local residents	Yes	Cultural Dress Code	Professional attire for internship
Field Work/Research	In conjunction with internship	Curfew	None
Internship/ Volunteer Work	Yes - approximately 30 hours per week	Motion Sickness	Never
Other		Other	

PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS		HEALTH & DIET	
Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional		Frequency	
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS		WATER ACTIVITIES	
Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional	
Lifting/Carrying Own Luggage	Yes	Vegetarian and Vegan Options Available at all meals	Always
Carrying equipment or program supplies		Food Allergy Accommodations	Always
Standing 60+ minutes	Occasionally	Group Meals	Infrequent
Ability to walk up one or more flights of stairs (elevators may not be available)	Yes	Cooking for oneself	Always (or eat at a restaurant)
Hiking (easy to strenuous; frequency; miles)	No	Host family prepares meals	Never
Walking 3+ miles per day	Sometimes - may be part of commute to the internship or when buying groceries.	Healthcare easily accessible	Always
Use of public transportation (buses, trams, trains, subways)	Subways	Quality of Healthcare	Very good
Host Family	None	Swimming	Never
Roommate	Yes	Snorkeling	Never
Shared Apartment	Yes	SCUBA	Never
Dormitory	Apartment Style Residence Hall with classrooms on lower level	Boat, canoes or other water activities	Never
Camping	Never	Sea sickness	Never
Hotel	No	Other	
Cell phone signal available	Yes	Center for Disease Control Recommendations: Be up to date on routine vaccinations including COVID and booster(s)	
Internet signal available	Yes		
Refrigerator Access	Yes		
Air Conditioning	Yes		
Other			