The Peace Corps Prep program will prepare you for international development fieldwork and potential Peace service. To accomplish this, you’ll build four core competencies through interrelated coursework, hands-on experience, and professional development support. These four competencies are the following:

1. Training and experience in a work sector
2. Foreign language skills
3. Intercultural competence
4. Professional and leadership development

This document explains each of these requirements in detail. Use this guide to map out your Peace Corps Prep course of study. In particular, refer to this when completing your PC Prep application, where you’ll need to document how you plan to fulfill each requirement. This guide aligns point-by-point with each section of the application!

1. Training and experience in a specific work sector

3 courses + 50 hours related

Leveraging concrete knowledge and skills is central to on-the-ground international development work. Through this PC Prep program, you will begin to build a professional specialty, which should serve your career well whether or not you become a Peace Corps Volunteer.

For PC Prep, you need to complete at least 3 courses that align with a specific work sector (they can but do not need to come from your academic major or minor). You also must accumulate a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer or work experience in that same sector, preferably in a teaching or outreach capacity.

Peace Corps Tip!

If you intend to apply to the Peace Corps, the best way to assure that you will be a strong candidate is to explore Peace Corps’ openings and identify the type of assignments in which you’d like to serve (www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings), then review the positions’ required and desired qualifications and build them up accordingly. In the process, you should fulfill these PC Prep experiential requirements!
There are six sectors (www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/what-volunteers-do/) in which Peace Corps Volunteers serve—detailed below. Choose one sector to focus on then complete at least 3 courses + 50 hours of related experience in that sector. Participants are required to take all prerequisite courses for any courses chosen that list prerequisites.

Note: Actual Peace Corps assignments are based on local needs, and thus may or may not align seamlessly with your qualifications. Flexibility is central to the Peace Corps experience!

#1 Education

Teach lessons that last a lifetime. Education is the Peace Corp’s largest program area. Volunteers play an important role in creating links among schools, parents, and communities by working in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools as math, science, conversational English, and resource teachers or as early grade reading and literacy teacher trainers. Volunteers also develop libraries and technology resource centers. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Education program area and the specific required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=3.

If you choose Education, take 3 courses from one of the following areas:

- Elementary, Secondary or Special Education
- English or Linguistics
- TEFL/TESL
- Math
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Any Physical or Biological Science

Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list):

EDMG 433: Methods and Materials of Teaching Mathematics in the Middle Grades
EDMG 461: Methods and Materials of Teaching Language Arts in the Middle Grades
EDMG 463: Methods and Materials of Teaching Science in the Middle Grades
EDMG 470: Clinical Experience in the Middle Grades

EDUC 210: Technology Applications for Teachers
EDUC 311: Foundations of Multicultural Education and Diversity
EDUC 331: Instructional Design and Assessment of Learning
EDUC 433: Methods and Materials for Teaching Mathematics in Middle Grades
EDUC 450: Classroom Management
EDUC 460: Methods and Materials in Secondary School Subjects
EDUC 461: Methods and Materials in Teaching Language Arts
EDUC 463: Methods and Materials in Teaching Science
EDUC 464: Methods and Materials in Health and Physical Education

ELEM 320: Teaching Healthful Living in K-6
ELEM 335: Math for 21st Century K-6 Teaching Candidates
EDUC 400: Teaching Communication Skills in K-6
ELEM 401: Teaching Math and Science in K-6
ELEM 451: Classroom Management for Elementary Teachers

ENGL 108: English Grammar and Usage
ENGL 110: English Composition I
ENGL 120: English Composition II
ENGL 230: Introduction to Linguistics
ENGL 231: Advanced Grammar
ENGL 300: Children’s Literature
ENGL 301: Adolescent Literature
ENGL 341: Advanced Composition
ENGL 342: Creative Writing
ENGL 343: Teaching and Tutoring Writing

SPED 320: Education of the Exceptional Child
SPED 370: Current Development Methods/Exceptional Children
SPED 415: Read Skills-Student Disability
SPED 418: Math/Write Skill-Student Disability
SPED 420: Introduction to the Education of the Emotionally Disturbed
SPED 430: Introduction to the Education of the Learning Disabled

TESL 309: Sociolinguistics and Pragmatics
TESL 310: Theories and Principles in Teaching ESL
TESL 330: Literacy Development and Assessment in ESL
TESL 341: Trends and issues in Teaching ESL

And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:
- Teaching in one of these or a similar form: in a classroom, with a community outreach organization, or in a formal tutoring capacity
- The subject of the teaching may be English as a Foreign/Second language, special education, drama, or a STEM subject
- Tutoring opportunities
- Opportunities to work with pre-kindergarten aged children
- Opportunities to work with Exceptional Students

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage (http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service–learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.
Some examples of the education-related opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below. See the webpage for more complete descriptions.

- FSU Early Childhood Learning Center: Enhancing skills of children 0-5 through creative activities.
- MPAC Learning Services: MPAC Summer Camp 2017, volunteers assist with various aspects of the camp—reinforcing math, reading, and writing skills.
- Easter Seals UCP Spainhour Center: classroom assistant who spends time in the classroom interacting with children and assisting teachers.
- Fayetteville Urban Ministry: Adult Literacy Program (ALP) Assistant. ALP assists adults with low literacy levels in the areas of reading, writing, math, English, and basic computer skills.
- Fascinate-U Children’s Museum: Museum Art and Science Activity Assistance. Volunteers assist with hands-on scheduled science and art activities with pre-school and school-aged children.
- Better Beginnings Health Care Solutions: Summer camp and enrichment program (5-17 year olds)—volunteers assist with monitoring kids and daily activities, focused on academics (math, reading, science, art, etc.).

Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed.

#2 Health

Serve on the front lines of global health. Health Volunteers work within their communities to promote important topics such as nutrition, maternal and child health, basic hygiene, and water sanitation. Volunteers also work in HIV/AIDS education and prevention programs to train youth as peer educators, develop appropriate education strategies, provide support to children orphaned by the pandemic, and create programs that provide emotional and financial support to families and communities affected by the disease. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Health program area and the required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=5.

If you choose Health, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Nursing
- Nutrition or Dietetics
- Health Education
- Pre-med
- Biology
- Technical Education
- Environmental or Sanitary Engineering

Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list)

- BIOL 110: General Biology I
- BIOL 130: General Biology II
- COMM 341: Health Communication
- COMM 342: Health Communication Campaigns
And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:

- Volunteer or work experience in such areas as HIV/AIDS outreach, hospice, family planning counseling, emergency medical technician (EMT) or CPR teaching/certification, maternal health, and hands-on caregiving in a hospital, clinic, or lab technician setting
- Counseling or teaching in health subjects
- Working as a resident advisor in a dormitory, as a peer nutritionist, or as a sexually transmitted infections counselor
  Significant experience in mechanical repairs, construction, carpentry, masonry, plumbing, hydrology, or set design

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage (http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service –
learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.

Some examples of the health-related opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below. See the webpage for more complete descriptions.

- American Red Cross—Highlands: Scrubby Bear. Program teaches children proper handwashing techniques.

Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed.

### #3 Environment

Help forge a global movement to protect our planet. Volunteers lead grassroots efforts in their communities to protect the environment and strengthen understanding of environmental issues. They teach environmental awareness in elementary and secondary schools and to youth groups and community organizations, empowering communities to make their own decisions about how to protect and conserve the local environment. Volunteers also address environmental degradation by promoting sustainable use of natural resources. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Environment program area and the specific required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=4.

If you choose Environment, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Environmental Science or related field
- Natural Resources Conservation
- Park Administration
- Wildlife Biology
- Natural Resources or Wildlife Management
- Forestry
- Biology, Botany, or Ecology
- Geology

**Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list):**

- BIOL 110: General Biology I
- BIOL 130: General Biology II
- BIOL 350: Ecology/Evolution
- BOTN 210: General Botany
- GEOG 110: Environmental Literacy
- GEOG 210: Principles of Geography
- GEOG 270: Human Beings and the Environment
- GEOG 314: Introduction to Remote Sensing
- GEOG 322: Geography of Latin America
- GEOG 330: Geography of Africa
GEOG 340: Cultural Geography
GEOG 412: Ecology
GEOG 420: Conservation of Natural Resources

GEOL 311: Introduction to Geology I
GEOL 312: Introduction to Geology II

PHIL 250: Environmental Ethics

POLI 110: Introduction to Sustainability
POLI 300: Environmental Politics and Policy
POLI 313: Sustainability Leadership

**And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:**
- Educating the public on environmental or conservation issues, or working on environmental campaigns
- Conducting biological surveys of plants or animals
- Gardening, farming, nursery management, organic or low-input vegetable production, or landscaping
- Providing technical assistance and training in natural resource management

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage (http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service-learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.

Some examples of the environmental opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below. See the webpage for more complete descriptions.

- Cape Fear Botanical Garden: Summer camp aide; volunteers assist with nature based summer camp themes in the garden
- NC State Veterans Home: Gazebo gardening; volunteers maintain and beautify the gazebo gardens area.

Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed. Some possibilities are listed below.
• Fayetteville Technical Community College’s Horticulture Educational Center, 670 N. Easter Boulevard, Fayetteville NC 28301; POC: Dr. Robin Pusztay (Department Chair, Horticulture Technology/Management); phone: 910-678-8447; email: pusztayr@faytechcc.edu; environmental/agricultural activities.

• Fayetteville and Cumberland County Parks and Recreation (FCPR)—Regional Parks, including J. Bayard Clark Park (631 Sherman Drive, Fayetteville), Lake Rim Park (2214 Tar Kiln Drive, Fayetteville) and the Cape Fear River Trail. Possible activities, with the agreement of park officials, include learning about and helping preserve the natural environment; assisting with outreach to the public, including schools; and helping maintain the parks, especially the walking trails.

• Fayetteville Community Gardens (at the intersection of Van Story and Mann Streets); 5-acre tract of land with about 100 plots available to citizens for planting vegetables, flowers and herbs. Patrons rent the space ($25) and the FCPR provides gardening boxes, compost and water. Gardening in strictly organic.

• Cape Fear Botanical Garden, 536 N. Eastern Blvd, Fayetteville NC 28301; phone: 910-486-0221; email: info@capefearbg.org; website: https://www.capefearbg.org

#4 AGRICULTURE

Lead grassroots efforts to fight hunger in a changing world. Agricultural Volunteers work with small-scale farmers and families to increase food security and production and adapt to climate change while promoting environmental conservation practices. They introduce farmers to techniques that prevent soil erosion, reduce the use of harmful pesticides, and replenish the soil. They work alongside farmers on integrated projects that often combine vegetable gardening, livestock management, agroforestry, and nutrition education. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Agriculture program area and the specific required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=1.

If you choose Agriculture, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Agronomy
- Entomology
- Agricultural Economics
- Horticulture
- Agricultural Science
- Business or economics
- Botany
- Agribusiness
- Biology
- Other

Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list):

FSU does not offer an agriculture major and has only limited agriculture-related courses.

Two universities in the University of North Carolina system--North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (NC A&T) in Greensboro, NC and North Carolina State University (NCSU) in Raleigh, NC -- offer undergraduate agricultural programs and courses which are available to enrolled FSU students through UNC Online. FSU students wishing to pursue this track—and to be most competitive for agricultural--
related assignments—should seriously look at taking agricultural courses online through one of these two institutions.

To find online agricultural courses at either institution, use the Course Selection function of UNC Online at [http://online.northcarolina.edu/unconline/courses.php](http://online.northcarolina.edu/unconline/courses.php), where you can search by keywords, term, campus, subject, and method of delivery.

To find information on the agricultural programs at NC A&T and NCSU you can log onto the website [http://programs.northcarolina.edu/search?q=agriculture&level=&field](http://programs.northcarolina.edu/search?q=agriculture&level=&field).

FSU students can search and register for courses through UNC Online ([courses@online.northcarolina.edu](mailto:courses@online.northcarolina.edu)). However, campuses do not list all of their online courses through UNC Online and, if they do, seat availability might be limited.

*Agriculture-related courses offered at FSU include,*
- BOTN 210: General Botany
- GEOG 310: Economic Geography
- ZOOL 470: Introduction to Entomology

*And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:*
- Working with a large-scale or family-run business involving vegetable gardening, farming, nursery work, tree planting or care, urban forestry, landscaping, livestock care and management, or fish cultivation and production
- Teaching or tutoring the public in environmental or agricultural issues/activities
- Working on the business management or marketing side of a commercial farm

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage ([http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities](http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities)), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service–learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.

Some examples of the agricultural opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below.

- Check the linked webpage
Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed. Some possibilities are listed below.

- Fayetteville Technical Community College’s Horticulture Educational Center, 670 N. Easter Boulevard, Fayetteville NC 28301; POC: Dr. Robin Puszray (Department Chair, Horticulture Technology/Management); phone: 910-678-8447; email: puszray@faytechcc.edu; agriculture- and horticulture-related activities.

- Fayetteville Community Gardens (at the intersection of VanStory and Mann Streets) is a 5-acre tract of land with about 100 plots available to citizens for planting vegetables, flowers, and herbs. Patrons rent the space ($25) and the FCPPR provides gardening boxes, compost, and water. Gardening in strictly organic.

- Commercial plant nurseries in Fayetteville and in the surrounding areas

- Cape Fear Botanical Garden, 536 N. Eastern Blvd, Fayetteville NC 28301; phone: 910-486-0221; email: info@capefearbg.org; website: https://www.capefearbg.org

#5 YOUTH IN DEVELOPMENT

Empower the next generation of changemakers. Volunteers work with youth in communities on projects that promote engagement and active citizenship, including gender awareness, employability, health and HIV/AIDS education, environmental awareness, sporting programs, and info technology. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Youth in Development program area and the specific required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=6.

If you choose Youth in Development, take three courses from one of the following areas:
- Social Work
- Counseling
- Community Development
- Developmental Psychology
- Human Development

Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list):

- COHE 200: Introduction to Community Health
- COHE 360: Communications in Health
- COHE 425: Organization in Community Health
- COHE 430: Health Behavior and Counseling
- COHE 460: Aging
- COHE 470: Seminar in Community Health
EDUC 330: Education Psychology and Human Development
EDUC 440: Guidance and Counseling Practicum

PSYC 210: General Psychology
PSYC 331: Developmental Psychology
PSYC 332: Psychology of Aging
PSYC 342: Introduction to Clinical and Counseling Psychology

SOCI 330: Marriage and Family Relations
SOCI 380: Social Behavior and Interactions

SWRK 230: Introduction to Social Work
SWRK 330: Human Behavior in the Social Work Environment I: Infancy to Adolescence
SWRK 380: Health and Social Work
SWRK 415: School Social Work
SWRK 420: Substance Abuse and Social Work Practice
SWRK 425: Social Work and Families

And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:
- Teaching or counseling in at-risk youth programs
- Activities that involve planning, organizing, assessing community needs, counseling, and leadership, in areas such as education, youth development, health and HIV/AIDS, the environment, and/or business

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage (http://www.unccsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service – learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.

Some examples of Youth in Development opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below. See the webpage for more complete descriptions.

- Future Endeavors Life Program (F.E.L.P.): Mentoring Program. A volunteer is assigned as a positive role model to one at-risk/willing youth for the academic year. The volunteer serves as a mentor, providing guidance, encouragement, commitment and motivation in the life of the youth. At least 8 hours per month.
• Connections of Cumberland County (CCC): CCC operates the only “walk-in” day resource center for homeless women and children in our community. Volunteers experience varying levels of case management and follow-up for homeless women or those in imminent risk of homelessness. They perform follow-up to ensure clients are following through with action steps needed to stabilize their lives; they assist clients with job searches and applications, with basic computer skills, resume building, etc. Volunteers may assist with outreach and public awareness initiatives.

• Fayetteville Urban Ministry: Find-A-Friend Program (FAF) Assistant. Volunteer will assist with administration of the program, conduct interpersonal skills case management duties; assist with the development of workshop materials for groups sessions with youth, parents and volunteers; assist with facilitation of group sessions and tutoring with youth 7 to 18.

• Veterans Empowering Veterans (VEV): Teaching Team. Volunteers assist with developing and delivery of training classes for clients; VEV would like to offer training sessions on financial literacy, budgeting, credit management, resume writing and other topics.

• American Red Cross-Highlands: Red Cross Disaster Services Volunteer. Volunteer will be on call to help do case work with families who have suffered disaster. Volunteer would assist with paperwork and Red Cross Assistance with emergency needs of food, clothing and housing.

• Second Harvest Food Bank: General volunteer assistance.

• Fresh Touch Ministries: Feeding program; volunteers assist with preparing and serving meals.

• Fayetteville City Rescue: General volunteer assistance; volunteers assist with meal service and clothes distribution.

• Cape Fear Adult Day Health Care: Client visitations.

Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed.

#6 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Harness 21st-century tools to help communities lift themselves. Volunteers work with development banks, nongovernmental organizations, and municipalities to strengthen infrastructure and encourage economic opportunities in communities. They frequently teach in classroom settings and work with entrepreneurs and business owners to develop and market their products. Some Volunteers also teach basic computer skills and help communities take advantage of technologies such as e-commerce, distance learning, and more. Check out current Peace Corps Volunteer openings in the Community Economic Development program area and the specific required and desired skills and language requirements for each position at https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/volunteer-openings/?sectors=2

If you choose Community Economic Dev., take three courses from one of the following areas:
- Business or Public Administration
- Nonprofit Management
- Accounting, Banking or Finance
- Computer Science and related majors
- Graphic Design
- Mass Communications
- International Business

**Recommended courses (not an exhaustive list):**

ACCT 211: Principles of Accounting I
ACCT 212: Principles of Accounting II
ACCT 310: Managerial Accounting
ACCT 412: Government and Public Accounting [non-profits]

BADM 200: Principles of Business
BADM 210: Introduction to Global Literacy
BADM 214: Microcomputer Applications in Business
BADM 215: Business Communications
BADM 216: Statistics for Business and Economics

COMM 210: Introduction to Mass Communications
COMM 385: International Communications

CSC 100: Introduction to Computers
CSC 104: Introduction to Computer Science for Non-Technical Majors
CSC 105: Introduction to Computer Science for Technical Majors
CSC 390: Topics in Computer Science

ECON 200: Entrepreneurship and the Economy
ECON 211: Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 212: Principles of Microeconomics
ECON 340: Economic Development
ECON 351: International Trade and Finance

ENTR 100: Entrepreneurial Thinking
ENTR 300: Entrepreneurial Discovery and Creativity
ENTR 312: Entrepreneurial Marketing

FINC 311: Principles of Finance

MGMT 311: Principles of Management
MGMT 340: Project Management
MGMT 350: Entrepreneurship

MKTG 311: Principles of Marketing
MKTG 312: Entrepreneurial Marketing
MKTG 322: Advertising
MKTG 333: Social Media and Digital Marketing
And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:

- Working with businesses, organizations, or cooperatives in accounting, finance, microfinance, management, project management, budgeting, or marketing
- Starting and running your own business or other entrepreneurial activity
- Training others in computer literacy, maintenance, and repair
- Website design or online marketing
- Founding or leading a community- or school-based organization

Students enrolled in the Prep Program can receive relevant volunteer/work experience in a couple of ways. They can take courses at FSU that incorporate Service Learning or participate in volunteer opportunities as a form of service outside of the classroom. To do this, participants should browse FSU’s Office of Civic Engagement & Service Learning webpage (http://www.uncfsu.edu/civic-engagement/service-learning/service-learning-opportunities), find opportunities that provide the desired experience, for service – learning courses, determine what courses are associated with those opportunities. Finally, take those courses (remember, participants must meet the prerequisites for courses, unless they are waived by the instructor). Since Service Learning opportunities are updated routinely, participants are advised to log onto the website periodically to obtain the most updated and detailed information.

Some examples of Community Economic Development opportunities listed on the Service Learning webpage are copied below. See the webpage for more complete descriptions.

- Umoja Group: Promotional Material Development. Volunteers will learn more about Umoja and its projects in order to create flyers and brochures to promote the Umoja group and their programs. Volunteers will also assist with revising and updating the Umoja group website.
- Veterans Empowering Veterans (VEV): Business Partnership-Entrepreneurship Training. Volunteers assist with setting up an administrative outreach team to help others understand what is needed to run a business or non-profit. Volunteers assist with training participants in the skills needed for working in an office environment; they also teach basic computer skills, and the process of setting up a business or non-profit, planning and decision making.
- Cape Fear Adult Health Care: Website development.
- Global Convenant, Inc.: Website training; volunteers train staff in how to update and maintain the current website.
- Spring Lake Senior Citizens Club: Rebuilding and rebranding the “Lakers”. Seeking volunteers interested in developing a non-profit organization.
Prep participants are urged and expected to take the initiative and research other volunteer opportunities in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area to meet this requirement, as needed.

Peace Corps Tip!

Nearly two-thirds of Peace Corps Volunteers serve in Education or Health. Coursework and meaningful experience in one of these areas—especially teaching English as a second/foreign language—produce some of the strongest candidates.

2. Foreign language skills

Requirements vary by

Working across cultures often entails verbal and nonverbal languages distinct from your own. Building foreign language skills is thus a second key component of the PC Prep curriculum.

Where would you like to serve? PC Prep minimum course requirements align with those needed by applicants to the Peace Corps itself, which vary by linguistic region.

- **Latin America**: Individuals wanting to serve in Spanish-speaking countries must apply with strong intermediate proficiency. This typically means completing two 200-level courses.
- **West Africa**: Individuals wanting to serve in French-speaking African countries should be proficient in French (or, in some cases, any Romance Language), usually through one 200-level course. Other Romance languages include Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian.
- **Everywhere else**: The Peace Corps has no explicit language requirements for individuals applying to serve in most other countries. However, you will still likely learn and utilize another language during service, so it is only helpful to have taken at least one foreign language class.

**Note**: If you are a strong native speaker and hope to serve in a country that speaks your same language, you can skip this requirement!

List of Recommended Language Courses (not an exhaustive list)

**Spanish**:
- SPAN 110: Elementary Spanish I
- SPAN 111: Elementary Spanish
- SPAN 120: Elementary Spanish II
- SPAN 121: Elementary Spanish (Honors) II
- SPAN 211: Intermediate Spanish
- SPAN 212: Intermediate Spanish II
- SPAN 230: Intermediate Spanish Conversation
- SPAN 300: Spanish for Business
- SPAN 311: Advanced Spanish Conversation and Culture
French:
FREN 110: Elementary French I
FREN 111: Elementary French (Honors)
FREN 120: Elementary French II
FREN 121: Elementary French II (Honors)
FREN 211: Intermediate French I
FREN 212: Intermediate French II

Chinese:
CHIN 110: Elementary Chinese I
CHIN 120: Elementary Chinese II
CHIN 210: Intermediate Chinese I
CHIN 220: Intermediate Chinese II

3. **Intercultural competence**

| 3 approved courses or 1-2 courses + substantive intercultural experience |

Engaging thoughtfully and fluidly across cultures begins with one’s own self-awareness. With this learning objective, you will deepen your cultural agility through a mix of three introspective courses in which you learn about others while reflecting upon your own self in relation to others. The goal is for you to build your capacity to shift perspective and behavior around relevant cultural differences. Some example courses:

**You’ll take at least one of these courses:**

- SOCI 150: The Global Society
- GLBL 200: Global Literacy Experience I
- GLBL 300: Global Literacy Experience II
- GLBL 400: Global Literacy Experience III

**And choose 2 additional electives from the above or below list:**

- ANTH 310: Cross-Cultural Studies in Anthropology
- ART 215: Survey of Global Art
- ART 340: Women, Culture and Imaging
- ENGL 211: World Literature I
- ENGL 212: World Literature II
- GEOG 322: Geography of Latin America
- GEOG 330: Geography of Africa
- GEOG 340: Cultural Geography
GLBL 200: Global Literacy Experience
GLBL 300: Global Literacy Experience
GLBL 400: Global Literacy Experience
HIST 331: History of Modern East Asia
HIST 350: History of Latin America
HIST 370: Africa South of the Sahara
HIST 375: Women in Africa
PHIL 211: Introduction to World Religion
PHIL 230: Political and Social Philosophy
POLI 230: Ethics and Global Affairs
SOCI 375: Comparative Societies

Is there another course in the catalog that you feel meets this requirement? Please discuss it with your PC Prep Coordinator.

Peace Corps Tip!

Prolonged intercultural experiences—such as studying or volunteering abroad, supporting new immigrants or refugees acculturate to the United States, or volunteering in diverse schools—would also strengthen your Peace Corps candidacy significantly.

The Office of International Education provides educational opportunities to students who are interested in studying abroad. It is our belief that one of the best ways for our students to prepare themselves in the global world is to visit different parts of the world. Currently, we have sent students to our international partner schools. We also are working closely with the UNC Exchange Program (UNCEP) (http://uncep.northcarolina.edu/) to provide hundreds of study abroad opportunities to our students. Furthermore, the Office of International Education will organize more short-term field trips and short courses for students to study abroad. Since deadlines for applying for study abroad programs and shorter trips are usually well in advance of the departure dates, make sure you connect with the relevant officials in the Office of International Education early in your planning.

4. Professional and leadership development

Resume and interview support + Leadership

Peace Corps service and similar international development work opportunities are highly professional and selective. PC Prep requires three specific activities that will strengthen your candidacy for the Peace Corps (or any other professional endeavor):

1. Have your resume critiqued by someone in your Career Services center--http://www.uncfsu.edu/career-services/students/contact-us.
2. Attend a workshop or class on interview skills at your Career Services center--http://www.uncfsu.edu/career-services/students/contact-us.
Develop at least one significant leadership experience and be prepared to discuss it thoughtfully. For example, organizing a campus event, leading a work or volunteer project, or serving on the executive board of a student organization.