

*Want to help others,
live in an exotic
and exciting place,
and get a
master's degree at
the same time?*



*"So, what do you want to do with
your life? When I graduated from
college, that was THE question. The
Peace Corps Master's International
program gave me the freedom
to define my own road in life,
helping me discover my talents, my
purpose, and myself."*

— Matt Stellbauer '05, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Here's How

Going to graduate school and pursuing service opportunities isn't an either/or proposition. In the Peace Corps Master's International (MI) program at Texas A&M University, you can combine Peace Corps service with a master's degree.

Studying abroad with the MI program can be a life-changing experience, both personally and intellectually. You'll gain academic enrichment, improved foreign language skills, a better understanding of other cultures, and more marketable skills for your future job search.

Established in 1987, the MI program is a national cooperative effort between colleges and universities and the Peace Corps. Our participation in the MI program builds on the College's many collaborations with research and education partners around the world and supports our goal of actively seeking an international presence for the College. It is an effective partnership—Texas A&M is listed among the Top 25 Peace Corps Colleges and Universities producing the most Peace Corps Volunteers.

It's Easy!

If you're studying for a master's degree in any department or in one of the interdisciplinary programs of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, you can integrate coursework and research with your Peace Corps service, with the approval of your major professor and department head. These graduate programs include but are not limited to the following majors:

- Entomology
- Agronomy
- Plant Breeding
- Poultry Science
- Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences
- Horticulture
- Animal Science
- Nutrition
- Food Science and Technology
- Biochemistry
- Genetics
- Agricultural Development
- Agricultural Education
- Agricultural Economics
- Plant Pathology
- Natural Resources Development
- Biological and Agricultural Engineering
- Rangeland Ecology and Management

How It Works

In the MI program, you'll work with your faculty advisor and committee, as well as the MI program coordinator, to plan a degree program that fulfills your career objectives and degree requirements while preparing for your Peace Corps service. Once you complete 24 credit hours at Texas A&M, you will be off to another country, fulfilling your 27-month commitment to the Peace Corps.

This is a great opportunity to receive on average 3 to 6 credit hours as research hours, internship hours, directed studies courses, or a combination of these, depending on your academic department and degree requirements—plus you'll have the research and independent study you complete in concert with the experiential learning of your Peace Corps service.

We will help you make the most of your time abroad. Your major professor and the MI program coordinator will help you coordinate research for a thesis or professional paper into your required Peace Corp service duties. No other courses are required during your field assignment, but you are welcome to take web-based or distance education courses if your workload or circumstances permit.

The College may pay for one on-site visit to your service location by your major professor to evaluate and provide guidance for your research program. Funding for such travel will be determined on a case-by-case basis and must be supported by your research/professional paper proposal.

At the end of your Peace Corps tour, you return to campus to complete any remaining credits for your degree plan, write a thesis or professional paper, and complete examinations.

How to Get Started

To become a part of the Peace Corps Master's International program at Texas A&M University, complete the following steps:

1. Apply and be accepted into a graduate program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
2. Apply and be approved for participation in Texas A&M's Peace Corps Master's International program.
3. Apply to the Peace Corps.

The Peace Corps Master's International Application is available on the College's international web page at AgLifeSciences.tamu.edu/international-programs/pcmi. Include the following materials with your application:

- A copy of your graduate school application
- Your resume
- Three letters of reference, one from an individual who has known you for at least three years and can attest to your adaptability

Applications should be submitted to Cathryn Clement, the MI coordinator in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Financial Aid

If you are accepted into the MI program, you will be eligible for all financial assistance available to others seeking a degree in your program, including graduate assistantships while you are on campus. You are responsible for seeking your own financial aid.



Ready to go?

Contact

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Photos courtesy of the Peace Corps.

Get ready to pack your bags for the experience of a lifetime!