



PREP

PEACE CORPS PREP STUDENT GUIDE

The Peace Corps Prep program will prepare you for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps 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 experience

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.

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.

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

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

Required course:

1. **REQUIRED:** *ED 200: Explorations in Education: Teaching, Learning and Schooling*

Approved Courses:

1. *AY 200: Research Methods*
2. *AY 168: The Anthropology of Gender*
3. *ED 241: Educational Psychology*
4. *ED 329: Philosophy of Education: An Introduction*
5. *ED 350: Special Learners in the Mainstream Classroom*
6. *ED 431: Extending Literacy in the Elementary School: Grades 3-6*
7. *ED 437: Developing Literacy in the Elementary School: Primary Grades*
8. *ED 459: Developmental Reading in the Secondary School*
9. *ED 522: Learning and the Child's Experience*
10. *EN 172: Literacy & Language*
11. *EN/W 311: Advanced Composition for Teachers*
12. *EN/W 317: Teaching and Learning Grammar (appropriate for TESL instruction)*

13. EN 411: *Teaching Writing 3rd-12th Grade (ELL)*

14. MD 300: *Introduction to Educational Technology*

* Students planning to teach in a STEM field may count any Fairfield University course in Biology, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Math, or Physics towards this two-course requirement.

*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 are available through the Center for Faith and Public Life, Campus Ministry, the International Studies Program, as well as through many academic programs.
- Student teaching opportunities through the Educational Studies Minor in the Graduate School of Education & Allied Professions
- Service learning* courses in various departments and schools (see the list below), as long as they incorporate practical education methods
- Volunteering through the Cesar Batalla partnership in the Center for Faith & Public Life (there are opportunities to volunteer outside of the SL courses)
- Weekly volunteer opportunities through Campus Ministry (they have relationships with several schools in Bridgeport)
- Volunteering with local refugee and immigrant populations through the on-campus Refugee Mentoring Program (a collaboration of CFPL and CIRI - Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants)
- Humanitarian Action Internship (HA 298) and International Studies Program internships (IL 298) including Global Scholars Program summer internships in the Global South which include practical education methods
- Campus Ministry service immersion programs/alternative breaks which include practical education methods

*Approved **Education Service Learning** courses include:*

- *AY 135: Refugees and Culture in the Modern World*
- *EN 11/12: Texts and Contexts I & II (Service Learning with Jill Bodach only)*
- *EN 141: Shakespeare*
- *EN 172: Literacy & Language*
- *EN 411: Teaching Writing 3rd-12th Grade*
- *EG 260: Robots*
- *ENW 290: Writing and Responding*

- *PO 252 African Politics*
- *PO 272: Politics of Humanitarian Action*
- *SP 253: Spanish American Civilization*
- *SW 304/406: Web Development*

Hours of field experience for service learning courses are to be determined or confirmed in writing by the faculty member teaching the course.

#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.

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

- Nursing
- Public Health
- Health Communication
- Pre-med
- Biology
- Technical Education
- Environmental Engineering

Approved courses:

1. *AY 200 Research Methods*
2. *BI/CH 76: Environmental Health*
3. *BI 216 & 317: Epidemiology*
4. *BI 310: Community Nutrition*
5. *BEN 300: Biomedical Instrumentation*
6. *CO 248: Health Communication*
7. *EG 31: Fundamentals of Engineering*
8. *EG 390, 391: Senior Design*
9. *HS 101: Intro to Health Studies (Prof. P. Kelley only)*
10. *NS 112: Health Care Delivery (Service Learning)*
11. *NS 301: Health and Wellness*

12. NS 330 Public Health (with optional practicum in Nicaragua)
13. NS 332: Public Health for non-nursing students
14. PBH 101: Global Public Health and Social Justice
15. PBH 201: Public Health, Disease, and Injury (coming in Fall, 2018)
16. PY 281: Community Mental Health

And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:

- Related Service Learning Courses (hours of field experience for service learning courses are to be determined or confirmed in writing by the faculty member teaching the course), for example:
 - NS 112: Healthcare Delivery Systems (Students work with local elementary schools, hospitals, or the Hope Dispensary low-cost pharmacy to create and implement health education initiatives)
- 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
 - i.e. local hospitals, Yale Oncology Fellowship, Lourdes Pilgrimage, internship at Americares or Catholic Medical Mission Board
- 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
- Intern with the Global Scholars Program at a relevant site like Starfish International in The Gambia, where you can practice health education or carry out a health-related research project
- Significant experience in mechanical repairs, construction, carpentry, masonry, plumbing, hydrology, or set design

#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.

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

- Environmental Science or related field

- Natural Resources Conservation
- Natural Resources or Wildlife Management
- Biology, Botany, or Ecology
- Energy

Approved courses:

1. AE 175: Sustainable Development: Anthropological Perspectives
2. AH 282: Green Architecture
3. AE 283: Environmental Justice
4. AE 284: Environmental Ethics
5. AE 297: Eco-feminism
6. AY 200 Research Methods
7. BI 74: Biology of Food
8. BI/CH 76: Environmental Health
9. BI 79: Latin American Ecosystems
10. BI 310/PB 250: Community Nutrition
11. BI 319: Zoology Field Experience
12. BU 220: Environmental Law and Policy
13. CH 85: Chemistry, Energy & Environment
14. EG 31: Fundamentals of Engineering
15. ENW 325: Environmental Reporting
16. EG 390,391: Senior Design
17. EV 298: Environment Internship*
18. EV 303 Campus Sustainability
19. PO 131: International Environmental Policy
20. PO 212: US Environmental Politics and Policy
21. PO 274: International Environmental Policy
22. PO 275: Climate Change Politics and Policy
23. PS 93: Energy and the Environment

And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:

- Educating the public on environmental or conservation issues i.e. LEAF student club (Leadership for Environmental Action at Fairfield), Campus Sustainability Committee grant, etc.
- Working on environmental campaigns (i.e. the federal government through a semester-long program of study in Washington, D.C., i.e. Washington Internship Institute)
- Conducting biological surveys of plants or animals as faculty-led research project
- Gardening, farming, nursery management, organic or low-input vegetable production, or landscaping on campus garden, Sporthill Farm etc.

- Providing technical assistance and training in natural resource management to local NGOs, community groups, or school children
- Intern with the Global Scholars Program at a relevant site like Iracambi, Brazil
- Enrolling in a service learning or practicum course like:
 - *EV 298: Environment Internship**
 - *BI 319: Zoology Field Experience: Students will be involved in various research projects in the rainforests of Brazil*
 - *ENW 325: Environmental Reporting*

*Choose an internship from a variety of organizations involved in environmental science, environmental policy, environmental economics, and environmental law, including: African Sky, Alpine Tree-Line Warming Experiment (Colorado), Animal Embassy, Aquarian Water Company, the campus garden, City of Bridgeport, Climate Reality Leadership Corps, Connecticut Audubon Society, Dyer Island Conservation Trust (South Africa), Keep America Beautiful, Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, State Parks, Sporthill Farm, Town of Fairfield, etc. Please see [website](https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/schools-and-colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/programs/environmental-studies/) for complete list of Environmental Studies internships:

<https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/schools-and-colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/programs/environmental-studies/>

#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.

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

- Agricultural Economics
- Business or economics
- Biology
- Engineering

Approved courses:

1. *AE 175: Sustainable Development: Anthropological Perspectives*
2. *AE 283: Environmental Justice*
3. *AE 284: Environmental Ethics*
4. *AY 200: Research Methods*
5. *BIO 74: Biology of Food*
6. *BI/CH 76: Environmental Health*
7. *BI 79: Latin American Ecosystems*

8. *BI 310: Community Nutrition*
9. *BI 319: Zoology Field Experience*
10. *EC 120: Environmental Economics*
11. *EC 230: Comparative Economic Systems*
12. *EC 231: International Trade*
13. *EC 233: International Economic Policy and Finance*
14. *EC 235: Economic Development*
15. *EG 31: Fundamentals of Engineering*
16. *EG 390, 391: Senior Design*
17. *IL 53: Introduction to Economics*
18. *PO 131: International Environmental Policy*

Business students may choose two courses from the list of approved courses for sector #6: Community Economic Development.

And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:

- Working or interning 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
- Join the Engineers Without Borders projects:
<https://www.fairfield.edu/news/archive/september-2013/bringingcleanwatertoafarmingcommunityinbolivia.html>
- Intern with the Global Scholars Program at a relevant site like Iracambi, Brazil where you'll gain reforestation skills
- Enrolling in a service learning or practicum course like:
 - *EV 298: Environment Internship**
 - *BI 319: Zoology Field Experience*

*Choose an internship from a variety of organizations involved in agriculture, agricultural economics, or agricultural policy: African Sky, Animal Embassy, the campus garden, City of Bridgeport, CT Campaign for Sustainable Communities, Sporthill Farm, Sustainable America, Town of Fairfield, etc. Please see Stags4Hire, or internship information specific to a related academic program: economics, engineering, biology, international studies, or environmental studies, i.e. <https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/schools-and-colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/programs/environmental-studies/>

#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.

If you choose Youth in Development, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Social Work
- Counseling
- Community Development
- Developmental Psychology
- Human Development
- Family Studies

Approved/recommended courses:

1. AY 168: *The Anthropology of Gender*
2. AY 200: *Research Methods*
3. CO 242: *Alcohol, Addiction and Culture (Service Learning)*
4. CO 246: *Family Communication*
5. ED 241: *Educational Psychology*
6. EN 355: *Gender Theory*
7. PY 111: *Developmental Psychology (nurses only)*
8. PY 122: *Psychology and the Law*
9. PY 131: *Abnormal Psychology (non majors)*
10. PY 212: *Developmental Psychology* (lab or non-lab section) - Service Learning*
11. PY 221: *Social psychology (influence by society)*
12. PY 222: *Stereotyping prejudice and discrimination*
13. PY 231: *Abnormal Psychology for Majors*
14. PY 261: *Behavioral neuroscience (pre-med students, core natural science class)*
15. WS 101: *Introduction to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies*

**Note that education minors and nurses are required to take developmental psychology; in this service learning course, students work with the Adrienne Kirby Family Literacy Project, doing literacy work and mentoring*

And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:

- Non-psychology students can take service learning courses that relate to working with youth:

- PO 252: African Politics (students work with the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants to mentor refugee youth providing homework help and English language support)
- EG 260: Robots (students participate in weekly mentoring of a youth robotics competition team)
- CO 242: Alcohol, Addiction, and Culture (students engage in service with local high school students, working together to strategize ways to talk about alcohol us
- Psychology majors can participate in an internship for one or two semesters of credit in Applied Psychology*. The wide range of opportunities includes:
 - Work with autistic children
 - Assisting probation officers and guidance counselors
 - Work in advertising and human resources
 - Assisting in psychiatric facilities

*Students choose between an Applied Psychology (1) or a Teaching Psychology internship (2). All internships allow students to spend ten hours a week using knowledge acquired in their classes. The Adrienne Kirby Family Literacy Project provides opportunities to be involved in preventive intervention that helps low-income preschoolers and their parents in language and reading. As a senior, you can undertake independent research; as a junior, you can apply, as many have done successfully, for summer research opportunities at other institutions, as well as supervised research and summer opportunities at Fairfield University.

(1) Internship in Applied Psychology

Integrating both cognitive and experiential learning, the Psychology Department offers its senior psychology majors the opportunity to work as interns in varied settings. Student interns are offered a wide selection of placements from which to choose, including working with autistic children, assisting probation officers, working with guidance counselors, learning about advertising or human resources, working in psychiatric facilities, etc. Each student spends at least ten hours per week on-site under qualified supervision enabling her or him to use the skills and knowledge acquired as students of psychology.

(2) Internship in Teaching Psychology

This practicum experience, open to advanced psychology majors, affords the student an opportunity to explore the profession of the teaching of psychology. Under the direct supervision of the professional staff of the Department, students are introduced to the issues of curriculum development, methods of classroom instruction, selection and use of media resources, test construction, and strategies for the academic and practical motivation of students. Interns have the opportunity to observe participating faculty engaged in the profession of teaching, to share in some of the instructional activities, and to meet with other interns in a seminar format to process the learning experiences.

Internship sites (a sampling):

- YWCA (domestic violence unit)

- Superior Court (adult probation, family court, juvenile center)
- Legal Services of Connecticut
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (children's unit)
- Family and Children's Agency, Norwalk
- New England Center for Children
- Giant Steps
- National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Fairfield Preparatory School (counseling)
- The United Way (organizational)

#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.

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

Approved courses:

1. *All Business Core Courses*
2. *BU 320: Employment law and discrimination in the workplace*
3. *AC 344: Individual Taxation: Socioeconomic Applications*
4. *AC 380: Municipal and not for profit accounting*
5. *AY 135: Refugees and Culture in the Modern World*
6. *AY 200: Research Methods*
7. *EC 120: Environmental Economics*
8. *EC 237: Fair Trade and Microfinance*

9. *EG 31 Fundamentals of Engineering*
10. *EG 390, 391 Senior Design*
11. *FI 200: Global Capital Markets*
12. *FI 240: International Finance*
13. *All INBU (International Business) Foundational Courses (IL 50, 51, 52, 53)*
14. *All INBU designated courses*
15. *IS 220: Technology and Society*
16. *MG 235: Human Resources*
17. *MG 240: Leading and Managing people*
18. *MG 303: Special Topics*
19. *MG 320: Diversity in the workplace*
20. *MG 335: Entrepreneurship and small business management*
21. *MG 336: Social Entrepreneurship*
22. *MG 337: Technology ventures*
23. *MG 338: Managing a family business*
24. *MG 350: International Law*
25. *MG 360: Negotiation and dispute resolution*
26. *MG 370: Managing non-profit organizations*
27. *MG 380: Performance, compensation, and reward*
28. *MG 385: Managing people for global business*
29. *MG 390: Cross-cultural management*
30. *OM 140: Project Management*
31. *SW 304: Web Development*

*And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:*

- Take a Service Learning course in the business school
 - AC 344: Individual Taxation: Socioeconomic Applications (students prepare income tax returns for taxpayers eligible for free tax return preparation service through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program of the IRS)
- 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 (i.e. Fairfield StartUp)
- Training others in computer literacy, maintenance, and repair (i.e. working at ITS)
- Website design or online marketing (i.e. intern with a non-profit)
- Founding or leading a community- or school-based organization (i.e. OrgSync Club)

***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 placement region

Most students must hone their capacity to interact professionally using a non-English language. Minimum course requirements vary by desired placement region.

- ❑ *Latin America*: Students indicating an intention to serve in Spanish-speaking countries must build strong intermediate proficiency, having completed two 200-level courses or learned Spanish through another medium.
- ❑ *West Africa*: Students indicating an intention to serve in French-speaking African countries must build proficiency in French or another Romance language, having completed one 200-level course or learned the language through another medium.
- ❑ *Everywhere else*: Students indicating an intention to serve anywhere else do not have explicit language requirements to complete the Program, but they should still be encouraged to study a foreign language.

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!

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 1 of these core courses:

1. *AY 10: Intro Four-Field Anthropology*
2. *AY 111: Cultural Anthropology*
3. *AY 200: Research Methods*
4. *AY 390: Language and Culture*
5. *CO 241: Comm & Culture: East and West*
6. *EN 352: Cultural Studies Theory*
7. *HI 242: Immigration, Race, Ethnicity*
8. *HR 201: Non-Western Culture*

9. *IL 50: People, Places & Global Issues*
10. *LAC 300: Justice and the Dev World*
11. *RS 235: Liberation Theology*
12. *RS 236: Christian Feminist Theology*
13. *SO 162: Race, Gender & Ethnic Relations*
14. *MG 320: Diversity in the Workplace*
15. *PH 360: Critical Race Theory*
16. *PO 153: Politics, Race, Class, and Gender*

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

1. *AE 276 - Ethical Dimens / Global Bus Prac*
2. *AE 262 - Ethics and the Community*
3. *AE 265 - Ethics in Education*
4. *AY 135: Refugees and Culture in the Modern World*
5. *AY 168: The Anthropology of Gender*
6. *EC 0120 - Environmental Economics*
7. *ED0200 - Explorations in Education*
8. *EN 0101- Intro Lit & Cultural Studies*
9. *EN 0102 - Intro to Contemp Wrld Lit*
10. *HI 0270 - Hist / Global Humanitarian Action*
11. *HI 0280 - The West and the Middle East*
12. *HI 0289 - Modern Latin America 1800 - Pres*
13. *MG0385 - Managing People for Global Business*
14. *MK0312 - Global Marketing*
15. *NS0330 - Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing*
16. *PH 0240 - Intro to Asian Philosophies*
17. *PO102 - Intro to Comparative Politics*
18. *PO 251: Islam and Muslim Politics*
19. *PO 252: African Politics*
20. *PY0111 - Dev Psychology for Non-Majors*
21. *PY0212 - Developmental Psych for Majors with Lab*
22. *SO0151 - Sociology of Religion*
23. *SP0271 - Hispanic Film*
24. *SP0359 - Cult, Civ, Lit / Spanish-American Caribbean Region*

- **Studying or volunteering abroad** may count *if* you are/were in a country that has at some point hosted Peace Corps Volunteers (see the list of current and past countries [here](http://www.peacecorps.gov/countries) [www.peacecorps.gov/countries]).
 - Studying/volunteering abroad in these countries for a minimum of one month may substitute for one course. You will be asked to submit a statement describing the

experience, elaborating on what intercultural challenge(s) you personally faced, and what you learned.

- **Other intercultural experiences**, such as helping new immigrants/refugees acculturate to the U.S. or volunteering in diverse schools for a minimum of one full semester, may also count. You will be asked to submit a statement describing the experience, elaborating on what intercultural challenge(s) you personally faced, and what you learned. If the experience also aligns with one of Peace Corps' six sectors, it may simultaneously count for that hands-on experiential requirement.

***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.

4. Professional and leadership development

Resume and interview support + Leadership experience

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 the Academic and Career Development Center.
2. Attend a workshop or class on **interview skills** at the Academic and Career Development Center.
3. Participate in a **networking event**: Choose to attend a non-profit career fair, a panel with an RPCV, or a job shadow program (select at least one).
4. 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.
5. Complete a Clifton Strengths Training program with the Academic and Career Development Center and be prepared to discuss your strengths.