

# PROWORLD

*SERVICE CORPS*



**Real Projects...Real Experience**

**STUDY ABROAD • INTERN • VOLUNTEER**

visit → [myproworld.org](http://myproworld.org)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## ProWorld

About ProWorld	1
Why Join ProWorld	2
Our Model	3
Project Overview	4
How to Apply	5

## Join

Semester Abroad	6
Internships	7
Group Projects	8
Custom Programs	9
ProWorld Sustainable Study Abroad	10
Additional Details & Inserts	11



## The ProWorld Service Corps offers profound cultural, service, and academic experiences.

We have focused on developing relationships within our host communities since our founding in 1998; building trust and understanding between ourselves and our hosts. Since then, thousands of students and volunteers have joined our programs to perform service projects, internships, and semester programs.

While our projects often have modest beginnings, they are remarkably successful, thorough, and perhaps most importantly, all are chosen based on communities' assessments of their own needs.

In the spirit of collaboration and mutual learning, we will continue to unite our participants with our host communities through meaningful and authentic development projects. We believe there is much we can learn from each other and much we can accomplish together.

Richard A. Webb  
Executive Director  
ProWorld Service Corps

# WHY JOIN PROWORLD

## OUR MISSION

The ProWorld mission is to empower communities, promote social and economic development, conserve the environment, and cultivate educated compassionate global citizens.

### Community Projects

All projects driven by our community hosts



### Cultural Immersion

Engage directly and deeply with the community through homestay, community projects, and cultural exchange



### Field Based Academics

Integrate classroom study with field and research experiences



### Cultural Classes

Personalized and small group classes in language and culture enhance fluency

## REAL PROJECTS - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

ProWorld teams assess and execute projects year round to ensure sustainable and valuable development projects for our host communities and participants. These projects are the foundation of every ProWorld program. By joining ProWorld, participants become agents of positive change in the lives of others and themselves.

## PERSONAL GROWTH

We believe participants deserve to be challenged, to be exposed to new and authentic experiences, and to participate in real and sustainable development projects. Participants gain skills in sustainable development work, leadership, and cross-cultural communication while gaining a broadened perspective of themselves, development work, and the world in which we live.

## PROWORLD STAFF SUPPORT

Staff teams are composed of local and international development workers and range in size from 3 to 15 staff members per site. ProWorld staff members are part of every aspect of the program experience, encouraging cultural immersion, providing quality support, and often becoming friends as well as mentors for the participant's journey.

## CORE VALUES

We believe that within every project decision and every community interaction there exists the opportunity for ProWorld staff and participants to strengthen our mission and manifest our core values:

- Commitment
- Integrity
- Vision
- Sustainability
- Compassion
- Success



# PROJECTS OVERVIEW

## PROJECT MODEL

ProWorld is a project driven organization. Our mission is to promote social and economic development in the communities in which we serve. This requires an earnest assessment of the needs of each community and the execution of well thought out, responsible projects.

A high level of community integration, a strong management team, and well organized paths of execution offer participants a great deal of safety, experience, and project responsibility.



## Outcomes

- Economic Development
- Social Development
- Environmental Conservation
- Empowered Communities

## RESEARCH, ASSESS & COLLABORATE

Projects are developed and selected based on needs defined by our host communities and the various project stakeholders. Projects are executed in collaboration with a cross section of the host community, with project ownership and overall leadership ultimately resting on the community members themselves.

Teams of ProWorld Project Coordinators work year round with our host communities assessing needs, thinking creatively, and setting long-term goals for sustainable development projects.

## PROJECT PLACEMENT

Participants are placed in projects based upon two main criteria: how they will most successfully contribute to their host community and the nature of their interests and skills.

Projects are assigned by Site Directors whose experience and onsite knowledge ensure placements that maximize each participant's skills and benefit for the community.

Development projects are constantly evolving and are unpredictable by nature. As a result, successful placements require an openness and flexibility on the part of every participant.

Creative thinking, adaptability, and persistence are skills essential to every ProWorld participant. Participants do not need extensive experience.



# PROWORLD SUSTAINABLE STUDY ABROAD



ProWorld Study Abroad programs have been uniquely positioned and committed to engaging in sustainable study abroad since 1998. We combine our year round sustainable development work with high level academics and authentic cross-cultural exchange.

As a result, we offer deep cultural and socio-economic insights to participants while also contributing tangibly to the improvement of our host communities.

## A partial list of the positive outcomes:

- Installed over **3,500 clean burning** stoves in rural Peruvian villages
- Treated over **3,200 patients** during 2 year clinical outreach program
- Constructed **12 elementary schools**
- Planted over **10,000 native plants** and trees threatened by extinction
- Built **2 centers** for displaced women and children
- Taught business classes and helped establish **eco-lodges and cooperatives**
- Installed **drinking water systems** and irrigation lines
- **Built new bathrooms** for 6 elementary schools
- **Tutored thousands of children** in small group and extra-curricular activities
- Provided **hope and opportunity** to tens of thousands

**2,100** = ProWorld Alumni

**362,000** = Volunteer Hours to Date

**\$4,200,000** = Total Community Capital Infusion

**Sustainable study abroad** is a greater challenge than doing no harm or just supporting the environment while engaging in study abroad. The 'sustainable' portion of sustainable study abroad should address the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of economic development, social development, and environmental protection within the communities in which it is based.



*“ProWorld taught invaluable lessons to our students and enabled them to become change agents within the context of a developing country.”*

- Mary Brabeck, Dean of NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

# SEMESTER ABROAD

## Culturally rich and community engaged study abroad programs

ProWorld Study Abroad Programs prepare students to be effective intercultural leaders, professionals, and global citizens. The semester is an immersive and comprehensive blend of academics and development work.

Students live with a local family or local students, take classes with local and international professors, work on a staff-supported project, and immerse themselves in the culture.

### ACADEMICS

ProWorld programs meet the high academic standards of participating colleges and universities and the expectations of parents and students. The ProWorld model is built around the experiential learning cycle.

ProWorld has partnerships with schools across the US and Canada. US based credits are available for all semester programs in the following disciplines:

- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Art
- Asian Studies
- Conservation
- Development Studies
- Ethnic Studies
- Geography
- History
- Latin American Studies
- Political Science
- Spanish & Foreign Languages

*Classroom Learning*

+

*Personal Exploration*

+

*Field Studies*

=

*Broader perspective  
of local culture and oneself*

### DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Sustainable development projects are a primary component of all ProWorld Study Abroad programs. Students engage in small to large scale projects depending on the needs of the host community. The community project provides practical and tangible material that enriches ongoing academic classes and the student's integration into the community.

**When:** Fall, Spring and Summer semesters

**Where:** All ProWorld locations

**Credits:** 6 - 16 credits per program

#### Study Abroad Program Components

- Community development projects
- Intensive language classes
- Homestay or group living
- Cultural and adventure activities
- Extensive staff support
- Academic credit & transcripts

*“My study abroad program with ProWorld was the most comprehensive and culturally engaging experience of my life.”*

- Rebecca Hutchison, ProWorld Semester Abroad

# INTERN ABROAD

## Matching skills of participants with community needs for sustainable development

ProWorld Intern Abroad Programs give you the opportunity to have an international internship that matches the needs of our host communities with your interests. The ProWorld programs provide a supportive and community engaged framework to align the internship experience with your learning and professional objectives.

### INTERNSHIP OPTIONS

You will work side-by-side with local people on sustainable development projects and experience culture like never before. Your immersion into the community through your project offers a deeper perspective of the culture, yourself and the global context of development work. Projects are assigned on a personalized basis through discussions between the ProWorld Site Director and the participant based on matching student skills with community needs in the following areas.

- Appropriate Technology
- Community Development
- Education
- Environment
- Fine Arts
- Health Care
- Journalism
- Micro Business
- Women's Rights
- Custom Projects

### IMMERSION AND SUPPORT

The ProWorld Internship Programs place participants in focused development projects run by ProWorld or one of our community partners. Interns may work alone or in small groups.

A designated ProWorld Project Coordinator guides each participant through the project planning, execution, and conclusion phases of his or her program. In addition, participants enjoy a highly flexible program structure which allows them to gradually increase their level of immersion.

**When:** Programs start every month of the year

**Length:** 2 - 26 weeks

**Where:** All ProWorld Sites

**Credits:** 3 - 9 credits available

### Intern Abroad Program Components

- Individual and small group projects
- Intensive language classes (optional)
- Homestay living
- Cultural and adventure activities
- Extensive staff support
- Academic credit available



*“The multifaceted nature of its program sets ProWorld apart from other organizations.”* - Leigh Pottinger, ProWorld Intern Abroad

# GROUP VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

## Group oriented project, living, and cultural immersion experience



*“I had the unique opportunity to completely engulf myself into a new culture while helping to contribute to sustainable development with the support from the ProWorld staff.”*

- Matt Delja, ProWorld Volunteer Abroad



ProWorld Group Programs offer individuals a balance of cultural interaction, service work, and a team experience. Participants join a team and a host community to work side-by-side on a focused development project.

Through collaboration and shared learning, members of your team work toward completing a group project. Participants need no prior experience or specific skills, only a desire to help the best they can. At the end of each program, participants observe and evaluate their impact on the lives of others.

The shared project is one of many ways that participants interact with our host community. Weekend trips to world famous archeological sites and adventure locations complement each participant's discovery of the local culture.

### PROJECTS

Group projects are often quite substantial in scope and some of the most needed by our host communities. All projects are selected based on the communities' internal assessment of needs. Past and future group projects include:

- School construction
- Cleaner burning stove installation
- Rural health outreach
- Environmental conservation
- Community development

### GROUP OPTIONS

Group programs range from tropical biology and environmental conservation to hands-on health care to education and construction. You can also create a custom program of your own with a group of 10 or more.

**When:** Programs throughout the year

**Length:** 1 - 5 weeks

**Where:** All ProWorld locations

**Credits:** Available for some programs

### Group Program Components

- Collaborative community projects
- Group living
- Cultural and adventure activities
- Extensive staff support

# FACULTY LED AND PRIVATE GROUP PROGRAMS

## Customized group oriented project, living, and adventure experience

### PARTNER WITH PROWORLD

ProWorld's onsite professor and staff teams let you focus on what your students will gain from the program while we handle project, academic and logistical support.

- Customized Academic Programs
- Faculty Led Group Trips
- University Specific Internships
- Field Research Programs

### CHOOSE YOUR PROJECT

Community development projects are at the heart of all ProWorld programs. ProWorld matches the skills and interests of each group with the appropriate community proposed project.

- Construction
- Health Care
- Education & Literacy
- Environmental Protection
- Micro Business
- Community Development

*ProWorld works closely with faculty, administrators and students throughout the program process.*

## Ready

### Select Site, Program Details and Dates

A ProWorld Program Advisor works with your school to determine all program details.

### Final Program Details

ProWorld works with community partners and onsite staff to produce a detailed program profile for administrative approval.

## Set

### Marketing, Recruitment and Site Visit

ProWorld provides extensive marketing support to the faculty and administration. ProWorld will coordinate and share costs of a visit to the program site by faculty.

### Pre-Program Preparation

Students prepare for the program through faculty led discussions, materials from ProWorld and conference call meetings with your program Site Director.



## Go!

### Orientation

ProWorld staff members greet students and faculty at the airport for an introduction to their program site and orientation.

### The Program

The ProWorld mission is realized through the collaborative work of staff, community and faculty leaders.

### Post Program

Community members and ProWorld staff follow up with students and faculty to reinforce relationships, build sustainability and begin planning for the next program.

### PROWORLD STAFF SUPPORT

A **ProWorld Executive Advisor** works directly with faculty and administrators throughout the entire program development process.

**ProWorld Administrators** provide logistical and program support.

**Onsite Program Directors** begin discussions and program specific support with faculty well in advance of your program start date.

A **team of ProWorld Staff** greet your group onsite and work with your group throughout your program.

# HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at [myproworld.org/apply](http://myproworld.org/apply)

## 1. Apply

Apply online or download, print and mail your application.

## 2. Evaluation and Confirmation

Upon acceptance we respond within 2 weeks with a complete welcome package and an introduction to your ProWorld Site Director or Project Coordinator.

## 3. Program Interview and Preparation

Your ProWorld Site Director or Project Coordinator contacts you 2-4 months before your departure to discuss additional details of your project and program. You submit all forms and payment before your program starts. We contact you just before your trip to answer any last minute questions.

## 4. Start Your Program

Travel to your program site to begin your orientation and program experience!

## 5. Alumni Network

Join a network of thousands of exceptional ProWorld Alumni.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Apply early to ensure your place with ProWorld.

## SCHOLARSHIPS, FINANCIAL AID, AND CREDITS

### Scholarships and Fundraising

ProWorld awards tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships and discounts every year. In addition, ProWorld can supply you with tools to help you fundraise or seek other scholarships to pay for your program. Find more information about ProWorld scholarships and fundraising at [myproworld.org/scholarships](http://myproworld.org/scholarships).

### Financial Aid

Financial aid may be used for both direct and indirect costs associated with study abroad. You must apply through your home institution to receive financial aid for ProWorld programs.

### Credits and Transcripts

All semester programs provide US credit. Semester students receive an official transcript and credits from the accrediting school upon successful completion of a ProWorld semester program. Credits are specific to the courses at each program site.

Internships are often accredited by a student's home university. Please, meet with your study abroad or academic advisor prior to the program to ensure credits transfer appropriately.



