

Peer Mentor and Activities Coordinator, Bard Summer Science Intensive (BSSI) 2019

The Bard Summer Science Intensive (BSSI) is a four-week intensive course for 12-14 students from Smolny College in St. Petersburg, Russia, in which participants explore an environmental topic from a scientific perspective in tandem with English instruction to support vocabulary and language development within the interdisciplinary theme.

The program aims to use the Hudson Valley as a living classroom in which participants learn about ecology, water resource management, and the environmental movement in the United States. Students will engage in hands-on activities such as water sampling, laboratory work, site visits, and stream walks and clean-ups. Experts will give guest lectures on a range of relevant topics (e.g., environmental advocacy, conservation, and sustainable practices in the agricultural and waste management sectors). Instructional field trips will be supplemented with opportunities to interact with local community members and groups. In addition, students will participate in popular outdoor activities utilizing the extensive park and trail networks throughout the area. The Institute for International Liberal Education (IILE) seeks 1-2 students to serve in a dual capacity as a Peer Mentor and Activities Coordinator, helping facilitate the program and provide educational and logistical support to the program and its participants.

Job Description

A Peer Mentor and Activities Coordinator has the following responsibilities:

- Organize and participate in excursions and be comfortable using authority when required
- Collaborate with other students and departments to create a comfortable and friendly environment for BSSI students
- Facilitate cross-cultural communication through active engagement with students
- Foster English language development skills through regular tutoring sessions
- Live on campus and assist with after hours emergencies as needed
- Additional administrative duties as needed

Evening and weekend hours are required. In addition to the above responsibilities, Peer Mentors must be a Bard driver (or willing to become one before the start of the program), must be comfortable driving Bard vans on highways, and must have a clean driving record. We are looking for student interns who are well organized, detail-oriented, comfortable with Bard resources, friendly, outgoing, have an interest in science and willing and able to encourage students to engage with each other. Please note that this position includes excursions to local parks and watersheds and candidates must be comfortable spending time outdoors.

Dates

Peer Mentor and Activities Coordinators must be available to begin work on Monday, July 15th in order to help prepare for the start of the program. Students should anticipate working 35 hours per week during July. The BSSI program begins August 1st and ends on August 29th, 2019.

Compensation

Each Peer Mentor and Activities Coordinator will receive a \$1,500 stipend in payment for their services during the BSSI program. In addition, they will receive accommodations in Bard dormitories and limited board for the duration of the 4-week program during the month of August. From July 15-31, Coordinators will be paid hourly at the standard student worker rate and are responsible for the cost of their own housing (on or off campus).

Application Requirements

Please submit the following materials to ssi@bard.edu:

- A cover letter illustrating your interest in the position and what skills and ideas you think you will bring as a peer mentor
- A resume with two references

Applications should be received no later than **Friday, April 12th**.