

Pacific International Academy presents

EXPERIENCE AMERICA ACCELERATED



About PIA

- Established in 1997
- Located at Warner Pacific University
- Expert teachers
- Friendly staff members
- Convenient transportation

About the Course

- English, volunteering, and Action Projects
- Cultural exploration
- Graded course with certificate

3
WEEKS

About Life in Portland

- Live in a safe, friendly city
- Stay with a host family
- Meet young Americans
- Join exciting social activities



EXPERIENCE AMERICA ACCELERATED

Course Overview

Experience America Accelerated builds students' communicative skills and challenges them to think critically about culture. Students develop speaking and listening skills that enable them to engage with local community members, teachers, peers, and homestay families in authentic contexts. Students also explore the values of American society as part of a cultural exploration project. Each student chooses a different part of culture to explore. As part of their research, students conduct interviews, make observations, and attend discussion panels. Finally, they give presentations on their findings and make comparisons to their own culture.

Action Project: Navigating Downtown Portland

Students bring the classroom to the city in this introductory action project--an experiential learning opportunity to use English in authentic ways. With the support of their teacher, students interview Portlanders and explore local sites. They use their English to learn just what makes Portland unique.

Action Project: Nature and Leisure

Students explore the intersection of nature, recreation, and industry in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge with visits to Multnomah Falls and a guided tour of Bonneville Dam.

Action Project: Urban and Suburban Lifestyles

This action project presents locations related to how Americans live, with an emphasis on local Portland culture. Students engage in critical thinking about gender, income inequality, and diversity while visiting two different American neighborhoods.

NOTE: Assignments done on Action Projects are linked to the course and will be part of the students' final grades. Action Projects are subject to change.

Program Outline: 3 weeks

Action Projects	20 hours total
Volunteering	15 hours total
Class Time	34 hours total
Testing and Orientation	3 hours total
Optional Tours and Activities	~40 hours total

Program Cost: \$2,500

Program cost includes tuition for class, Action Projects (APs), transportation to the AP locations, application and homestay placement fees, homestay with meals, round-trip airport transfers, materials for all classes, and a cell phone for emergency use.

Transfers by PIA staff to and from Portland International Airport are included in the course fee for arrivals between 8:00AM and 10:00PM and departures between 10:00AM and 12:00AM. For transfers outside of these times, PIA can help students arrange airport transfer services via taxi, shuttle, or a ride-sharing service such as Uber or Lyft. Students will be responsible for the cost of this transfer.

Not covered in program cost: Airfare, local public transportation (bus/train/light rail), personal shopping expenses, replacement cost of lost or damaged cell phones provided for the program, cost of optional after-school and weekend activities.

EXPERIENCE AMERICA ACCELERATED

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8 AUGUST » Arrive in Portland	9	10 Orientation: 9:00–12:00 ESL 13:00–15:00	11 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Happy Hour	12 Volunteering	13 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Outlet Shopping	14 Action Project: Navigating Downtown Portland
15 Optional: Saturday Market and Waterfront	16	17 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Sports and Games	18 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Summer BBQ	19 Volunteering	20 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: ADIDAS Employee Store and NW 23rd Shopping	21 Action Project: Urban and Suburban Lifestyles
22 Optional: Seattle Trip	23	24 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Mt. Tabor Hike	25 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Optional: Alberta Arts District	26 Volunteering	27 ESL 10:00–12:00 13:00–15:00 Certificate Ceremony	28 Action Project: Nature and Leisure
29 Depart Portland	30					

Schedule is subject to change.

Volunteering PROGRAM DETAILS

Volunteering

PIA is located on the campus of Warner Pacific University (WPU). PIA and WPU value service to the community. Throughout the year, PIA and WPU students give their time to local organizations that serve different groups, from children to elders. In the past, PIA students have volunteered with the YMCA, Portland Parks and Recreation, and Meals on Wheels! American students will join PIA students for some volunteering time.



Volunteer Activity Examples

Environmental Work



TASKS:

Help with park projects with other American volunteers

Food Assistance



TASKS:

Prepare and serve meals to seniors and talk with them

Education



TASKS:

Work with youth in various education and environmental activities

PROGRAM DETAILS

Campus Fun

Warner Pacific University has a variety of resources for PIA students!

You can:

- Attend sporting events
- Work out in the fitness center
- Hang out in the recreation room
- Get coffee with friends at the coffee shop

Optional Activities

	PRICE	DESCRIPTION
Outlet Shopping	\$15	Visit Oregon's best outlet mall for tax-free shopping
Seattle Trip	\$150	Visit the beautiful Pacific Northwest city of Seattle and attend a Major League Baseball game

Free Activities

Sports Day at WPU	Play sports and games on WPU's campus
Happy Hour	Enjoy food and conversation with friends
Saturday Market and Waterfront	Shop for handmade gifts and wander Portland's beautiful Waterfront Park
Summer Picnic	Try favorite American summer food and games
ADIDAS Store and NW 23rd Shopping	Get a 50% discount at ADIDAS and shop on NW 23rd St.
Alberta Arts District	Explore one of Portland's interesting neighborhoods
Mt. Tabor Hike	Enjoy Portland's natural beauty



CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

Cultural Ambassadors

Experience America Accelerated provides international students with the chance to meet young Americans who serve as cultural ambassadors. In addition to helping teachers during class time, cultural ambassadors also introduce students to the Portland area through activities and volunteering outings!



Learning Portland culture!



Exploring nature!



Shopping downtown!



Hanging out!



Meeting the WPU mascot!



Cheering on the WPU Knights!



Attending a sporting event!