



Civic Engagement  
OGLETHORPE UNIVERSITY

## **Alternative Winter Break: New Orleans**

Post Katrina: Issues of Social Justice in Community  
Development

Application 2017

Please read and complete this application in its entirety and return to the Center for Civic Engagement in the A\_LAB or e-mail application to Patrick Grayshaw, Assistant Director, Center for Civic Engagement, ([Pgrayshaw@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:Pgrayshaw@oglethorpe.edu)) no later than **Friday, November 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** Essay questions should be typed on a separate sheet of paper and meet the suggested length. Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered. The thoroughness and content of each application will be considered during the application process. Please direct any questions regarding the application to LaBreshia Taylor, Alternative Break Student Coordinator ([ltaylor2@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:ltaylor2@oglethorpe.edu)) before the application deadline.

**Personal Information:**

Full Legal Name (as stated on your passport/ID): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Students must be 18 years of age by 1/3/2017 to participate.

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Standing: \_\_\_ Freshman \_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Status: \_\_\_ Part-Time \_\_\_ Full-Time Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Major (and Minor, if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Questions:**

How did you hear about AWB: New Orleans? Please be specific:

\_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Preferences (please list any and all):

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any and all health conditions that may require certain accommodations on the trip.

\_\_\_\_\_

### **General Trip Information:**

**AWB: New Orleans** will be from January 2-7, 2017, during Oglethorpe University's Winter Break 2015. There is a group dinner held Sunday, January 1, 2017 with times to be confirmed closer to the event. We will leave from and return to Oglethorpe University. Students **must** travel with the group.

**Trip Cost and Payment Schedule:** Total trip cost is \$250.

This cost includes travel, lodging, meals, and all supplies and tools. Students may carry spending money for souvenirs and extra snacks, and for meals on the trip there and back, which will not be covered. Students are responsible for paying for any necessary clothing and personal items.

**First Payment Due:** Friday, November 18th, 2016 - \$50

*Upon acceptance to Alternative Winter Break* this non-refundable deposit will hold your spot. The deposit will be used to secure lodging; therefore we cannot return the deposits based on the regulations of the bunkhouse. The remaining payment schedule will be provided upon receipt of the first payment. Payment plans are available upon request.

**Second Payment Due:** Friday, December 2nd, 2016 - \$100

**Third Payment Due:** Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - \$100

All payments will be made in the **HUB**. *Please specify Alternative Winter Break when making payments.*

### **Alternative Winter Break Trip Description and Statement of Understanding:**

**AWB: New Orleans** will involve certain tasks, situations, circumstances, etc. that may take you out of your comfort zone. While it is an important part of Alternative Breaks to be challenged and have the opportunity to grow, we want to ensure that each student is prepared for the experience. Please review each of the following items and then sign below to indicate that you have read them, understand them, are comfortable with them, and are prepared to handle all of these components. **Only sign if you are completely comfortable with and willing to comply with these items.**

- 1. Pre-Trip Preparations:** Participants will be required to complete pre-trip orientation sessions and paperwork during the week of December. Participants will be involved in group discussion about the themes and concepts about serving in New Orleans. These are mandatory to prepare for serving, traveling, and working together as a group.
- 2. Service is primary:** The majority of each day in New Orleans will be spent doing a variety of volunteer projects to benefit the community. Be prepared to participate in service projects of different themes and intensity.
- 3. Cultural Sensitivity:** The attitude you exhibit while in New Orleans is absolutely critical. Remember, we are not there to provide quick service and get out- we will be aiding the community in what they need. This means that service objectives might not be as clear to you, and that the tools given for a job may not be what you need. You must remain open minded,

understanding and, most importantly, respectful no matter the circumstance. Be ready to ask questions and learn every day.

**4. Lodging:** While in New Orleans, we will most likely stay in bunkhouse-style accommodations. These bunkhouses will provide basic food for breakfast and lunch and we will prepare our evening family-style meals together as a team. These bunkhouses will typically be a somewhat primitive living space compared to what you are accustomed to staying in (no indoor heat, shared bathrooms, etc.). **You should be prepared to be flexible, patient, and courteous, as this will be a wonderful opportunity to be immersed with the community.**

**5. Reflection:** An essential part of this trip will be group reflection. Reflection offers you, the participant, the opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences, to learn from the group, voice your opinion, and seek help for any challenges you may face on the trip. These times will be informal but a critical part of every day, and wholesome participation by each member is expected.

**6. Early mornings:** We will get an early start every day and have long days (6:30am-10:00pm). You must be prepared to wake yourself up (with the help of teammates) each day and be on time for the start of each day and throughout the trip.

I have read and understand each of the above statements and I believe that I am sufficiently prepared for this Alternative Break trip. If I have questions or concerns, I will contact LaBreshia Taylor or Patrick Grayshaw for clarification and assistance.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Essay Question:** Your response should be at most **1-2 pages typed and double spaced**. Stay concise, but respond honestly and think carefully before writing. *This essay question will weigh heavily in the application process.*

***Please write about yourself, your personal background, and how you have been inspired to be actively involved in service. Include what you would bring to an Alternative Winter Break trip to New Orleans, LA and what you hope to gain from this trip. Do not hesitate to include any experiences you think might be related to this trip or any personal hobbies and interests of yours. If you have previously worked with the Center for Civic Engagement, be sure to include that in your essay. (Prior volunteer service is not required to participate in this project)***

**Alternative Winter Break Travel Policy:**

The Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) promotes an alcohol/drug-free and safety-first policy during all projects and programs. This prohibits alcohol consumption or illegal or irresponsible drug use by anyone, regardless of age, while participating in Alternative Winter Break: New Orleans, January 2-7, 2017. Participants must adhere to staff instructions throughout the trip regarding personal safety. Any participant who does not adhere to this policy will be required to leave the trip and return to his/her permanent residence at his or her own expense. Support of this policy by all involved is essential for a safe and socially aware Alternative Winter Break.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand and will abide by the Alcohol and Drug policy during the entire Alternative Winter Break trip.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I violate the Alcohol and Drug policy, any University policy or procedure, or staff instructions regarding safety during the trip, I will be sent home at my own expense.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that participants must not have any outstanding debts with the University.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that participants cannot currently be on academic probation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that participants must not have any active infractions with the Office of Residential Life.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the Center for Civic Engagement staff will verify the above three statements with Oglethorpe University offices and that failing to meet these expectations may prevent my eligibility to participate.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_