Trek Student Leader position description

Role overview

Trek Student Leaders work closely with program staff and community partners to facilitate student learning and community building within the Trek Program – supporting Trek students to develop deeper self-awareness, citizenship, and critical thinking. Read more about the Trek Program.

Organizational Relationship

Trek Student Leaders provide peer-to-peer learning support for 150+ students in the Trek Program through workshop facilitation, program events and other activities.

Trek Student Leaders will be directly supported by the Student Engagement Coordinator at the Centre for Community Engaged Learning.

Primary Functions

Engage in Personal and Professional Skill Development

Trek Student Leaders develop competencies in the areas pertinent to role, including:

- Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)
- Experiential Education
- Ethical Community Engagement
- Systemic Analysis of Community Challenges
- Team Facilitation and Support

Provide intentional and effective support for Trek students to learn from and succeed in their community placements:

- Bringing a strong student perspective to the Trek Program
- Staffing booths at campus events
• Facilitating info sessions and orientation workshops for incoming Trek students
• Planning and facilitating community building events (e.g. community dinners, career panels, social events, guest speakers, end-of-program events)
• Facilitating workshops on Ethical Community Engagement and Root Cause Analysis
• Promoting on-campus resources that may benefit Trek students (e.g. wellness, coaching, mentorship)

Role model outstanding student leadership on campus

• Embrace the role as an ambassador for inclusive student leadership on campus and in the many communities we work with
• Contribute to an environment at UBC that is dedicated to equity and mutual respect.

Participate in a broader community of student leadership

• One or two senior student leaders will represent our team as a Peer Programs Ambassador. This role connects with senior student leaders in other programs to create recognition and a sense of community for all Peer Programs students.
• Students will join this team at the discretion of the supervisor

Time commitments

Important Dates

• Spring Welcome – March 24, 2018 (full day, on campus)
• Trek and Reading Week Student Leader Training and Orientation – April 26 and 27, 2018 (full day, off campus)
• Fall Training – September 2nd, 2018 (full day, on campus)

Regular Meetings

Student leaders must be available without classes or other activities for weekly meetings on Tuesdays from 5pm-6:30pm

• Term 1: first meeting September 11th, last meeting November 29th
• Term 2: first meeting January 3rd, last meeting April 4th
Weekly Commitment

In addition to regular meetings, commit to an average of 5 hours a week from September to March. Hours will vary depending on program schedule. Hours will be reduced during final exams.

- Help plan and facilitate a minimum of two program events each term, based on your schedule, strengths, and learning goals. Program events include:
  - Information sessions and booths in September
  - Trek pre-program orientation workshops
  - Trek community dinners in term 1 and term 2
  - Trek workshops in term 1 and term 2
  - Other program events (e.g. career panels, social events, year-end presentations)
- Take part in your own experiential learning through a community placement and critical reflection
- An individual check-in with a program advisor once each term (based on your availability)

Desired skills and experience

- Be a UBC student in good standing
- Demonstrated commitment to the program and ability to attend all events and meetings
- Preference will be given to students who have successfully completed the Trek Program and are committed to continuing their Trek placement for 2018-2019.

Strong applicants will also possess all or some of the following qualifications:

- Previous or equivalent experience in community-based experiential learning (e.g. Trek, Reading Week Projects, community service learning as part of a course, International Service Learning, or similar programs)
• The ability to work independently and collaboratively as a part of a diverse team
• Outstanding interpersonal and intercultural communication skills
• Enthusiasm and experience with group or team leadership with university students
• Excellent organizational skills: ability to prioritize, multi-task, and meet deadlines
• High level of self-awareness and commitment to ongoing learning
• Ability to take initiative

Benefits of participating in this role

Develop a specific set of professional competencies

• Enhance leadership skills in the areas of communication, team-building, relationship building, intercultural awareness, and networking.
• Gain tangible skills in facilitation, event planning, project management, professional communication, and public speaking.
• Develop competencies in experiential education, ethical community engagement, asset-based community development (ABCD), program development, and self-directed learning

Receive sponsorship to professional development opportunities

• UBC Student Leadership Conference (January 2019)
• Other local workshops or events that are relevant to the role

Increased opportunity for on-campus and community networking

• Opportunities to connect and network with local community organizations and non-profit professionals
• Be a part of the broader Peer Programs Network, which engages both within and beyond the UBC campus community in support of and service to others.

Contact information for questions