

FSU/DISNEY PROGRAM

Florida State University

Center for Global Engagement

Special Programs

FSU | FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

ABOUT US

Florida State University (FSU) offers two Special Programs in Hospitality Management and Intercultural Communication.

These programs are designed to help students gain valuable experience in the field of hospitality and develop cross-cultural skills and competencies through 12 credits of FSU coursework and six months of work-integrated learning at *Walt Disney World®* Resort.

Students spend 10 days on the beautiful FSU campus in Tallahassee, Florida, followed by a six-month internship at *Walt Disney World®* Resort as FSU students participating in Disney's Academic Exchange Program.





FSU ON-CAMPUS EXPERIENCE (10 DAYS)

ORIENTATION

Program orientation and preparation for living/studying in the U.S. while participating in Disney's Academic Exchange Program.

RAGANS HALL

Apartment-style residence hall with secure, controlled access, a convenient location, and live-in support from program staff.

ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Activities on campus to help introduce students to American culture and to make friends with other program participants.

PEER MENTORS

Specially-selected FSU students who provide ongoing support to participants during on-campus program.

INTENSIVE COURSE

- Managing Service Organizations (Hospitality students)
- Intercultural Communication (Intercultural Communication students)

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DISNEY ACADEMIC EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE (6 MONTHS)

LIVING

Live in Flamingo Crossings Village, a new state-of-the-art housing complex for Disney program participants. Transportation is provided.

LEARNING

Learn from FSU instructors through nine credits of FSU coursework. Monthly class sessions and online assignments.

EARNING

Earn $19 per hour working in one of the parks, resorts, or entertainment areas of *Walt Disney World®* Resort. Roles include attractions, merchandise, food/beverage, and other areas.



DISNEY HOUSING:
FLAMINGO CROSSINGS VILLAGE



New Modern Housing Complex for Disney Programs Participants

Fully Furnished Apartments

Fitness Center, Swimming Pool, Basketball/Volleyball Courts, Computer Lab

Close to Shopping and Restaurants







ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT TRACK

- Managing Service Organizations (3 credits)
- Applied Intercultural Communication (6 credits)
- Hospitality Management Internship (3 credits)

FOR STUDENTS MAJORING IN HOSPITALITY, BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND CLOSELY RELATED FIELDS

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION TRACK

- Intercultural Communication (3 credits)
- Applied Intercultural Communication (6 credits)
- Intercultural Communication Internship (3 credits)

FOR STUDENTS FROM OTHER MAJORS

FSU DETERMINES PROGRAM TRACK BASED ON STUDENT'S ACADEMIC MAJOR AT HOME UNIVERSITY AND TRACK AVAILABILITY.

LEARNING: MONTHLY FSU CLASS SESSIONS

FSU Program Staff travel to *Walt Disney World*® Resort each month to teach in-person FSU class sessions and ensure student well-being

Ongoing coursework online between monthly class sessions.

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EARNING: WORKING AT *WALT DISNEY WORLD®* RESORT

Students work approximately 30-37.5 hours per week in paid roles assigned by Disney International Recruiters.

“Role Rotation” provides two separate experiences in the Disney parks, resorts, and entertainment areas, with students working approximately 3 months in each of their two Disney roles.

EARNING: TYPICAL DISNEY ROLES

ATTRACTIONS

Cast members ensure our guests have safe, enjoyable experiences while visiting *Walt Disney World*® Resort. Roles include working at one or more “rides” or theater shows, park main entrance and strollers, and audience control, including during parades.

OTHERS

Lifeguard, character attendant, photography roles are sometimes available.

QUICK-SERVICE FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Cast members provide guests quality service and memorable dining experiences supporting more than 500 locations across *Walt Disney World*® Resort.

MERCHANDISE

Cast members in retail/sales areas create lasting memories by helping guests find the perfect mementos from their vacation in our various merchandise locations.





ELIGIBILITY

- 18 years of age or older
- In good academic standing
- Strong conversational English abilities
- Pursuing a degree program in an approved major at an FSU partner university for this program
- Enrolled in Winter/Spring term at home university or considered to be enrolled by home university during the program
- Returning to home university to complete degree, and some of the program credits will count toward graduation requirements
- Have not yet graduated and will not graduate before program end date
- Meet FSU's English Language Test Requirements for this program (one of the below):
  - IELTS: Overall score of 5.5 or higher, with at least 5.5 in both the speaking section and the listening section
  - iBT TOEFL: Old Scale overall score of 61 or higher, with at least 16 on the speaking section and 12 on the listening section; or New Scale overall score of 3.5 or higher, with at least 3 on the speaking section and at least 3.5 on the listening section.
  - Duolingo English Test: 100 or higher , have subscores of at least 100 in both speaking and listening
  - PTE Academic Test: Minimum overall score of 44, and scores of at least 47 on the speaking section and at least 44 on the listening section.
- Nominated through home university's internal application and interview process
- Pass oral interviews with both an FSU staff member and a Disney recruiter

PROGRAM DATES AND COSTS

HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

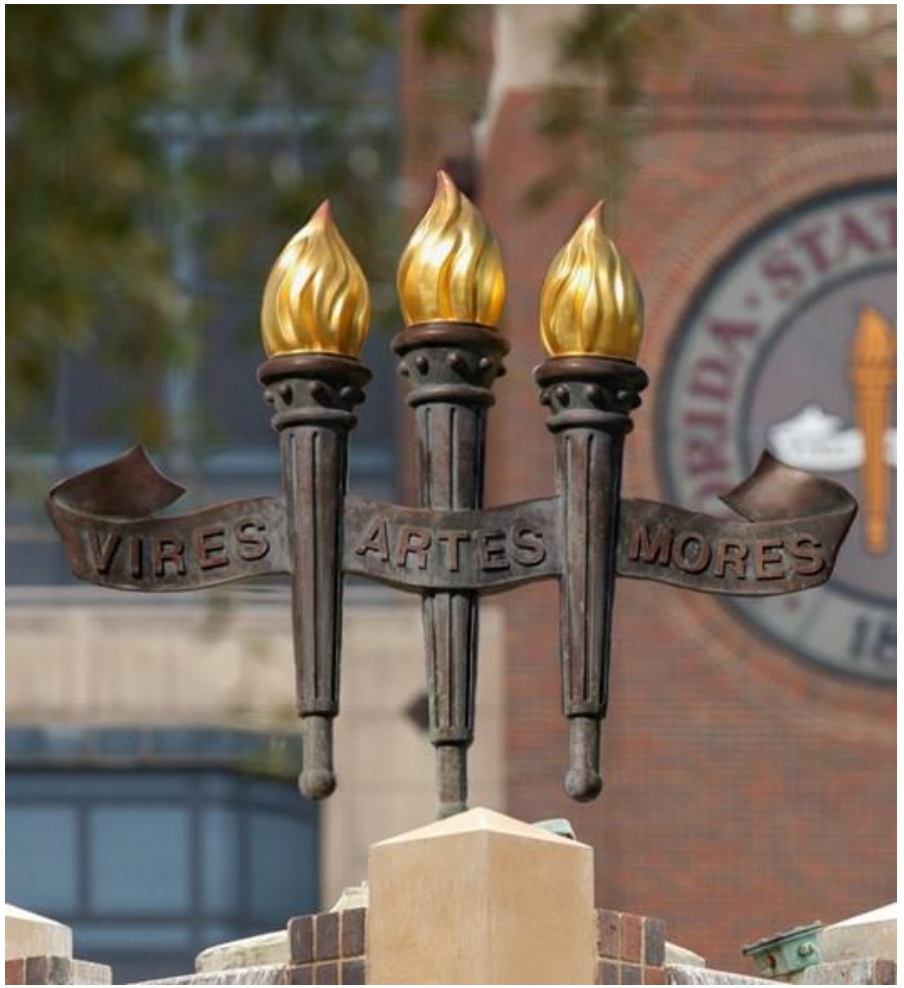
- FSU On-Campus Experience: June 26 - July 6, 2027
- Disney Academic Exchange: July 6, 2027 - Jan 6, 2028

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

- FSU On-Campus Experience: July 9 - 19, 2027
- Disney Academic Exchange: July 19, 2027 - Jan 13, 2028

FSU PROGRAM FEE: $5,000 USD

- 12 FSU Credits
- Instructional Materials for FSU Courses
- Room and Meals at FSU
- Group Pick-Up From Tallahassee Airport
- Transportation to Orlando from FSU
- Local Field Trip, Social and Cultural Activities
- Ongoing Support from FSU Staff





ADDITIONAL COSTS

- Round Trip Airfare to the U.S. (Tallahassee arrival)
- SEVIS (approx. $220), Visa Application Fees (approx. $185), and possible Visa Integrity Fee (approx. $250)
- Disney Program Participation Fee (approx. $474) and Housing Costs (approx. $234-$283 per week deducted from Disney paycheck)
- Required Compliant Health Insurance (approx. $400)
- Meals during Academic Training at *Walt Disney World*® Resort
- Personal Expenses

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STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Living in Disney World is like a dream. Working with a lot of foreigners made me intercultural open-minded person.

I loved talking with all the people around me, even the guests I interacted with. They all had different stories, and I learned so much from them. Not only I learned something about them, but also about myself.

The best opportunity is having great friends from many different countries and learning a lot about their culture.

I never thought I would ever come to Walt Disney World in my life and I would be able to work here.

I loved every moment I worked at Disney. It was nice to work with the coworkers and it was excited to meet new guests everyday.





HOW TO APPLY:

Department:

Name and Title:

Office Location:

Email Address:

Phone: