

Alternative Spring Break 2007

Application Packet

Application is due at 6:00 p.m. on 1/19/07 to room C109

About Alternative Spring Break 2007

The Center for Civic Engagement at Ivy Tech Community College – Bloomington is proud to present its First Annual Alternative Spring Break. We hope that you will consider applying for this great opportunity to gain new skills, meet new people and have a great time while serving under-represented youth in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia. Because there are limited spots available for this opportunity, the application process is “competitive” and we ask that if you apply, you are serious about making a commitment to Alternative Spring Break 2007. A committee consisting of faculty, staff and students will determine who best fits the adventure.

Who: You (and 9 other great students, and 2 faculty or staff members)

What: Mentoring underprivileged youth

When: Saturday, March 10th – Sunday, March 18th, 2007

Where: Radford, Virginia

Why: See “Top Ten Reasons...” below

Top Ten Reasons to Apply for Alternative Spring Break

10. Looks great on your resume
9. Chance to learn new skills
8. Hang out with 11 other cool people
7. It's free!
6. Three words: white water rafting
5. Mentor cool kids
4. Travel to new places
3. Fun times!
2. Did we already say that it's free?
1. You get to make history by being a part of the 1st A.S.B. ever!

Expectations of Alternative Spring Break Participants

- Be a good representative of Ivy Tech – Bloomington
- Follow all Ivy Tech – Bloomington policies and procedures
- No drugs or alcohol use will be tolerated
- If you commit to A.S.B. 2007, stick with it
- Respect and be tolerant of your fellow participants

Alternative Spring Break 2007 Frequently Asked Questions

Where are we going?

Beans and Rice, Inc. is a community economic development corporation serving the New River Valley in Virginia. Its main offices are in Radford, Va. which is located on the eastern edge of Central Appalachia.

Who will we be working with?

The Alternative Break focuses on working with at risk youth living in low-income housing. Break participants will work either with the After School Program (K-6th grade) or Youth Leadership Program (7th-12th graders). Although the population of the New River Valley is 95% white over 90% of the children and youth in these programs are of color.

What will we do?

Alternative Break participants will be mentors/tutors for the children and youth participating in the programs. During Spring Break we also plan one special event which is a field trip. Break participants will also do special service projects that are needed to be completed and participate in a series of workshops on approaches to working with people living in poverty and the role that community economic development can play.

There will be time every day for journaling, group reflections with the Beans and Rice staff and for reflections as a group

Where will we stay and what about meals?

Participants will stay in a Community Learning and Development Center in the Willow Woods low-income housing complex. Part of the Break experience is to get a feel for what life is like living in low income housing. The facility has two full baths and a complete kitchen. The evening meal is a community meal and part of our Mealtime program. Breakfast and lunch are do it yourself with food provided at the Center by Beans and Rice.

What do I need to bring?

Bring a sleeping bag, sleeping mat, pillow, towel, personal hygiene, and comfortable clothes such as jeans, T-shirt/sweat shirt and running shoes. Many participants bring materials for journaling.

What is the cost?

Alternative Spring Break is free unless you are interested in pursuing the optional for-credit opportunity. If you choose to pursue the 1-credit opportunity, you will be responsible for paying for the associated tuition and fees.

Alternative Spring Break 2007 Timeline and Meetings*

Friday, December 8th, 2006 (8:00 a.m.) – Applications available

Friday, January 19th, 2007 (6:00 p.m.) – Applications are due

Friday, February 2nd – Participants and alternates notified via e-mail

Friday, February 9th (6:00 p.m.) – Mandatory participant and alternate group meeting

Friday, February 23rd (6:00 p.m.) – Mandatory participant and alternate group meeting

Tuesday, March 6th (6:00 p.m.) – Mandatory participant group meeting

Saturday, March 10th (8:00 a.m.) – Leave Ivy Tech - Bloomington

Saturday, March 10th (8:00 p.m.) – Arrive Radford, Virginia

Saturday, March 17th – White water rafting or other fun activity

Sunday, March 18th (8:00 a.m.) – Leave Virginia

Sunday, March 18th (8:00 p.m.) – Arrive Ivy Tech – Bloomington

Friday, March 30th (6:00 p.m.) – Mandatory participant meeting

Friday, March 30th (6:00 p.m.) – Reflection paper due (for-credit participants)

* Note: this timeline is approximate and is subject to change at any time.

Alternative Spring Break 2007 Application Checklist

- Complete the application (located on pages 6 & 7 of this packet)
- Attach a current official Ivy Tech transcript (available from Registrar at no charge)
- Make sure you are available for all mandatory meetings and A.S.B. dates
- Submit application to room C109 by January 19th, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Alternative Spring Break 2007 Application

Part A. - General Information

Name:

Gender:

Age:

Year in School:

GPA:

Part B. - Short Answer Questions – Use Additional Paper as Needed

Why do you want to participate in ASB?

Do you have previous ASB experience?

Teamwork and group dynamics are an important part of an Alternative Spring Break. Please provide an example of successful teamwork you have experienced.

Communication plays a critical role in creating a valuable experience for participants. Please provide an example of a negative experience in a group with poor communication. Contrast this with an experience in which a group has had good communication.

Often during Spring Break experiences, unexpected opportunities or changes arise that require flexibility. Please provide an example of your ability to be flexible.

Part C. – Social Issues

Please rank the following social issues in order of importance to you:

____ Poverty/Homelessness

____ Environmental Issues

____ Children's Education

____ Domestic Violence

Part D. – Skills and Abilities

Do you have any limitations on travel that would be relevant to an alternative spring break trip or white water rafting?

Describe any skills that you feel might be relevant to an alternative spring break? For example, do you have any mechanical or construction skills, office administrative skills, etc.?

Do you speak any foreign languages? If you do speak a foreign language, how well?

Part E. – References

Please provide the name, relation to A.S.B. applicant and phone number of two references.

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