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Study Abroad & Outreach
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455-1390

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A Program for High School Students

Meditating on the Mississippi: An Environmental Exploration of the River

July 6-10, 2015

A College Preparatory Program in English, Math, and Science



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General Information

REGISTRATION: Enrollment is limited to 24 students, so please register early. The registration fee is \$295 and includes instruction, laboratory supplies, and lunch. Parents who wish to use a **Payment Plan** may send a \$50 deposit at the time of registration, up to 60 days before the program start date. Fifty percent of the registration fee is due at 60 days prior to the program, and full payment is due 30 days before the start of the program.

Register online or mail the attached registration form with check (made payable to **Western Illinois University**) or credit card information to **Study Abroad & Outreach, Horrabin Hall 8, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390**. You may fax your registration with credit card information to **(309) 298-2854**. Please duplicate the registration form for additional registrations or register online at wiu.edu/summeryouth.

LOCATION: This weeklong program, which will be based on the new Western Illinois University–Quad Cities campus, will be offered to local commuter students. Instructional portions take place at WIU-QC and at various community locations. Program instruction includes telescope viewings as well as field trips to Lock & Dam 15 and the Nahant Marsh, the largest urban watershed in the world. All students are supervised by WIU faculty

and program staff throughout the program day to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

MEDICAL/ADA COMPLIANCE: Students do not qualify for University health care, so parents should check family insurance policies for health and accident coverage. Western is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Please let Study Abroad & Outreach know how we can accommodate any special needs students may have at least two weeks prior to the program start date. Our office number is **(309) 298-1911**, and the toll-free phone number is **(866) 933-8964**.

REFUND POLICY: Western Illinois University reserves the right to withdraw a program because of unforeseen circumstances or insufficient enrollment. If a program is withdrawn, participants are notified and fees are refunded. A \$50 fee is charged to participants who cancel after Friday, June 19, 2015. **No refunds will be made on or after Wednesday, July 1, 2015.**

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information, call the Study Abroad & Outreach Office at **(309) 298-1911** or toll free at **(866) 933-8964**.

Meditating on the Mississippi

The Program

College ready is a term used by many to describe the ability of students to tackle college-level, credit-bearing coursework. Although many students take college preparatory courses in high school, some find themselves struggling with English composition, college-level math, and science. Students who successfully transition to college possess key cognitive strategies, background on key content areas, key academic behaviors, and contextual skills and awareness. They have strong foundations in English, math, science, and social studies and are able to write, problem solve, measure, and accurately interpret information. They are organized, possess strong study skills, and can work within the parameters of a group.

Using the exploration of our local region, this program is designed for students who intend to enroll in a college or university after graduation. It is structured to assist students in gauging their college readiness as well as to address key resources and skills to aid in college-level success. **Meditating on the Mississippi** will challenge students to measure and interpret information, synthesize it, work together, and write about their findings and their experiences. University biologists, physicists, and professors will instruct in English, math, biology, and physics with the assistance of University support staff who will present on writing, tutoring, and college readiness.

Program content includes an introduction to the Upper Mississippi River to examine the world's third largest watershed. Participants will learn about using maps, photos, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). They will analyze spatial information, edit data in maps, and interpret the results. During the program, participants will also examine the living organisms of the area—plants, animals, fish, turtles, and invertebrates—in a hands-on learning atmosphere. They will take field trips to Nahant Marsh (the largest urban watershed) and Lock & Dam 15 to examine population dynamics, probability, and water quality issues in the process. In addition, they will spend time with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to examine the structural components of the lock and dam system and learn how the dam affects the surrounding environment. Participants will also spend time in astronomical observation and use statistics, geometry, and trigonometry to map our area and the sky above us. And lastly, participants will take the information they have gathered within the program and translate it into coherent, logical, college-level writing.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, and veteran status.

For more information about Meditating on the Mississippi, check us out on the Web at wiu.edu/summeryouth.

Registration – Meditating on the Mississippi, July 6-10, 2015

Student Name _____		
Address _____		
City/State/Zip Code _____		
Phone Number (include area code) _____		
E-Mail _____	Gender _____	
Age _____	January 2015 Grade _____	Adult T-Shirt Size _____
How did you hear about the program? _____		

Participation Criteria

Completion of at least one year of high school by summer 2015 is required of all participants. We recommend that students come to the program with one year of algebra and some geometry as well. Although gifted status or minimum qualifying scores on standardized tests are not requirements; this is not a remedial program. Participants should have sufficient curiosity, motivation, achievement level, and maturity to benefit from the program. Students must be recommended for the program by a teacher or school administrator as indicated on the registration form. A follow-up e-mail/phone call to the recommender may be used to verify the student's suitability for the program. A recommendation to the program does not guarantee acceptance. Enrollment is limited to 24 students, so please register early.

Special Features

Faculty from WIU's Institute for Environmental Studies and Departments of Biological Sciences, English, and Physics coordinate the instructional portion of the program and are available throughout the week for group and individual discussions. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District Headquarters will provide a tour of Lock & Dam 15, hands-on activities on environmental restoration with Corps Park Rangers, and other activities.

Participants will experience WIU-QC's classrooms, laboratories, and nearby community resources as part of the program. The new WIU-QC campus uses a geothermal heating and cooling system, energy-efficient lighting and controls, recycled building materials and finishes, and a vegetative roof system as part of its commitment to sustainability.

Sponsors

Western Illinois University
School of Distance Learning, International Studies, and Outreach
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences
Department of English and Journalism
Department of Physics
Institute for Environmental Studies
River Action
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Parent or Guardian

1. I attest that this student is sufficiently mature to benefit from this program and to observe program rules.
2. I understand and accept all program policies and conditions as set forth in this brochure.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Parent or Guardian Name (printed) _____

This student meets the participation requirements for **Meditating on the Mississippi** program.
I hereby recommend the student for acceptance.

Teacher or School Administrator

Student's Cumulative GPA (unweighted) _____ GPA (weighted) _____

Teacher or School Administrator Signature _____

Teacher or School Administrator Name (printed) _____

Title _____ School/City/State _____

Phone Number (include area code) _____ E-Mail _____

You may also register online by visiting wiu.edu/summeryouth.

Please make check in the amount of \$295 payable to **Western Illinois University** or pay by credit card:

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ CV Code (3 digits) _____

Authorized Signature _____