

FAQs

# LEARNING ACROSS AMERICA

## TRAVEL + EDUCATION FOR AU PAIRS

### **What is the difference between Learning Local and Learning Express courses?**

We offer two ways to fulfill your educational requirement:

- The [Learning Local](#) program allows you to attend class locally and then participate in a Cultural Hi-Ways tour to the destination you're studying. In choosing this option, you have the entire tour weekend to explore the destination.
- The [Learning Express](#) program allows you to study, explore and earn your educational credits in the same long weekend.

### **How much credit will I earn?**

- Most of our [Learning Local](#) classes are **40 hours / 4.0 CEU** for successful completion of a course. However, sometimes **32 hour / 3.2 CEU classes** are available. Most of our [Learning Express](#) classes are **36 hour / 3.6 CEU**,

and we do offer a **72 hour/7.2 CEU** class as well. Be sure to check your individual course.

- Credit policy: In order to obtain credit for 40 hours or 4.0 CEU participants must attend all classes and the tour, and complete all the homework. Students must be certain before they register that they can attend all the classes and go on the tour.

### **When do I attend class?**

[Learning Local](#) classes generally take place on two or three weekend days, Saturdays or Sundays, often spread out over 1-3 weeks, with a break before the travel portion of the class. [Learning Express](#) courses generally take place over 3-4 weekend days, often Friday–Sunday. Check your individual course for details on class times and dates.

### **But I don't live in New York City – can I attend class?**

Yes! You can attend [Learning Local](#) classes for Learning Across America in many cities.

- [Classes in Chicago](#)
- [Classes in Connecticut](#)
- [Classes in New Jersey](#)
- [Classes in New York City](#)
- [Classes in Philadelphia](#)
- [Classes in San Francisco](#)
- [Classes in Washington, DC](#)

Our [Learning Express](#) program also offers options for students who don't live near our satellite campuses. This program offers students who don't live

near one of our campus locations the opportunity to travel to an American city and take classes while staying there. Each day students will learn in the classroom and onsite at local attractions.

### **I would love to go to Canada. Do I need a visa to travel to Montreal or Niagara Falls?**

- You can find out whether you need a visa from the Canadian Consulate website. It may take TWO MONTHS OR MORE for the Canadian authorities to process your application. Students traveling to Niagara Falls who need a visa should plan to stay on the United States side of the border in case their visa does not come in time. Credit hours are not affected by staying on the U.S. side of the border.
- Montreal students do not have the option of staying on the U.S. side of the border. If a Montreal student does not receive her visa in time for the tour, she will not be entitled to any refund either from BMCC or Cultural Hi-Ways.

### **I'd like to know more about the travel portion of the class.**

Learning Across America partners with Cultural Hi-Ways to conduct your tours. For details of your travel itinerary visit [www.chiways.net](http://www.chiways.net).

### **What if my plans change before my course starts?**

Our refund policy is simple and straightforward. 100% before classes start; 50% after the first class; 0% after the second class. Email [learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu) if you need to withdraw from class or transfer to a different section. Please note that the refund policy for the summer **Learning Express** program is necessarily different. The refund policy for those classes is in the individual course description.

## **Can I request or change my roommate for the tour?**

Yes. You need to contact Cultural Hi-Ways:

- by phone at 1-800-979-1872
- by email at [info@chiways.net](mailto:info@chiways.net)

## **Can I change my bus pick up or drop off location?**

Yes, but we may not be able to accommodate you if it is too close to your tour date. Contact Cultural Hi-Ways:

- by phone at 1-800-979-1872
- by email at [info@chiways.net](mailto:info@chiways.net)

## **What do I need to register?**

You will need to fill out a profile on the registration site and a credit card to pay for the class. We do not currently have a partial payment plan.

## **How can I get my paperwork filled out?**

In order to get your agency or government paperwork, send it to [learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu). (Your teacher cannot fill out your paperwork.) We will fill out:

- Forms from your au pair agency to prove you have finished your course
- Kindergeld forms in English.

You will get all these back in the envelope with your Certificate of Completion at the end of your course, usually on the bus returning from your tour.

## **Can I get a BMCC student ID for my Learning Across America class?**

BMCC does not provide student IDs for Learning Across America students because of the limited time on campus. IDs simply would not be ready before you finished your course. Most student discounts are available if you present your enrollment email or receipt. If you have trouble accessing your

receipt online, please email [learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu) to request one.

**More questions?**

Email [learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:learningacrossamerica@bmcc.cuny.edu) or call (646) 204-6865.