



International Peer Mentors International Student Advisory Council Focus Group



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Program Goals

- Match incoming international students with American and international peers
- Help international students adjust to life in the United States
- Expose new international students to available campus resources
- Foster relationships among peers from different cultures
- Increase international student retention



Icebreaker

Hello in Different Languages



[Breaking down stereotypes](#)

Program Structure

1 Mentor : 3-5 Mentees

Students to be matched based on

- Enrollment Status
- Gender
- Hobbies/Special Interests
- Languages Spoken
- Religious Preference



Time Commitment

- 1-year (2 long semesters)
- 10 hours/month or 2.5 hours/week
- Pre-arrival contact via Canvas/Email/Social



Additional Requirements

- Access Mentor Training
- 2 Mentor Mixers/semester
- Welcome Party at start of Fall and Spring semesters
- Thanksgiving Dinner with Student Affairs
- 2 UNT International cultural programs/month
- Log volunteer hours



Program Benefits

- Enhance leadership and mentoring skills
- Build confidence, language skills
- Develop interpersonal and intercultural skills
- Explore cultural differences and similarities



Things to Consider

- Understand unique challenges that international students face
 - Culture shock
 - Acculturative stress
 - Family expectations & pressure
- Take time to read about mentee's country of origin and basic cultural norms

[Mental Health Awareness for International Students](#)



Cultural Sensitivity

- Being aware of cultural differences and similarities (and not assigning these differences and similarities value)
- Being aware that cultural differences and similarities exist and affect our values, learning, and behavior
- Possessing skills that allow you to learn about and understand people who come from different cultural backgrounds than your own



Your Impact

- [How you can help international students](#)
- Aid in transition to campus
- Help with language skills
- Learn local and national cultural traditions and norms



International Student Advisory Council

Mentors are invited to sit on the International Student Advisory Council.

Goals

- Guide program planning and events for the campus community
- Provide opportunities for leadership and professional development



Council Requirements

Mentor requirements plus:



- One Council meeting/semester
- Serve on a subcommittee
 - Student Org Program Funding
 - Program Presenter Selection
 - Campus Outreach
 - Meetings TBD



THANK YOU!

Questions and
Suggestions

