

# HECUA Programs in Spring Semesters

Visit [www.hecua.org](http://www.hecua.org) and/or contact Dave Schuettler [dschuett@css.edu](mailto:dschuett@css.edu) for additional information, including application deadlines.

## **Ecuador - Community Internships in Latin America (CILA)**

The program addresses current issues relevant to Ecuador and Latin America such as globalization, the environment, oil politics, and other local and international issues as students learn from individuals who help make social change possible. Students also compare and contrast models of community participation, organization, development, and social change. A home-stay, a hands-on internship, and an independent-study project are all designed to meet each students' learning goals. Field seminars and trips with local experts and activists provide an intensive immersion into Latin American life and culture. Students must have completed at least 2 years of college-level Spanish.

## **Northern Ireland - *Democracy and Social Change***

Students examine the historical, political, and religious roots of conflict in Northern Ireland, the prospects for peace, and the progress being made. Through readings, lectures, discussions, internships, group study projects, and field experiences, this program invites interaction with people involved in social change and advancing peace. *Democracy and Social Change* explores theoretical approaches to understanding conflict and its transformation as well as the processes underway in Northern Ireland to create a sustainable democracy. Classes are held at the University of Ulster with field study in selected regions of Northern Ireland.

## **New Zealand Culture and Environment**

Study topics such as environmental sustainability, conservation, Māori treaty rights, globalization and trade, history of colonization in New Zealand, green development, tourism and its impacts on local communities, environmental law, environmental planning, and natural resource planning while traveling the North Island. The final weeks of the program are based in Wellington, with 20-25 hours per week at individual internship sites.

## **Twin Cities - Art for Social Change**

This program immerses students in communities working for social change by using art as a catalyst for dialogue and civic engagement. Creative practices of all kinds are embraced as essential tools for participatory democracy and social justice. In classroom seminars, field visits, and a professional internship, students examine the impact of art and culture on communities and the unique ways that creative work like performance, writing, visual art, music, and dance can address pressing social issues by making them visible and real. Social and cultural identity, democracy, racism, and power structures are just some of the issues students grapple with and respond to through the lens of art, culture, and social change.

## **Twin Cities - Inequality in America: Policy, Community, and the Politics of Empowerment**

This program focuses on the economy, housing systems, education, welfare, government policies, the criminal justice system, regional segregation by race and class, and institutional oppression. Connecting these issues is at the core of the program, and instead of just learning about problems, students explore solutions and become engaged in organizations committed to social transformation in class and at a structured internship. Through critical thinking set into action, students analyze policy, lobby elected officials, and engage communities. Students focus on learning the basics of organizing communities and workplaces, persuading others to become critically engaged, and becoming effective advocates for various issues and communities.