



American Language and Culture Course College of Staten Island, New York



Monday, Jan. 4 – Friday, Jan. 29, 2010

PURPOSE:

The program introduces participants to American society, government and education while enhancing their English language ability. Through academic programs, visits to public and private institutions, and social events with Americans in informal settings, participants will become acquainted with individual Americans and with the “American way of life.”

THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND:

The College of Staten Island (CSI) is part of the City University of New York (CUNY), a large public university. It is located in the most suburban of the five boroughs (sections) of New York City on a beautiful, campus. The College offers degrees at the associate (two years), bachelors (four years) and graduate levels in a variety of fields. In addition to the one-month on the intensive American Language and Culture Course, the English Language Institute (ELI) prepares students for full-time study at CSI. The College is known for its commitment to international education and has an array of international partnerships and programs around the world. The Center for International Service frequently trains educational advisers from foreign institutions and governmental ministries regarding US studies and higher education.

LOCATION:

Staten Island offers a quiet and beautiful suburban atmosphere close to the exciting urban center of Manhattan. The Island is about four times the size of Manhattan and has a population of 450,000. It is noted for its parks and recreational areas, in addition to several notable cultural sites. Manhattan and other "boroughs" of New York City are easily accessible by public transportation.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Courses will cover themes in American culture, education, business and government. Participants will understand American diversity and the underlying values many Americans share and practice. Discussions and seminars help to integrate the information with their own experience in New York. The course starts from Tuesday through Friday with 20 hours per week.

- **Week 1: First Contacts and Close Encounters**
 - What happened at the airport? -Getting around
 - Introduction to campus life -Customs
 - Body language and physical contact

- **Week 2: The American Heritage** -Government and Politics
 - History: Colonization, Expansion, Revolution, Civil War ...

- **Week 3: American Society: Tolerance and Intolerance**
 - Changing roles of men and women -Rich and poor
 - Immigrants/ “Minorities” -Life outside the so-called the “Mainstream”

- **Week 4: Cultural Topics**
 - New York and other regions of the USA
 - Americans at Home

Participants will be tested and interviewed upon their arrival. Based on the results, the participants will be

placed at the appropriate level. The language program includes classes in grammar, reading and free-writing and communication skills. The American topics are integrated with language learning

One of the goals of the program is to introduce participants to the rich resources of New York City and how to use them effectively. Field trips will include visits to sites of professional and cultural interest as well as local social gatherings. An introduction to New York City will include tours of Manhattan and Staten Island. These forays will provide an overview of the people, institutions, sites and culture of the City. Visits will also be arranged to athletic events, museums and other cultural institutions.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Homestay arrangements which include breakfast will be made for participants. This will enable them to get a first-hand view of how Americans live. Breakfast is provided by host families. Lunch and dinner can be obtained in the College cafeteria or in restaurants on Staten Island and elsewhere at a reasonable cost. Kitchen privileges can be arranged with homestay placements. All homestays will be accessible to the College by public transportation.

TRANSPORTATION:

Participants will be met at the airport and driven to their homestay homes upon request. A fee of \$125 will be applied. For participants taking a taxi, you will need to pay approximately \$50 - \$100. Other local travel will be by public transportation on buses and trains. Buses and trains cost \$2.00 each way or \$5.00 for a round trip (cost subject to change). The Staten Island Ferry connecting Staten Island to Manhattan is free. A metro card for daily round-trip transportation for a month can be provided to each participant at \$70 (cost subject to change).

PROGRAM COST FOR WINTER INTERSESSION: \$2,900 per person

Includes:	Host family homestay	Cultural activities
	Breakfast	Field trips
	Tuition and text books	Medical insurance
	Administrative fee	

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: December 1, 2009

CONTACT: Center for International Service
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