



Division of Student and Campus Life  
SUNY Geneseo • Blake A 104 • Geneseo, NY 14454  
Phone: 585.245.5721 • Web site: <http://careers.geneseo.edu>

## Alternative Careers & Gap Year Options

### **AmeriCorps – [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov)**

AmeriCorps is an opportunity to make a big difference in your life and in the lives of those around you. It's a chance to apply your skills and ideals toward helping others and meeting critical needs in the community. Each year, AmeriCorps offers 75,000 opportunities for adults of all ages and backgrounds to serve through a network of partnerships with local and national nonprofit groups. Whether your service makes a community safer, gives a child a second chance, or helps protect the environment, you'll be getting things done through AmeriCorps.

A number of AmeriCorps participating organizations post positions on KnightJobs at <http://careers.geneseo.edu>

### **Teach for America – [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org)**

Teach for America's mission is to eliminate educational inequity by recruiting the nation's best and brightest future leaders. Individuals from all backgrounds and career interests commit to teach for two years in urban and rural public schools. Teach for America corps members are trained and receive ongoing support to lead their students to significant academic achievement regardless of the challenges of poverty and the capacity of the school system.

Teach for America holds information sessions on the SUNY Geneseo campus approximately once per semester. Watch your email for announcements on their next visit.

### **Peace Corps – [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)**

The Peace Corps traces its roots and mission to 1960, when then Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries. From that inspiration grew an agency of the federal government devoted to world peace and friendship. Collaborating with local community members, volunteers work in areas like education, youth outreach and community development, health, the environment, agriculture, HIV/AIDS, business & information and communications technology.

Peace Corps holds information sessions on the SUNY Geneseo campus once per semester. Watch your email for announcements on their next visit. The Peace Corps application process can take up to one year. It is important to begin exploring this option as early as first semester of your junior year.

### **City Year – [www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org)**

City year brings young people together from all backgrounds for a year of full-time service building skills and developing future leaders. Corps members work as tutors, mentors, and role models to help children stay in school and on track, and transform schools and communities across the United States, South Africa, and London. During a year of service, a corps member also develops civic leadership skills that they will use throughout their lifetime of community service. City Year is an AmeriCorps program.

## Fellowships are an option:

Geneseo students are eligible for major external scholarships for both undergraduate and graduate study and travel in many parts of the world. Preparing for these important opportunities requires work well in advance of submission deadlines to:

- 1) find fellowships/scholarships that are a good match for your interests and experience, as well as for your academic and extracurricular life, and
- 2) to sharpen and focus your qualifications by the time you apply.

International, national and Geneseo scholarships are highly competitive and the information in the links listed at [http://www.geneseo.edu/dean\\_office/scholarships](http://www.geneseo.edu/dean_office/scholarships) will help you to begin the process. For additional post-baccalaureate fellowships, go to [http://www.geneseo.edu/student\\_employment/fellowships](http://www.geneseo.edu/student_employment/fellowships).

## Additional Resources for Alternative Careers and the Gap Year:

(All available in the Career Library, Blake A 104)

*The Gap Year Guidebook 2011*, Alex Sharratt

*Taking a Gap Year*, by Susan Griffith

*Delaying the Real World, Make the World a Better Place, A Twenty-Something Guide to Seeking Adventure*, by Colleen Kinder

*The Career Guide for Creative and Unconventional People*, by Carol Eikleberry, Ph.D.

*The Everything Alternative Careers Book*, by James Mannion

*Teaching English Abroad*, by Susan Griffith

*Work Your Way Around the World*, by Susan Griffith

*International Voluntary Work*, by Victoria Pybus

*The Insider's Guide to the Peace Corps: What to know before you go*, by Dillon Banerjee

*Alternatives to the Peace Corps: A Guide to Global Volunteer Opportunities*, by Caitlin Huckmyer

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