

Nazareth University's Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies & Dialogue presents:

Global Citizenship Immersion: Building Skills and Knowledge for a Diverse World

a week-long program for high school students!

August 11th -15th, 2025

"I really got the chance to see face-to-face how other people viewed religions. By going to the GCI, I feel as if my perspectives were broadened."

--Rush-Henrietta High School Junior

The Global Citizenship Immersion (GCI) Program is a week-long course designed to provide high school students with first-hand exposure to world cultural and religious traditions. The objective is to prepare them as civically engaged citizens in a globalizing world. By attending seminars and discussions with Nazareth faculty and religious leaders, and through visiting local cultural and worship sites, students have the opportunity to build skills in interfaith dialogue and to deepen their understanding of the rich religious diversity found here in Western NY.

THE NEED: Despite their daily interactions with others in school or activities, many young people have little or no opportunity to truly engage their peers on the issues of religion or cultural traditions outside of their own communities. If we hope to foster a climate of mutual respect, we must engage our young citizens in cross-cultural and religious dialogue and experiences that demystifies and normalizes difference. This becomes even more critical for young people who are coming of age in a religiously pluralistic world that demands cross-cultural understanding for success.

****This is an excellent experience to include on those college resumés! ****

ACTIVITIES: The five-day program will run during the afternoons and early evenings. Daily activities include:

- Seminars
- Interactive Workshop Sessions
- Group Discussions
- Site visits to local places of worship
- Community Service
- Commencing dinner and Certificate Presentations
- Dinner and refreshments provided daily (representing a wide variety of cuisines)

The seminars and workshops are led by experts from the Nazareth faculty and community leaders on major world religions. These include Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism Zoroastrianism, Native faiths, and others. This academic introduction to world religious traditions emphasizes key principles, values, and practices within each tradition while drawing connections that promote interfaith dialogue and pluralistic understanding.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

1:00 Skill-Building Workshop: Conflict Resolution, Leadership, Interfaith Etiquette
2:30 Break with refreshments
2:40 Introduction to Buddhism
3:30 Interactive Group Activity: Reflection and Visions for the Future
4:30 Dinner
5:10 Depart for Rochester Zen Center
5:30 Worship Encounter: Rochester Zen Center
7:30 Parents pick up students from the site

PARTICIPANTS: Participants should be high school students between the ages of 14 and 18. Individuals from all faiths/no faith are welcome.

\$165.00 registration fee (need-based scholarships are available)

Registration is available online or in paper form on the following page.

Contact Information:

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**Global Citizenship Immersion:
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Registration: 25 seats are available, please respond soon or call the Hickey Center for registration

Name:

Age and Grade:

School:

Parent/Guardian's name and E-mail:

Student Phone Number:

Emergency Contact:

Religious Affiliation if applicable (optional):

Parent/Guardian Signature allowing participation in the program and for their child to be transported by an adult volunteer for program events:

Is a family member interested in assisting as an adult volunteer driver?
[If so, please provide their name and a contact number]:

What made you register for this program?

Food Allergies/Dietary Restrictions/Medications/Special Accommodations:

There is a \$165.00 Registration Fee*. Donations are also welcome. Please make checks payable to "Hickey Center, Nazareth University"

Mail check and completed registration to:
Hickey Center, Nazareth University
4245 East Ave
Rochester, NY 14618