



Evidence Document

for Higher Learning Commission Reaccreditation

Document Title: Cross Cultural Mentor Program

Office of Origin: Graduate School and International Education

Document Summary:

Cross Cultural Mentors are student leaders who volunteer to assist new international students in adjusting academically, culturally and socially to the United States and the University of Arkansas.

International Students & Scholars (ISS)

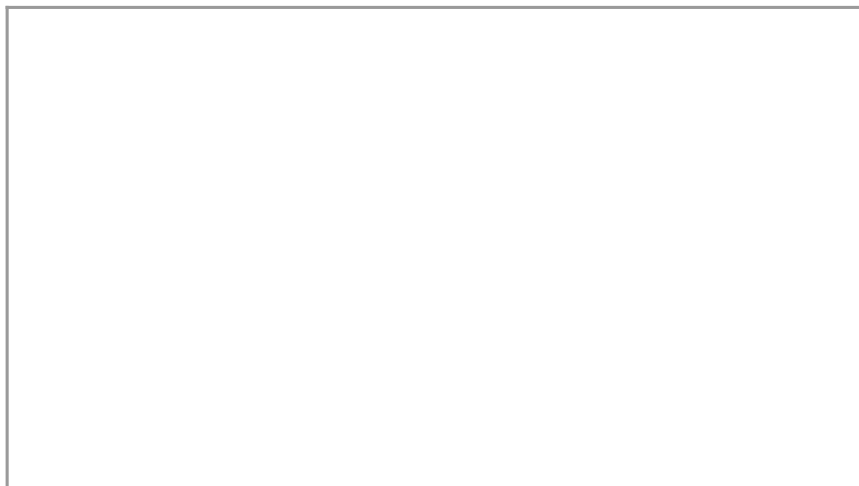
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Cross Cultural Mentor Program

/ Cross Cultural Mentor

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CCM is a student leader (international or U.S. student; graduate or undergraduate) who volunteers to assist new international students in adjusting academically, culturally and socially to the United States and the University of Arkansas. CCM will assist in educating new students about campus and community life, provide a connection to the University, and be able to answer many of the questions new students may have upon arrival and during their first semester in the U.S.. CCMs also assist new students facing difficulties with communication, social relationships, academic expectations, and general cultural changes.

Requirements:

- Must have minimum 2.5 GPA
- Must have been a student at the U of A for at least one semester.
- Must commit to 2 semesters (Fall and Spring) unless completing your program of study in December. CCMs are volunteer, unpaid positions.

- Must be able to work well with others, have good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Must submit completed application and participate in both individual and group interviews.

Responsibilities:

- Attend one training session on a Saturday in April
- Return to campus on time for training and International Orientation (Training: Wednesday & Thursday, August before orientation)
- Keep schedule open during the orientation. During this time, you will be expected to give a priority to the international orientation responsibilities
- Enthusiastically participate in all orientation activities and events
- Maintain contact with your assigned small group throughout their first semester
- Commit to meet with mentor group mid-semester for a cultural, social or sports activity and so on

Benefits:

- Intercultural and interpersonal leadership skills through intensive training sessions
- Experience in program development and facilitating small groups
- Cross-cultural experience and knowledge
- A certificate recognizing successful completion of program
- Meals provided during required training and orientation hours
- Friend with new international students and other CCMs

How To Apply:

- The online CCM 2016-2017 application is currently closed. Please contact ISS Retention Program at issworld@uark.edu for more information.

Deadline:

- Sunday, March 6th, 2016

CCM Experiences:

One great thing about being part of CCM is to be able to meet people from all over the world. Also we enjoyed so much laughs and joys during the orientation. I love helping people. This Spring 2013, I truly enjoyed being a host on behalf of the University community for new international students. During the orientation, a mother of a new student even told us she wanted her other daughter to transfer to the UofA! I was so proud of services that we could provide as CCM.



- Zhifang (Bei Bei) Chen from China, Undergraduate Student

Becoming CCM really is the way of improving your leadership and communication skills and learning many different cultures. I enjoyed meeting new international students and sharing cultures. As an international student who did not know much about the University, Fayetteville or Arkansas, I understand how they'd feel and what they'd need during their transition time. Even if you have not experienced helping new students before, CCM members will be well-trained to facilitate sessions and effectively work with students from different cultural backgrounds.



- Seongyeong (Sunny) Park from South Korea, Undergraduate Student

Being a CCM was an incredible way to help me handle being back in the U.S. after studying abroad in Spain. I believe it can be a great preparation before going abroad if you are planning studying abroad in the future. I really enjoyed learning more about the process of studying abroad; it was interesting to know more about all of the steps the international students go through to get to come here. I also really enjoyed learning about different cultures from all around the world as every CCM would say!



- *Antoinette Longcrier from Oklahoma, Undergraduate Student*

As a graduate student, I tend to spend my time in the office. During the orientation, I got to enjoy being outside of my office and meeting interesting people while providing a valuable service. Learning different cultures has allowed me to see the world from a different perspective. I like to help international students visiting Fayetteville, my hometown, to adapt to the community so that they can more effectively engage in University life and to take advantage of all that Fayetteville and the U of A have to offer.



- *Steve Sharp from Arkansas, Ph.D. Student*

If you have any questions, please contact issworld@uark.edu.

Graduate School and International Education

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