

## Environmental Leadership Experience in Michigan

### Program Description

A two week experiential program for Barry University and Siena Heights students to learn about sustainable agricultural ecosystems in Adrian, Michigan. Through the lens of environmental stewardship, the program will offer hands on activities at the Adrian Dominican Motherhouse Permaculture site, with service trips and day trips to local points of interest. Students selected to participate in this summer experience are expected to implement sustainability initiatives at their universities upon completion of the two week program.

**Trip Dates:** Saturday, May 13 – Sunday, May 28, 2017

**Trip Costs:** Travel, Housing and Meals are covered through the generosity of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, so there is no expense to students who are accepted to participate.

**Deposit:** A \$200.00 refundable deposit is required to hold your spot for the trip.

### Requirements:

- Minimum 3.0 grade point average
- Must be in good standing with the university (academic and conduct)
- Must have at least two semesters remaining at Barry
- Must attend 3 pre-trip meetings (not including information session)
- Must develop and complete a post-trip sustainability project at Barry during 2017-2018 academic year
- Must complete all application requirements by March 23, 2017

### Information Sessions:

Wednesday, March 15

11:00 am – Thompson Lounge

Thursday, March 16

6:00 pm – Thompson Lounge

**Application Deadline:** Thursday, March 23, 2017

**Application Essay Questions:** 250-300 words each – submitted online through the link below

1. Describe how you have implemented or engaged in environmental sustainability initiatives in the past.
2. Describe how you have demonstrated leadership skills and experiences in the past.
3. Describe what sustainability projects you would implement or engage in at Barry University during the 2017-2018 academic year.

**Application Deadline: Thursday, March 23, 2017**

To apply, visit [www.barry.edu/sustainability](http://www.barry.edu/sustainability)

Direct application link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7NLK7YT>

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### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **What will participants be doing during the Environmental Leadership Summer Experience?**

Participants will be joining Siena Heights University students in a collaborative experience to learn about permaculture, which is the development of agricultural ecosystems intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient. Curricular components include workshops, hands-on service, including working on the permaculture site at the Motherhouse, day trips to farms, greenhouses, and other sites that are engaging in environmental stewardship activities, and reflection on these experiences as they relate to oneself and others.

#### **Why is the program offered at no cost to Barry University students?**

Through the generosity of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and Siena Heights University, students are given this opportunity to learn more about the commitments of the Adrian Dominican sisters so that they can carry those commitments back to their universities and help that message to thrive, both in spirit and in practice.

#### **What is the \$200 refundable deposit?**

Selected participants will be expected to pay the deposit by Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. This is to ensure that students who sign up for the trip are committed to participating, so as to facilitate planning for the trip coordinators. Students will only receive the deposit refund when they arrive in Michigan. Students that do not go on the trip will not be refunded the deposit.

#### **What are the travel arrangements?**

Barry University will book roundtrip (where possible) flights to Michigan from the students' home airport. During the two weeks in Michigan, all ground transportation will be arranged. Students must arrange their own transportation between their own home and local airport.

#### **Are the information sessions mandatory?**

No, applicants are not required to attend an information session although they are strongly encouraged. The information sessions are an opportunity for students to learn more about the program and ask questions before submitting their application.

#### **What do I need to bring with me?**

This is both a service and a learning activity, including hard work outdoors. Students will be asked to bring clothing suitable for working outdoors, sturdy shoes, and a positive attitude!

#### **What is the post-trip sustainability project?**

All student participants are required to implement or engage in a sustainability project at Barry University during the 2017-2018 academic year. Students can create their own project based on their experience in Michigan or collaborate with an ongoing sustainability initiative at the university. Areas of interest may include recycling, energy and water conservation, composting, research, peer education, etc. Support will be provided by Barry's Ecological Sustainability Team (BEST), Center for Community Service Initiatives (CCSI), and the Office of Mission Engagement.

#### **Can students receive academic credit or service learning hours for participating in this experience?**

Please let us know if you are interested in learning more about receiving academic credit or service learning hours for your participation. These may be an option depending on your program of study and remaining academic major requirements.