CEP Co-op, Dialogue, & Abroad Projects (2017-2018)

The following projects are for CEP student scholars that are currently on co-op, studying abroad or on a Dialogue of Civilizations program and are <u>unable</u> to participate in a direct community service project, event or program due to a scheduling conflict, foreign language challenges, cultural limitations, and/or visa restrictions

Completed projects should be submitted through Blackboard (assignment submission is under the 'Documents' tab). Please note that these hours are due a week in advance of the actual CEP deadlines to allow time for review and approval. The due dates for these submissions are as follows:

- All graduating seniors: December 10, 2017
- Early Bird Deadline: April 29, 2018
- All other upper-class students: June 24, 2018 Coop/Abroad/DOC

The maximum amount of hours allowed for these projects is 50 HOURS. DO NOT LOG HOURS IN YOUR TIME LOG, UNLESS THE PROJECT STATES TO DO SO.

Project Description	Satisfactory Completion
Project #1: Photo Analysis of Civic Institutions Walking Tour & Photo Essay. This project involves walking through the community, photographing what you see and reflecting on the differences and similarities between this new community and Boston, your hometown, or more broadly the US. *This project can only be completed outside of Greater Boston*	 To earn 10 hours, students should: Submit at least 25 photos that include a 2-3 sentence description of the photo with date and location. Of the 25 photos, several must include civic institutions Write a commentary or narrative of your impressions of the community based upon your walking tour and the photos that you selected. Be sure to focus on the assets of the community in relation to CEP's goals of growing civic -minded individuals. This written assignment should be approximately 1200 words.

Project #2:

Case Study on a Local Non-Profit. This project involves identifying a non-profit organization in the area, doing a site visit, researching the organization's mission, and reflecting on its community impact.

To earn 10 hours, students should:

- Research local non-profits and identify one of interest.
- Contact a representative of the organization and speak to him/her about it. Include name and contact information of said representative.
- Visit the site if possible, and document the visit both through written commentary and photographs (if appropriate).
- Write a description of the organization, its mission/purpose, and its effectiveness in/impact on the community. The written assignment should be approximately 1200 words.

Project #3:

Interview Community Leaders and/or Residents. This project involves interviewing community leaders and/or residents attempting to answer the question "What does community mean to you?"

- Interview at least 4 community leaders and/or residents outside of Northeastern.
- Write a reflection paper that captures both the experience of interviewing the community leaders and/or residents, as well as what you learned from your conversations. This written assignment should be at least 1200 words.
- Students could choose to create a blog instead of the paper reflection.

Project #4:

Attend and Participate in Community & Cultural Events. This project involves attending cultural events, community festivals, or arts programming and documenting the experience.

Try to find events that represent the varied cultures in the area that you are residing in

To earn 10 hours, students should:

- Attend at least 4 events and provide information on the date and location, and sponsoring organization of each event.
- No two events can be similar in context (i.e. visiting two different memorials or seeing two separate opera shows)
- Document the events both through written commentary and photographs.
 Each event description/commentary should be approximately 500 words.
 What did you learn at the event? What surprised you? Who else was at the event?

Project #5:

Research Service Organizations in Your Area. This project involves researching service opportunities available outside the Boston area.

- Complete a comprehensive Internet search of local non-profits, shelters, walks, etc.
- Choose at least 10 of the organizations you found and write clear and comprehensive descriptions of each organization's mission, goals, and types of service roles there.
 Reach out to service coordinators at the organization to learn more about the role of volunteers and how people can get involved. Each organization's description should be at least 300 words. (Note: You should spend approximately one hour researching/writing about each organization for the full 10 hour credit.)

Project #6:

Keep a Travel Blog. This project is ideal for students who are abroad. Keep a journal or blog of your time abroad and keep up with it for the duration of your trip or program.

To earn 10 hours, students should:

- Write at least 10 blog or journal entries (at least 800 words each) throughout the duration of your trip or program reflecting on your experiences: include anything surprising or challenging as well as what you were doing and learning.
- Include at least 1 photo for every 2 blog/journal entries.

Project #7

Know Government Institutions.

This project involves understanding the political institutions where you are residing and the impact of those institutions.

To earn 10 hours, students should:

- Research a local, state, or federal governmental bodies or institution in your area (examples include: town hall meeting, Senate session, city council hearing, etc)
- Attend at least 1-2 public meetings of this body or institution (Include photos or pamphlets as proof)
- Write a 1200 words reflection on this body's work and the effect they've had on your current community. Talk about the issues they are facing and possible solutions or outcomes being discussed. Feel free to share your personal opinions on these issues.

Project #8

Know Government Leaders.

This project involves understanding one's political representatives. This project can focus on locally elected or appointed governmental officials (e.g., Senators, city commissioners, and judges) in the area you are currently residing in.

- Research state or federal governmental officials in the area
- Pick a specific leader to focus on.
 Research their role in government,
 who they represent, and their actions on civic issues (e.g. their voting record). If possible, record yourself interviewing them or their staff.
- Write a 1200 word reflection on their role in government and goals for their community. Talk about how your personal views align with the views of this leader.

Project #9

Research Social Issues.

This project involves researching social issues that have raised contention both politically and culturally.

- Begin a preliminary search of a social issue affecting the country in the area you are currently residing.
- Interview community leaders, members or organizations on this particular issue. Record their responses.
- Write a 1200 word essay on how this issue affects this community and what steps are being taken to address the issue. Includes an analysis on what steps you would take to rectify this issue if you were in a similar situation.
- Include your research material, recordings (must be transcribed), news articles,
- Include pictures Ex. If you researched the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, having before and after pictures of the area