

# The City of Chicago



Chicago is the third largest city in the United States, with a population of nearly three million people. Of-

ten referred to as “the city of neighborhoods” (over 200) its home to dozens of cultural institutions, historical sites and museums. In addition, Chi-cago is home to:

- 7 square miles of land
- ore than 200 theaters
- early 200 art galleries
- ore than 7,300 restaurants
- miles of bathing beaches
- miles of lakefront bicycle paths
- 2 parks

Chicago is a culturally rich and diverse city, with a large activist community, and community organizers always striving for greater equality.

The city has recently become a national leader in the urban green movement through the adoption of green building and business practices among other groundbreaking initia-tives.



## JUSTICE IN THE URBAN CONTEXT



## Course Description

The ICA offers two separate service learning curricula, a six week and three week intensive service learning course.

For students seeking credit, the three week course translates to three academic credit hours, and the six week six credits. The program is also open to non-credit seeking students. Students' time will be segmented into academic work, community action projects, and life in an intentional community.

Students will learn to view the world around them through several different lenses. Using the City of Chicago as their classroom, students will learn tools that allow them to approach social justice issues from a systems viewpoint. Through an action-reflection pedagogical approach students will come to understand their place and potential within the system.

Both programs emphasize leadership development and aim to enhance the conceptual and practical tools needed to participate in the social transitions of our time. Students will learn methods for creatively connecting higher education to ongoing efforts of local community organizations. Both programs will be most beneficial to third year and beyond students.

More information can be found at [www.ica-usa.org](http://www.ica-usa.org)

## Living

Participants will experience an intentional learning community that is both challenging and supportive, and demonstrates the dynamics of mutual responsibility and accountability. Students will experience and reflect on the challenging balance of individual growth and creativity in the context of community life.



Students will mainly live in a single person bedroom, and will have shared common space, bathroom, and kitchen areas. More information about housing can be found at [www.ica-usa.org](http://www.ica-usa.org).

## Program Costs

There is a room and board fee of \$945.00, and a \$1,500 program fee for the 3 week intensive. The six week course costs \$1890.00 for room and board as well as 2,500 for the program fee. ICA is willing to work with students and institutions to create a reasonable financial model for all parties.

## The Institute of Cultural Affairs



The Institute of Cultural Affairs in the U.S.A. (ICA -USA) is a non-profit social

change organization that promotes positive change in communities, organizations and individual lives.

The organization has been working on community based social change efforts in both Chicago and around the world for nearly 50 years, and is currently running several community development projects.

The ICA is located in the historically-rich neighborhood of Uptown, on the north side of Chicago. Located amidst several entertainment venues, great restaurants, and just minutes from the lake, Uptown is home of a diverse array of cultures and people.



