



# The Goals and Practices of a Pre-Academic Program for International Graduate Students

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## Goals of the program

Participants are introduced to the conventions of:

1. Graduate studies
2. U.S. universities
3. Life in the United States

## Addressing these goals

**Courses:** *Research and Writing; American Culture; Communicating Effectively in the American Classroom*

**Workshops:** *Welcome to Graduate Student Life; Conducting Web-Based Research; Intellectual Property; Health, Wellness, and Stress Management; Research at U.S. Universities; Rights of Non-Immigrant Students*

**Activities:** dinner in an American home; community service project; International Visitors Council First Thursday; group leadership cooking activity; mentor groups with Drexel graduate students

**Cultural trips within Philadelphia:** The Liberty Bell; Constitution Center; Philadelphia Museum of Art; Philadelphia History Museum

The 2013 Pre-Academic Program for Fulbright Grantees



## Step-by-step demands of Research and Writing

- 1) brainstorming topic areas for research
- 2) creating hypotheses and research questions
- 3) developing questionnaires and other primary research instruments
- 4) researching secondary sources through web-based research methods
- 5) synthesizing research
- 6) writing results
- 7) documenting sources.

## Program Description

The Pre-Academic Program for Fulbright Grantees is a five-week program hosted by the English Language Center. Recipients of the prestigious Fulbright scholarship live and study at Drexel University, taking dedicated classes taught by ELC staff, participating in workshops led by professional faculty throughout the university, and connecting to the Drexel and Philadelphia communities through cultural excursions and socializing opportunities.

<u>Nations Represented</u>	<u>Participants' Field of Study</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Afghanistan</li><li>• Argentina</li><li>• Azerbaijan</li><li>• Botswana</li><li>• Brazil</li><li>• Burma (Myanmar)</li><li>• Cambodia</li><li>• Chad</li><li>• Chile</li><li>• Colombia</li><li>• Ecuador</li><li>• Fiji</li><li>• Honduras</li><li>• Indonesia</li><li>• Iraq</li><li>• Ivory Coast</li><li>• Japan</li><li>• Paraguay</li><li>• Peru</li><li>• Russia</li><li>• Tunisia</li><li>• Turkey</li><li>• Uzbekistan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accounting/Finance</li><li>• Biology</li><li>• Business</li><li>• Communications</li><li>• Computer Science</li><li>• Economics</li><li>• Education</li><li>• Energy</li><li>• Engineering</li><li>• Environmental Science</li><li>• Geography</li><li>• Humanities</li><li>• International Relations</li><li>• Law</li><li>• Linguistics</li><li>• Literature</li><li>• Music</li><li>• Pharmacology</li><li>• Philosophy</li><li>• Psychology</li><li>• Public Administration</li><li>• Public Health</li><li>• Public Policy</li></ul>

## Participant Feedback

"[I gained] more self confidence being around everyone from different countries in the US."

"You helped me to decrease the anxiety to study a [M]aster[']s. You helped me with the adaptation."

"Everything was really useful. I got to know how the educational system works from the "student side". It was extremely useful and interesting."

