

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 or Linguistics
- TEFL/TESL
- Math
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Any Physical or Biological Science

Recommended courses:

- *Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in an education field of study, engineering, math, or any physical or biological science, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Education Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in education field of study, engineering, math, or any physical or biological science but want to receive your certificate for the Education Sector, please see the list of lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below do not have prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
EDPY 210	Psychoeducational Issues in Human Development	Educational Psychology & Counseling
LING 200	Language, Linguistics, and Society	Linguistics
BIOL 101 & 102	Introduction to Biology	Biological Sciences
CHEM 100	Principles of Chemistry	Chemistry
GEOL 102, 103, & 104	Various	Earth and Planetary Sciences
PHYS 101 & 102	How Things Work	Physics and Astronomy
MATH 113	Mathematical Reasoning	Mathematics
COSC 100 & 102	Introduction to Computers and Computing; Introduction to Computer Science	Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any education-related or other service events.
- **UT English Language Institute Conversation Partners** meet on a weekly basis with UT international students to practice informal English conversation. This gives partners opportunity to hone language skills while learning how to teach English to non-native speakers.
- **VolSTeach** is for those in the math, science, or engineering with an interest in secondary teaching. This program offers field based experiences and graduates receive a licensure endorsed by Tennessee Department of Education.
- **The Muse** is a non-profit, experiential learning children's museum in Knoxville. You can become a volunteer 'playologist' or educator in science and the arts.
- **McClung Museum of Natural History Volunteer Docents** are competitively selected, trained in pedagogy, and then engage K-12 students in active museum learning.
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley** provides after school and summer programs for at risk children and youths. Volunteers may assist with programs that focus on education, the arts, healthy lifestyles, character-building and sports.
- **Great Schools Partnership Community Schools Program** uses public schools as a hub for organizing community resources to promote healthy and safe communities and academic success. Volunteers may serve as mentors and assist with academic enrichment, cultural and youth development programs.
- **Girls, Inc. of the Tennessee Valley** has a mission to inspire all girls to become strong, smart, and bold. Volunteers may assist with the after school and summer programs, including arts, tutoring, sports, and gardening.

#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
- Nutrition or Dietetics
- Health Education
- Pre-med
- Biology
- Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sports Studies
- Environmental Engineering
- Public Health

Recommended courses:

- *Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in a health-related field of study, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Health Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in a health- or medical-related field of study, but want to receive your certificate for the Health Sector, please see the list of mostly lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below do not have prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
NUTR 100	Introduction to Nutrition	Nutrition
FDST 100	Science of Food	Food Science
FDST 150	History and Culture of Food	Food Science
NURS 201	Introduction to Nursing	Nursing
PUBH 201	Introduction to Public Health	Public Health
PUBH 401	Environmental Public Health	Public Health

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any health-related or other service events.
- **The Knox County Health Department** works to promote and protect the health of everyone in our community. The KCHD tracks and monitors diseases, conducts extensive health education and outreach, provides and connects people with care, enforces food safety and air quality laws and regulations, prepares for public health emergencies, and more — all with the goal to ensure the conditions in which every Knox County resident can be healthy.
- **The East Tennessee Regional Health Office/Tennessee Department of Health** is responsible for public health in the 15 counties surrounding but not including Knox County. The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.
- **Cherokee Health Systems** believes the best approach to wellness involves treating both the body and mind. They offer an array of comprehensive primary care, behavioral health, and prevention programs and services, with a mission “To improve the quality of life for our patients through the blending of primary care, behavioral health and prevention services.”
- **Remote Area Medical (RAM)** Many people live in fear of sickness and injury because they have little or no access to basic medical care. RAM responds to this need by providing free dental, vision, and medical care to isolated, impoverished, or underserved communities.
- **Metropolitan Drug Coalition** provides substance abuse prevention resources for families, teachers, businesses, faith leaders and physicians in Knoxville. The MDC is the only local non-profit solely dedicated to evidence-based drug prevention.
- **InterFaith Health Clinic** is a not-for-profit health care ministry that serves the low-income, working uninsured and underserved.

#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
- Park Administration
- Wildlife Biology
- Natural Resources or Wildlife Management
- Forestry
- Biology, Botany, or Ecology
- Geology

Recommended courses:

- *Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in an environment-related field of study, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Environment Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in an environmental-related field of study, but want to receive your certificate for the Environment Sector, please see the list of lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below do not have prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
FWF 250	Conservation	Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries
BIOL 102	Introduction to Biology: Biodiversity and Ecology	Biology
GEOL 202S	The Earth as an Ecosystem: Modern Problems and Solutions	Earth and Planetary Studies
GEOG 206S	Sustainability: Reducing our Impact on Planet Earth	Geography
ESS 220	Water and Civilizations	Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
ESS 120	Soils and Civilizations	Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
ARCH 262	Climatic and Daylight Design	Architecture and Design
IARC 200	Human-Environment Relations	Architecture and Design

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any environmental or other service events.
- **The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency** preserves, conserves, manages, protects, and enhances the fish and wildlife of the state and their habitats for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the citizens of Tennessee and its visitors.
- **The Tennessee Division of Forestry** is responsible for State Forests and assisting TN citizens with forest management.
- **USDA Forest Service** Tennessee is home to the Cherokee National Forest and Land between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Knoxville also has the Southern Region Forest Inventory and Analysis office.
- **US National Parks Service** manages the Great Smoky Mountains, the most visited park in the US. It is one of many sites managed by the US National Parks service in Tennessee.
- **TN State Parks** manage 56 unique parks across the state that are important for environmental and historical conservation and recreation.
- **Ijams Nature Center** is located right in Knoxville and part of the urban wilderness.
- **UT Forest Resources Research and Education Center & Arboretum** located in Oak Ridge offers a variety of opportunities for research, education, and technical training in forestry and natural resources.
- **Town of Farragut Office of Sustainability** aims to become a more sustainable community by balancing environmental stewardship, economic growth, and social responsibility. Projects include waste reduction and recycling, energy efficiently, water conservation, and supporting parks and greenways.
- **The Water Quality Forum** hosts events related to water quality and conservation in the greater Knoxville area.
- **UT Extension** provides outreach for the UT Institute of Agriculture to bring research-based innovations to citizens managing forest, water, and wildlife resources.

#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:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Agronomy | <input type="radio"/> Entomology | <input type="radio"/> Agricultural Economics |
| <input type="radio"/> Horticulture | <input type="radio"/> Agricultural Science | <input type="radio"/> Business or economics |
| <input type="radio"/> Botany | <input type="radio"/> Agribusiness | <input type="radio"/> Biology |

Recommended courses:

- Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in an agriculture-related field of study, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Agriculture Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in an agricultural-related field of study, but want to receive your certificate for the Agriculture Sector, please see the list of lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below do not have prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
FDST 150	History and Culture of Food	Food Science
PLSC 115	Plants that Changed the World	Plant Sciences
AREC 201	Economics of Global Food and Fiber System	Agricultural and Resource Economics
AREC 212	Introduction to Agribusiness Management	Agricultural and Resource Economics
EPP 201	Impact of Insects and Plant Diseases on Human Societies	Entomology and Plant Pathology
ESS 120	Soils and Civilizations	Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
ALEC 211	Foundations of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications	Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any agriculture or food-related or other service events.
- **Center for Urban Agriculture** at the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum equips and educates local communities on cultivating healthy produce and sustainable lifestyles.
- **Community Supported Agriculture at Abbey Fields Farm** founded by RPCV Brenna Wright brings the farm to downtown Knoxville.
- **UT Organic Farm** has a mission to lead, inspire, discover, and advance organic and sustainable production locally and globally.
- **Beardsley Community Farm** is an urban demonstration site that promotes food security and sustainable urban agriculture through practice, education, and community outreach.
- **Second Harvest of East Tennessee** is a member of Feeding America and dedicated to solving hunger.
- **The Pond Gap Garden** is a multi-institutional program that creates school-day and after-school gardening opportunities for Pond Gap children and their families.
- **Every Child Outdoors Garden** at the Knoxville Botanical Garden promotes and supports opportunities that engage children with the outdoors through gardening.
- **UT Extension** provides outreach for the UT Institute of Agriculture to bring research-based innovations to agricultural producers across the state and world.

#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

Recommended courses:

- *Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in an youth development-related field of study, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Youth in Development Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in a youth development-related field of study, but want to receive your certificate for the Youth in Development Sector, please see the list of lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below do not have prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
CFS 211	Development in Infancy and Childhood	Child and Family Studies
CFS 213	Development in Adolescence and Adulthood	Child and Family Studies
EDPY 210	Psychoeducational Issues in Human Development	Educational Psychology & Counseling
SOWK 250	Introduction to Social Welfare	Social Work
PSYC 110	General Psychology	Psychology
COUN 220	Helping Skills in Face to Face and Online Settings	Educational Psychology & Counseling
ALEC 103	Leadership Development in Small Groups and Teams	Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications
ALEC 202	Leadership and Diversity in Organizations and Communities	Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any youth-related or other service events.
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley** provides after school and summer programs for at risk children and youths. Volunteers may assist with programs that focus on education, the arts, healthy lifestyles, character-building and sports.
- **Great Schools Partnership Community Schools Program** uses public schools as a hub for organizing community resources to promote healthy and safe communities and academic success. Volunteers may serve as mentors and assist with academic enrichment, cultural and youth development programs.
- **Girls, Inc. of the Tennessee Valley** has a mission to inspire all girls to become strong, smart, and bold. Volunteers may assist with the after school and summer programs, including arts, tutoring, sports, and gardening.
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee** provides one-to-one mentoring relationships for at risk children and youths.
- **YWCA Knoxville** uses volunteers to lead YTEEN Club activities and to mentor middle school aged males about domestic violence prevention and bystander intervention.
- **Emerald Youth Foundation** is a faith-based organization that provides services to at risk urban children and youths. One of the primary venues is through an afterschool program for elementary and middle school students including tutoring, health/fitness/nutrition instruction, field trips and service learning opportunities.
- **Tennessee 4-H Youth Development** encourages young people to participate through clubs, after school programs, camps, and other activities that still include, but move far beyond 4-H's agricultural roots. 4-H is supported by UT and programs can be found in every county in Tennessee.
- **Tennessee FFA** works with students in agricultural education from ages 12 to 21. There are many opportunities volunteer through FFA as they develop students' potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success.

#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
- Accounting, Banking or Finance
- Graphic Design
- Nonprofit Management
- Computer Science and related majors
- Mass Communications
- International Business

Recommended courses:

- *Courses that will fulfill this requirement are varied and many at UT. If you are majoring in an economic- or business-related field of study, your major course work should fulfill the course requirements for the Community Economic Development Sector. Please discuss your course selections with the Peace Corps Prep Coordinator.*

*If you are not majoring in an economic- or business-related field of study, but want to receive your certificate for the Community Economic Development Sector, please see the list of lower-division courses below that could serve to fulfill this requirement. **This list should only be used as a starting point** as many UT courses can be applied to this section. The courses listed below have few or no prerequisites and many fulfill UT General Education Requirements.*

Course Number	Course Name	Department or College
POLS 240	Introduction to Public Administration and Public Policy	Political Science
ACCT 200	Foundations of Accounting	Accounting and Information Management
MGT 201	Introduction to Business Management	Management
ECON 201/211/213	Principles of Microeconomics/Macroeconomics	Economics
CMST 240	Business and Professional Communication	Communication Studies
AGNR 291	Spreadsheets for College, Business, and Career Preparation	Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
AGNR 292	Databases for College, Business, and Career Preparation	Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

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

Suggestions for potential related field experiences:

- **Knoxville Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** the Knoxville RPCV group is very active in the community and has a warm and open invitation for PC Prep students to participate in any economic- or business-related or other service events.
- **100 Block Association's** mission is to implement and sustain a plan for the 100 Block of Gay Street, manage and promote the 100 Block; and balance the needs of residents, businesses, property owners, government and the community through ongoing communication and collaboration.
- **Central Business Improvement District** was created in 1993 to undertake programs and services that government is unable to provide. Its core mission is to enhance downtown's existing assets and bring more people to Downtown Knoxville to work, shop, live and play.
- **Downtown District Association** was created for Knoxville's Market Square to become one of the South's finest historic districts in which to shop, dine, work, live, and enjoy the unique artistic and cultural heritage of East Tennessee.
- **East Knoxville Business and Professional Association** mission is to foster a connection between businesses and organizations for the mutual advancement, growth and development of East Knoxville.
- **East Tennessee Economic Council** is an independent, regional, non-profit membership organization dedicated to supporting the federal government's missions in Oak Ridge as well as encouraging new opportunities to fully utilize the highly-skilled talent, cutting-edge technologies and unique facilities that make up the federal reservation, the University of Tennessee complex, and the Tennessee Valley Authority region.
- **Entrepreneurs of Knoxville** are a collection of Entrepreneurs/ Inventors/ Investors/Business Owners who meet regularly to share ideas and provide support to each other.
- **Knoxville Chamber** is the leading voice for business in Knoxville and beyond. They represent over 2,000 member businesses, providing them with cutting edge products and services designed to help make Knoxville America's Best Business Address®.
- **Knoxville Entrepreneur Center** is a business accelerator located in Market Square that serves as the front door for entrepreneurs in our region, and a resource for anyone looking to start or grow a business here. It is nurturing and supporting a culture of entrepreneurship, fostering innovation, creativity and job

growth within our community. They are a mentor-driven business accelerator, a shared workspace and a source of mediocre coffee.

***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 one of these core courses:

1. AGNR 180 Global Dynamics: Food, Biodiversity and the Environment. This course focuses on cultures and issues in countries where the Peace Corps primarily works and investigates all Peace Corps sectors through the lens of food and environmental security and sustainability. This course includes self-reflection and discussion to build students' understanding and adaptability to cultures different

than their own. This course also fulfills 3 credits of Social Science General Education at UT.

2. GLBS/SOCI 250 Introduction to Global Studies. This course focuses the effects of globalization on culture, politics, economics, philosophy, and the environment through interdisciplinary perspectives. This course includes self-reflection and discussion to build students' understanding and adaptability to cultures different than their own. This course also fulfills 3 credits of Cultures and Civilizations General Education at UT.

And choose 2 additional electives from the list below:

- All UT-approved study abroad courses in [countries](#) that have hosted Peace Corps Volunteers (pre-approval from PC Prep Coordinator required)
- International experiences volunteering or interning abroad in [countries](#) that have hosted Peace Corps Volunteers (pre-approval from PC Prep Coordinator Required)
- AFST 235 or 236 - Introduction to African Studies
- ALEC 202 – Leadership and Diversity in Organizations and Communities
- AMST 200 - American Cultures in Global Perspective
- ANTH 130 - Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 316 - Peoples and Cultures of South America
- ANTH 319 - Caribbean Cultures and Societies
- ANTH 325 - Migration and Transnationalism
- ANTH 410 - Principles of Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 415 – Environmental Anthropology
- ANTH 419 – Anthropology of Human Rights
- GEOG 320 - Cultural Geography; Core Concepts
- GEOG 345 - People and Environment
- GEOG 373 - Landscapes and Cultures of Latin America
- GEOG 375 - Society and Spaces of South Asia
- HIAF 372 - Africa Since 1400
- HIAS 383 & 484 - Studies in Asian History
- HILA 256 - Modern Latin American and Caribbean History
- HIME 384 - Studies in Middle East History
- PHIL 255 - Sustainability Ethics
- PHIL 256 - Social Justice
- POLS 265 - Introduction to International Relations
- POLS 370 - Contemporary International Problems
- POLS 451 Ethnic Conflict in Foreign Countries
- POLS 452 – The Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa
- POLS 456 - Latin American Government and Politics
- REST 102 - The Comparison of World Religions

- REST 232 - Religions in Global Perspective
- SOCI 375 - Gender in Society
- SPAN 331 - Introduction to Spanish Culture
- SPAN 401 – Cultural Plurality and Institutional Changes in Latin America
- WGS 200 - Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- WGS 370 - Gender and Globalization

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.*

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 UT Center for Career Development.
2. Attend a workshop or class on **interview skills** at UT Center for Career Development.
3. 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. Students are encouraged to assume an officer position in any of the 500-plus student organizations, or find off-campus leadership opportunities through the Center for Leadership and Service, UT Extension, Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications, or the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. The Center for Student Engagement provides a portal to all student organizations through [VoLink](#).