

Stanford | Pre-Collegiate International Institutes

2 Weeks at Stanford • Grades 9–11



American College Experience

Participants get a taste of what life is like for Stanford undergraduates. All participants immerse themselves in the campus environment: living in undergraduate residences, eating in the dining halls, and attending workshops taught by expert instructors within Stanford's classrooms.



Welcoming Campus Friendly Staff

From the minute we arrived on campus, we were greeted with such overwhelming warmth and hospitality, our students and Chaperones felt instantly at home.

—Chaperone
Scotch College, Australia

Living at Stanford

In order to build community in the dormitories, all participants will room with at least one roommate. The dormitories are co-ed, but boys and girls will be housed on separate floors or separate areas of the dormitories. Though there will be groups from other countries participating in the program at the same time, we will strive to place each group within a single dormitory.

All rooms are equipped with window coverings and furnished with an extra-long twin bed, desk and chair, bookcase, dresser, and wardrobe for each participant. Dormitories typically have their own lounge, computer cluster, laundry facility, and common area. In addition, wireless connectivity is available.

Dining Halls & Meals

Participants eat in Stanford cafeteria-style dining halls, which serve a range of healthy options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The dining halls provide vegetarian and vegan options at every meal, and special dietary needs (such as halal or gluten-free meals) can be accommodated. Mid-afternoon snacks are served daily at the residences. Special catered dinners are typically provided once per week.

First-Rate Residential Staff

A trained and talented staff live in residence and help create a safe, warm, and inviting residential community. Residential Counselors are selected from Stanford and other top U.S. universities, and will structure the residential programming and help facilitate the Global Solutions Project.

Residential Staff are assisted by Chaperones from the collaborating organization. In particular, Chaperones are expected to help enforce rules, and tend to a wide range of participants' needs during the program. For example, Chaperones will support participants who become sick or who have problems with cultural adjustment. Chaperones also provide a communication channel for parents, keeping them well informed throughout the session.



100%
Of Participants
Live On Campus



550+
Participants



20+
Countries
Represented



Grades
9-11

Bringing the World to Stanford

Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes offers an exciting opportunity for schools and organizations from around the world to bring academically talented high school students to Stanford University for an engaging educational and multicultural experience.



Workshop Highlight

Visual Design Thinking

In this highly rated workshop, participants develop creative confidence using a human-centric process of guided innovation.

This workshop is taught by a lecturer in Stanford's Mechanical Engineering Department.

Program Overview

Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes provides motivated pre-college students an extraordinary American college-life experience. The intellectually challenging program encourages participants to develop skills in problem solving, collaborative work, and critical and creative thinking. By attending daily workshops on multiple topics, participants have the opportunity to expand their horizons. In addition to coursework, this program places an emphasis on building a global community through academic activities like the multinational, team-based Global Solutions Project and the fun-filled Multicultural Exhibition where participants share their culture and history.

Expert Instructors

Our instructors bring their particular area of expertise to each workshop, providing participants with insight into a variety of academic and professional fields. Instructors' academic qualifications typically include graduate degrees and post-graduate programs at Stanford or other top universities, or entrepreneurial experience in Silicon Valley. They are carefully selected for their interests and abilities in working with academically talented high school age students.



Innovative Curriculum

Our innovative curriculum emphasizes course topics that are not typically seen in high school. Participants attend half day workshops and will be introduced to 12–14 topics over the two-week program, allowing them to discover new passions and interests.

Our workshops are exploratory in nature and are taught in a seminar-style setting with an emphasis on participation, interaction, and communication. Each group is assigned a workshop schedule featuring a balanced set of topics.

Sample Workshop Offerings

Core: Design Thinking, English Writing, Leadership, Presentation Skills

Humanities: Business & Entrepreneurship, International Relations, Legal Studies, Social Innovation

Math & Science: Bioscience Exploration, Mathematical Logic & Problem Solving, Neuroscience, Robotics

  Average Class Size **15**

Learning Through Diversity

The Multicultural Exhibition is a highlight of Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes. This evening festival is an incredible opportunity for participants to interact with peers from around the world, learn about other cultures, and create lifelong bonds.



Multicultural Exhibition

Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes invites participants to share elements of their country and heritage through an exhibition-style event that engages others in their cultural history. Each country creates a booth with music, food, informational posters, or souvenirs that express their heritage. The Multicultural Exhibition provides an exciting experience to explore the world without ever leaving the Stanford campus.

Participants experience the cultures of participating countries simply by exploring the various booths. This is an integral part of helping participants feel welcome while creating social connections from which emerge a greater, more understanding global community.

Cross-Cultural Engagement

- ✓ **Music:** play a traditional instrument or sing the national anthem as a group.
- ✓ **Dance:** perform a dance, wearing traditional dress.
- ✓ **Visual Arts:** lead a demonstration of calligraphy, origami, or other cultural arts practices.
- ✓ **Storytelling:** tell a legend or act out a play.
- ✓ **Global Cuisine:** share candies or treats from your country.

Life Outside the Classroom

In addition to their rigorous course load, participants will learn through a series of fields trips and hands-on projects and events. By working in groups in and out of the classroom, participants will expand their cross-cultural communication skills and become engaged global citizens.

Global Solutions Project

The capstone project is to design a new country, physically defined as a large island, using design thinking methodology, while working in a team with participants from several countries. By working in multinational groups, participants will exercise their communication and critical thinking skills as they tackle international issues. Through this project, participants learn about diversity among global communities, explore key global problems, and brainstorm and define potential solutions. The team presents their solutions together at the end of the program.

This project also provides an opportunity for participants to practice core values that are essential for global citizenship, including:

- ✓ **Integrity:** following your ethical convictions and doing the right thing.
- ✓ **Respect:** feeling or showing esteem or honor for someone else.
- ✓ **Inclusion:** inviting others into a group and being made to feel a part of it.
- ✓ **Scholarship:** pursuing knowledge and achieving excellence in a subject.
- ✓ **Exploration:** traveling into an unfamiliar area in order to learn more about it and trying new things without fear of failure.



Global Focus

International Community

My favorite part of the program included the college experience, informative classes, and the opportunity to meet people from places I've never heard of.

—Participant
Navajo Nation, 2016



Social Activities

The daily program includes outdoor recreational activities that offer participants the opportunity to exercise, socialize, make friends, and have fun.

Activities are designed for a variety of participant interests, with everything from arts and crafts to sports and local excursions. Evening and weekend activities include a dance, a campfire night, the Multicultural Exhibition, and a variety of other special evening events organized by the dedicated team of Residential Counselors.

Field Trips

Weekend excursions take participants to points of cultural, historical, or recreational interest in the San Francisco Bay Area. Transportation, lunch, and entrance fees are included for all participants and Chaperones.

Past field trips include: the Computer History Museum, a San Francisco Giants game, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the California Academy of Sciences, and a San Francisco bus tour.

Stanford University

Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes
Academy Hall
415 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

What Our Participants Are Saying

"I liked it because I met new people. I got to experience university life in a top university. I really liked some of the lessons like 'Thinking Like a Leader,' 'The Mock Trial,' and even 'Problem Solving.'"

"I believe that U.S. college life is really unique in the fact that it creates a strong sense of community within the students, and the program was able to mimic that sense perfectly."

"I loved everything that we did in the program, but my favorite parts are that I met a lot of awesome people from all around the world and that I made a lot of friends which are like family now."

Countries We Have Hosted

Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Navajo Nation, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom

Collaborate With Us

Each year, Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes works with educational organizations from around the world who select top students for our programs. Schools and organizers select students for the program based on a number of criteria set forth by Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes staff, which are outlined below. Organizers are also responsible for providing Chaperones and helping arrange travel to campus.

Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes requires organizers to send one or more Chaperones with their group of participants. Chaperones accompany participants on the journey to Stanford University and assist Stanford Pre-Collegiate International Institutes residential staff in the supervision of the participants.

Student Selection Criteria

- U.S. Grades 9–11 (Ages 14–17)
- Top grades or ranking in school
- Teacher recommendations
- Motivational essay or interview

Connect With Us

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