Caribbean House

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OVERVIEW

The Caribbean House will be a phenomenal experience for everyone, not just the students in the program, but for the students on campus. Our main goal is to educate everyone about the Caribbean culture and demonstrate the beautiful lifestyle that we try to live everyday. There is already a foundation to work from. For example, there is an event that Caribbean house has been doing for a few years now and it’s Carnival. Carnival is an event that showcases the life of the Caribbean’s and gives everyone a sense of the life that we live.

The reason we want to not only teach the Program about the Caribbean culture but the UVM community in general is because as a whole, this a campus lacks the knowledge of our culture and there are a lot of misconceptions. We have a responsibility to teach everyone right from wrong and show the community that we have a beautiful culture and needs to be recognized by everyone, not just people that live in the house.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning Objective #1

Give the community a sense of comfort that we are not disclosed to only the students in the program.

Action Steps:
- The first step to giving the community a sense of comfort and openness is the first event we plan on accomplishing: an open suite night. We will have our doors open with welcoming hands to give everyone the comfort that they should have when it comes to our program. We plan on having food, music, and other activities set up that would demonstrate our culture and give everyone a sense of
what we are about as a program. We believe that this would be a good first step forward to begin the year.

Learning Objective #2

Everyone will get to learn about each other’s culture because the Caribbean isn’t just one culture.

Action Steps:

- We plan on having a dinner with each other to get to know each other. It is important for us to establish this comfort with one another because that’s the reason we have this program to begin with. We are on a campus where there aren’t a lot of Caribbean people and to be able to live in a house like this is very special. After the dinner, which will be early in the semester because we will be new to each other, the next thing we plan on having is a culture night. We will have each person make a presentation about their culture so we can all gain knowledge of each other’s life.

Learning Objective #3

Teach the community about the history of the Caribbean’s and the origins that we came from.

Action Steps:

- We feel that the Living/Learning Fireplace Lounge is an amazing resource to have events for the entire Living and Learning community. We will use the lounge to our advantage as much as possible, hosting events, such as Wednesday Night Gatherings and Caribbean speaking events, to teach the community about our culture.

About the Global Village

This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:

- Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
• Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”
• Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
• Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
• “Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: http://www.uvm.edu/globalvillage

**GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar**

GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar is a largely self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village Residential Learning Community. All new Global Village residents must enroll in GRS 025 for one credit during the fall semester or spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme. We’ll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

We’ll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in Common Hours and the educational events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester or spring semester.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: http://www.uvm.edu/~gvr1c/?Page=passport/passport.html&SM=passport/sub-menu.html