# Spring Program Info Session

# Native American **Cultural Preservation**

to Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Alternative Break

Student Program Director-Lydia Nyarko





# Info Session Outline







# Community Outreach

### **Miguel Colon: Director of Community outreach Carl Soares**: Coordinator of Alternative Breaks- carl.soares@uconn.edu

# Community Outreach (CO)

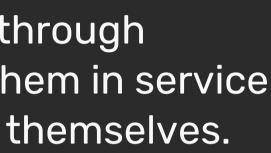
Mission: To enrich learning at the University of Connecticut through preparing students to be active global citizens by engaging them in service activities that enhance the quality of life for both others and themselves.

### **Programs**

**Alternative Breaks Educational Events and** Trainings Jumpstart AmeriCorps **One-Time Orjects and** Initiatives Philantrophy Semester-Long Serivice

**Alternative Breaks:** are service-learning experiences supporting alongside the community to seek a more equitable and inclusive society. Alternative Breaks trips are also designed to heighten participants' awareness of critical social issues, enhance their individual growth, and prepare them for lifelong social action. Each weekend or week-long trip integrates service, reflection and education and focuses on a social justice topic such as racial justice, environment justice, healthcare, etc.









### Direct engagement

**Full Immersion** "Alternative breaks provide participants with an opportunity to live simply in line with the community

Identity-Consciousness and Equity

### **Orientation**

- **Pre-program Meetings!**
- Learn useful skills and background for intended projects



### Education

"Effective education provides a framework of intersecting perspectives developed to help participants understand the root causes and effects of social issues

Training

### Reflection

"Anytime participants engage in community work, experience - synthesizing service, education, and community immersion components. Time is set aside for this to take place individually and as a group and should occur both organically and throughout". -Break Away

Reorientation

# About the Program

## **Native American Cultural Preservation**

Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma



# LOGISTICS

Goals: Students will have the opportunity to learn about cultural preservation and engage in activities to support the community. Engage in meaningful interactions, they will gain insights into the profound significance of cultural heritage, awareness and sensitivity. Utilize their skillset to continue as advocates for local tribes and contribute to creating a more inclusive and respectful society

Pre-program meeting; we will have 6 pre-**Dates:** Sunday March 16th- Saturday 22nd ,2025 program meeting before departure

**Cost:** \$320\* (Storrs) Upon acceptance, participants will receive information on how to apply for financial assistance.

\*Regional campus students have slightly different cost- email carl.soares@uconn.edu

**Our Community Partner:** Cherokee Nation

Location: we will be staying in Tahoequah at the Cherokee Nation Center

**Typical; size of program:** 12 participants, **1** Student Program Director, **1** Learning partner

# Sample Schedule

What our typical day of service will look like



Sunday (travel day)

CO shuttle to Bradley- 5am Drive from Airport to housing site Cooking dinner- 5:00pm Reflection + free time - 7:00pm

Monday (service learning begins)

- Wake up + breakfast- 7:00 am
  - Drive to service 8:30 am
    - Lunch break 12:00 pm
- Afternoon service 1:00 pm
- Return for dinner prep (as a group)- 4:30pm
  - Reflection time- 7:30 pm
    - Free time 9:00 pm
      - Sleep 10:00 pm







Information to know before you submit an application

### Are there any prerequisites for applying?

There is no prerequisite of earlier public service involvement, all enrolled UConn students may apply. Students may not participate if they are not an enrolled student at the time of the alternative break.

Can I apply to more than one alt break? Do I have to fill out a separate application for each alternative break?

Yes, Please mark down all alt breaks that you'd be interested in on the application.

**Do I have to be Native American or have roots in Native American Culture to apply?** 

No, you do not have to identify as Native American to apply for this program. We are looking for students who

demonstrate passion for social justice issues and cultural sensitivity.

### What are we looking for in applicants?

We are seeking dedicated students who have genuine interest in community building, culture, service and social justice



### What is the mode of transportation?

We will be flying to Tulsa and renting 2 vans to drive.

### What does participant cost cover?

Transportation, housing and food is included in participant cost. It does not include personal expenses.

### Where would we stay and sleep?

Housing will be provided by the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah. Participants usually sleep on the floor with sleeping bags during on alternative break



# Application & Contact information



For accomodations contact carl.soares@uconn.edu

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