



**YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING**  
**Intercultural Exchange Programs**



*learn about YFU's*  
**Community  
College Program**









## YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs

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# WHAT IS YFU?

Youth For Understanding (YFU) offers you the journey of a lifetime, an adventure that allows you to discover the best in yourself and your family, forge lifelong connections and change the way you see the world.

While it is true all travel broadens perspective and exposes the traveler to new experiences, YFU's programs transform who you are and permanently change the way you see the world. At its core, *YFU is a catalyst for positive global change*. Students of all ages experience tremendous personal growth and at the same time, the impressions made by the students themselves, as well as the broadened perspectives of host families, ripple through schools and across entire communities.

YFU's distinctive brand of cultural exchange **opens minds and hearts**, enables learning that **transforms lives** and ultimately helps to make us **citizens of one world**.



Learn more about YFU! – [bit.ly/1IZ29Pz](https://bit.ly/1IZ29Pz)

## YFU HISTORY



YFU began in 1951 as an effort to heal the wounds of World War II by welcoming 75 teenagers from Germany and Austria to the United States. The hardships prevalent in Germany during this time had devastating effects on the country's youth.

When Nobel Peace Prize nominee Dr. Rachel Andresen founded YFU, the hope was by teaching young people tolerance and acceptance of different cultures, they would be motivated to go back to Germany and help rebuild the country. In 1955, YFU expanded its programs to allow American students to study abroad.

Today, YFU is one of the world's oldest, largest and most respected international exchange programs. Since its inception, YFU offices around the world have exchanged more than 260,000 students, who have in turn, made lasting impressions on millions around the globe.





# WHY YFU?

**The legacy and philosophy of our founder is as powerful and timely today as it was more than 65 years ago, and in that time, we have established a track record of success.**

YFU came into the world to meet the need to heal a broken world. Our mission is still as vital as it ever was. Our cultural exchange programs provide the ultimate reality check to a world-view based on stereotypes. In helping people of all ages make the world their home, participants learn to appreciate differences and embrace similarities. YFU is a positive first step in a lifelong journey of international connection.

When you study abroad with YFU you are provided with a network of support. Experienced national and local staff members are there to support you throughout your exchange here in the US. Orientations are held to prepare you for your journey and continue while abroad. At YFU, we provide the support, you provide the courage – the growth and maturity are yours to keep.



“

UW-Richland is a very great place for international students. It's small and personal. You can make a lot of American friends easily. You can talk to professors like your friends. And you can improve your English.

- Azusa, Japan



# BASICS OF THE CCP PROGRAM

## Why Study with YFU in the US? Why Choose a Community College?

Educators, employers, parents, and alumni all agree that the benefits of international exchange reach far beyond the time a student spends abroad. Many participants have found that their YFU experience helped to open doors, greatly enhancing both their educational and professional opportunities. YFU will help prepare you for your responsibilities and opportunities in a changing, interdependent world.

### Diversify Your Curriculum Vitae

YFU programs are a valuable way to enrich your resume. While studying abroad, participants vastly improve language competencies and learn many skills necessary to make them competitive in the job market. Students find that their overseas courses help them develop effective learning habits and prepare them for more intensive and fulfilling careers.

Employers who hire a YFU alumnus know they are making a solid investment in a person who is flexible and has an elevated level of maturity, superior problem solving skills, and an intuitive understanding of another country and its people. In today's competitive job market, fluency in another language coupled with the ability to comprehend another culture gives YFU exchange student's career advantages they wouldn't have otherwise.





# what is COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

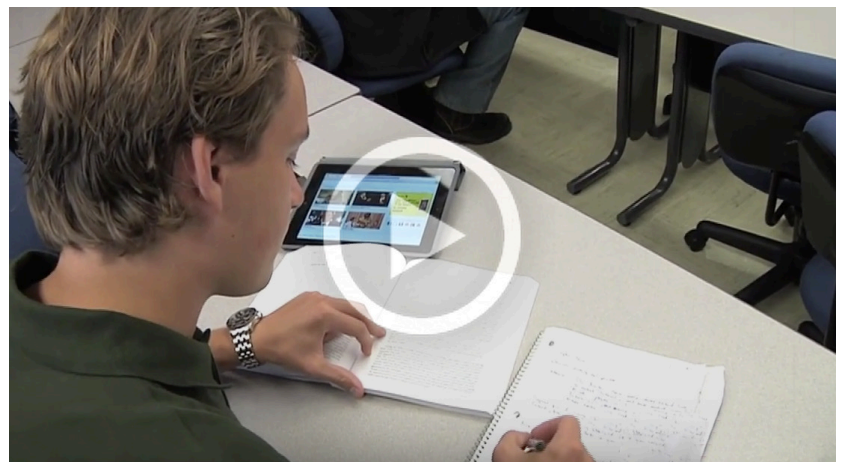
**Community colleges in the US are 2 year schools for post-secondary education that serve as a pathway for students to obtain their associate's degree.**

Community colleges offer a variety of courses so students can explore different interests before settling on an academic track. Class sizes are typically smaller, allowing students to directly interact and engage in the classroom. Additionally, rather than being just a nameless student, you'll have greater accessibility to professors for one-on-one tutoring or guidance. Because community colleges are much more affordable in the US than 4 year universities many Americans students choose to start their degrees at a local 2 year college.

When you decide to enroll in a community college, you are joining just that – a community! Aside from the support of YFU, you will have a designated staff member on campus who will assist you in choosing classes, show you around campus, and help you integrate into college life in the USA. You will also get to choose to live with either a YFU host family to help you integrate into American life, or live in dorms on your college campus. Most American college students elect to live in the dorms and use that time to get to know their classmates and develop lifelong friendships.

Depending on your CELT or TOEFL score, students are enrolled in either ESL classes or academic courses. Those who are enrolled in academic courses have the opportunity to choose classes or a “major” if they would like. Some colleges will only accept students who test above or below a certain score on their CELT test.

Students also have the ability once they finish their 2 year associate's degree program, to transfer to a 4 year university associated with the community college to complete a bachelor's degree. Many colleges partner with large universities so students may transfer without having to take any entrance exam.



Inside Roane State - The Youth For Understanding Story - [bit.ly/1MjVcoQ](https://bit.ly/1MjVcoQ)





# DORM LIFE

**Dorms in the US are attractive to students due to the social atmosphere, allowing students to easily make friends. Since many dorms are close to campus, students find it convenient to participate in clubs and other on-campus activities, as well as to meet with a teacher or group for class projects.**

Dorms provide a safe living environment for students. In addition to needing a key to enter the building and an identification card to present to a security official at the entrance of the building, each individual room has a unique key in order to enter. On each floor of the dorm resides a Resident Advisor or 'RA'. This is typically an older student who is there to help students should they have any issues school related or otherwise.

Students typically share a room with at least one same-sex roommate. Decorating and personalizing the room is an activity many students look forward to. Hanging up personal items and memorabilia that remind them of friends and family at home helps students to adjust to their new life in the dorms.



## COST OF COLLEGE IN THE US

The cost of attending a university in the US is often quite shocking to an international student at first. Classes at community college typically cost less than half the price of those at a 4 year university!



# PROGRAMS

When students choose to participate in the YFU Community College Program, they will be enrolled in either English as a Second Language Program or the Academic Program based on their CELT scores. Students can choose to stay for the length of time they prefer.

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

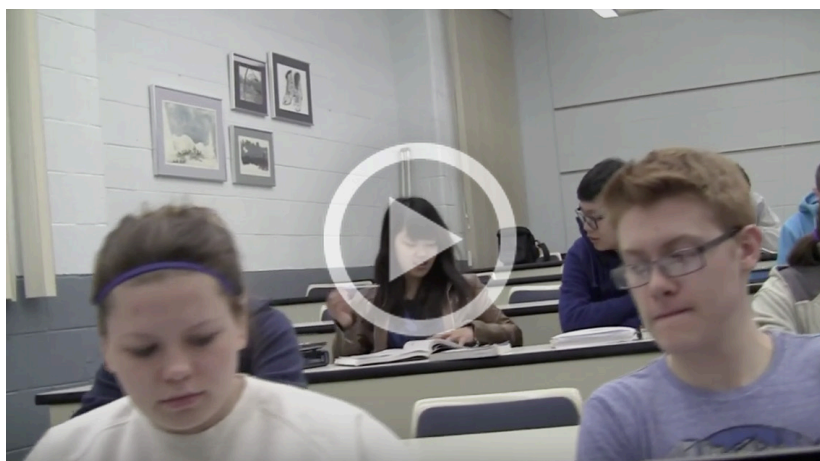
The English as a Second Language Program (ESL) is designed to improve your English language skills. The program includes 16 hours of intensive English language instruction per academic semester (non-credit program). Students will participate in this program if their CELT score is below 200.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Designed to offer academic and career training in a variety of subject areas, students can select from a semester or yearlong program.

## 2 YEAR DEGREE

For those with advanced English language capacity, the 2 year program is designed to provide career skills while also offering transferable credits to a US 4 year college or university. Students may choose to live with a YFU host family or in the school dorm for the first academic year, but will live independently in apartments during their second year.



Huyen describes her experience as a Vietnamese YFU CCP student. – [bit.ly/1gzzEBI](https://bit.ly/1gzzEBI)



# COMMUNITY COLLEGES

YOU CAN ATTEND AS A YFU STUDENT



**Ellsworth Community College**  
(academic students only)



**Fox Valley Community College**



**Gadsden State Community College**



**Independence Community College**  
(academic students only)



**Lincoln Trail Community College**



**Monroe Community College**



**Neosho County Community College**



**North Central Community College**



**Northwest State Community College**  
(academic students only)



**Olney Central College**  
(academic students only)



**University of Wisconsin - Marinette**



**University of Wisconsin - Richland**  
(academic students only)



**Wabash Valley College**  
(ESL students only)



**Whatcom Community College**  
(academic students only)

“

My favorite part about living in Wisconsin is that the people are really nice-it's a safe place with diverse people, and there is always something to do. I'm excited about graduation day and loved being at FVTC for the past 10 months.

- Julien, France



# YFU SUPPORT & SAFETY

**YFU provides students and families with the support, logistics and tools for a safe exchange experience. From support in your host country, to travel, and a designated on-campus liaison, students receive support and guidance throughout their entire journey.**

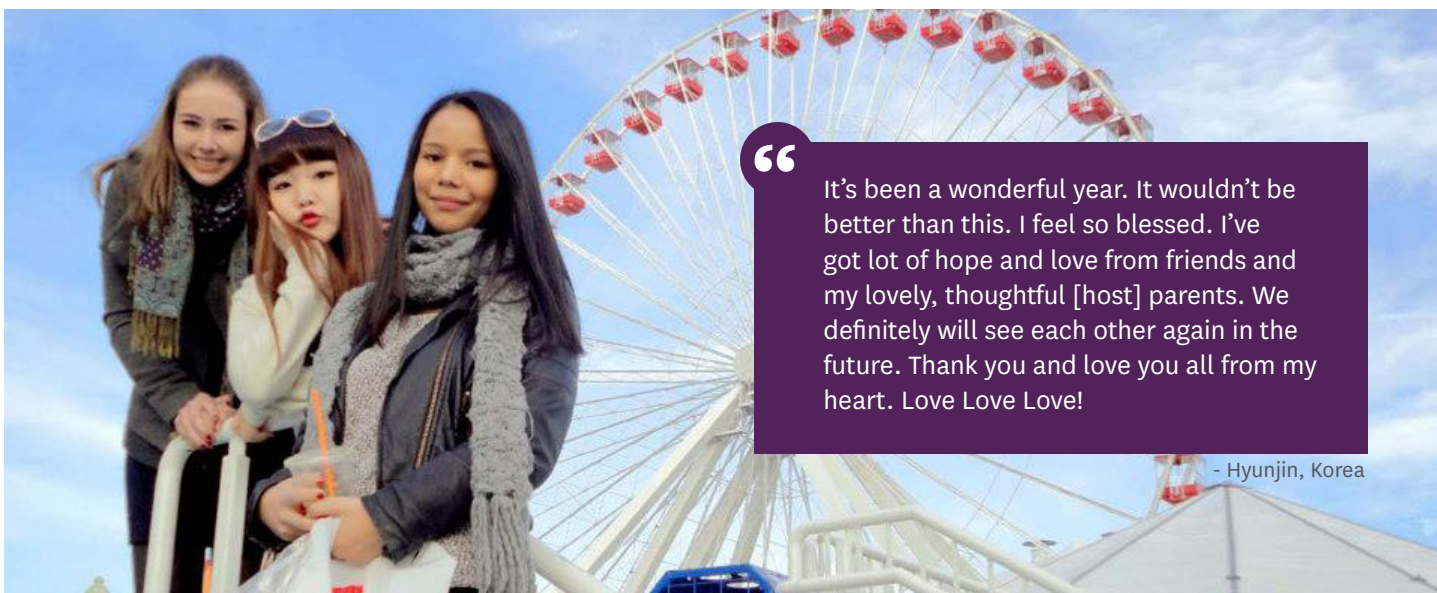
## **All students:**

- Are placed in a dorm or with a host family (student choice)
- Enrolled in school
- Receive guidance from their Campus Coordinator who can help them choose classes, get involved in activities, or answer any other questions they may have
- Receive support from a YFU Support Services Manager if for any reason a student is unable to communicate with their Campus Coordinator
- Partake in planned activities with their fellow students to learn more about the community in which they are living.

Since 1951, YFU has exchanged more than 260,000 students and our top priority continues to be student safety.

YFU is evaluated annually by oversight agencies and we are proud to consistently receive Full Listing from the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) in the following categories:

- Inbound Long-term
- Outbound Long-term
- Short-term Inbound/ Outbound programs



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It's been a wonderful year. It wouldn't be better than this. I feel so blessed. I've got lot of hope and love from friends and my lovely, thoughtful [host] parents. We definitely will see each other again in the future. Thank you and love you all from my heart. Love Love Love!

- Hyunjin, Korea



# MEET SOME

## AWARD WINNING STUDENTS



Student Yi from China was initiated into the Rho Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society at Wabash Valley College, receiving a scholarship for her excellent grades and campus involvement. While attending WVC, she has been a member of Student Senate, Peer Counselors, the Science Club, the International Club, on the Honor's List every semester, and a member of Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. Yi plans to transfer to the University of Texas at Austin where she will be majoring in petroleum engineering.



Juene, a student from Korea and Minji from Japan were part of a select group of students and the only two international students featured in arts journal with their art pieces, 'Tranquility' and 'Travel'. Kevin, from China, was invited to speak at an appreciation dinner for college faculty, staff, and families. Amongst all the international students at his school, Kevin was chosen because of his good grades and involvement in various on-campus activities. He has since been working towards his bachelor's degree at his colleges' sister campus.



# NEXT STEPS

Are you ready to experience a new place and discover new things about yourself; improve your English skills, meet the unexpected and conquer the unknown? Get started by contacting the **YFU office in your home country** and get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM!

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