What is the Alternative Break Immersion (ABI) Program?
University Ministry’s ABI Program offers Dominican University students, faculty, and staff an opportunity to step beyond our gates and dive into the social concerns of today. The program includes immersion experiences offered over the fall, spring, and summer breaks. By engaging in service, building relationships, examining social issues, and praying together, these immersion experiences have the power to transform lives, especially our own. We hope that you’ll consider applying.

To apply for the spring ABI program, please visit: http://www.dom.edu/studentlife/ministry/alternative-break-immersion where you’ll find an application. Complete and return to University Ministry by Friday, April 10.

What are the SUMMER break immersions?

**Nazareth Farm: Salem, WV (May 17-23)**
Experience the rich cultural heritage of Appalachia as you come together with college students from across the country for a week of home repair, community building, faith sharing, and simple living.

Nazareth Farm is located in beautiful rural West Virginia and has hosted high school and college groups for service retreats since 1979. A typical day involves morning chores, community meals, prayer, going out to work sites to assist low-income residents with home repair, and fun social time in the evening. For more information about Nazareth Farm please visit www.nazarethfarm.org/index.htm

**United Saints: New Orleans, LA (May 16-23)**
The story of New Orleans is a tale of two cities - Poverty and affluence, decadence and simplicity, tradition rooted in history and modernization, pre-Katrina and post-Katrina. You will meet the warm people of New Orleans, experience their warm hospitality, and contribute to the rebuilding efforts still taking place in struggling neighborhoods through our partnering organization – the United Saints Recovery Project (http://www.unitedsaints.org/). You’ll have the opportunity to do large and small home building and rehab projects to allow homeowners to return to and stay in their homes. We’ll experience a social justice tour of the city addressing the history and culture of the city from its founding through slavery and reconstruction, the modern period, and through the terrible events of Katrina in 2005 through to the present recovery. We’ll frame all of our work, learning and reflection in the spirit of the ongoing civil rights movement stopping at the National Civil Rights Memorial in Memphis, TN on the way to NOLA.
How does the application process work?
Please take some time to thoughtfully complete the application. Return it to the Ministry Center (Lewis 216) by Friday, April 10. We will carefully consider each application and discern a possible placement for you. We will take into account such factors as: your ability to contribute to the group experience, your motivation, experience, hopes, the likelihood that this will be an empowering experience for you, and the needs of the groups and the sites.

You will be notified by e-mail about the status of your application shortly after it is received.

If accepted to the program, what will I be asked to commit to?
- Attend two preparation meetings in the spring semester. The first will be held: Sunday, April 19 from 1:30pm-4:00pm. The others will be scheduled by your immersion group.
- Participate fully in a group fundraising campaign to help offset the total cost of the trip. (see below)
- Participate fully in the immersion experience.
- Attend a follow-up session that will be set with your group. Tentative
- Submit your deposit by Friday, April 17.

How are the trips funded?
Because of housing, food, transportation, and program costs, these immersions require significant funding. University Ministry is able to subsidize a portion of the cost, but not all. We ask that each participant make a deposit of $125 and commit to working with the other ABI participants and leaders to fundraise a total of $2500 through letter writing. Family, friends, professors, former teachers, etc. want to support you in your ambitions and in your service. We will give you the tools and confidence to ask for their support. Once accepted, more details will follow about making your deposit and the letter writing campaign.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant Deposit</th>
<th>$125 - due Friday, April 17 or risk losing your place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Commitment</td>
<td>$2500 together with the other spring ABI students (This amounts to about $160 per person.)</td>
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University Ministry understands that the cost of these trips can be prohibitive for some students. We encourage students in this situation to make an appointment with John DeCostanza to create a payment plan or scholarship assistance.

If you have any questions about the trips, the application process, or anything else about the ABI program, please contact John DeCostanza in University Ministry: Lewis 216, (708) 524-6685, or jdecostanza@dom.edu.
Alternative Break Immersion Application
Summer Break, 2015

Name: ___________________________________________ Student I.D. # ____________

Anticipated year of graduation: _____________ Major: _________________________________

☐ Commuter  ☐ Resident, Residence Hall/Room Number ________________

Home Address

Street                      City                      State                      ZIP

Emergency Contact: Name ___________________________ Relation to you______________

Number (___) _____________________ Alternate (___) ____________________________

Your cell phone: (_______) __________________________

Your e-mail address: ________________________________________________

Please respond briefly less than 250 words to the questions below. Attach your typed answers.

1. Please describe your interest in the Alternative Spring Break Immersion Program. What motivates you to apply?

2. How do you hope this experience will be transformative for you? How do you hope to be challenged by an ABI experience? How might this experience better prepare you to further create a more just and humane society?

Is there anything else you would like the student and staff leadership to know as we discern a possible placement for you? (only answer if applicable)

Help us to place you by rating your preference ("1st", "2nd", or "not interested this year") for each ABI.

________________________________________ Nazareth Farm (Salem, WV)

________________________________________ NOLA (New Orleans, LA)

We always need more drivers for our Alternative Break Immersions. To be a driver, you need to be at least 21 years-old by March, have a valid driver's license, feel comfortable driving a 15 passenger van, and attend a van training by campus security. Do you qualify?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Please return to University Ministry (Lewis 216) or jdecostanza@dom.edu by Friday, April 10, 2015.
PLEASE PRINT

Name of Participant: ________________________________  Student ID #:____________________

Birth Date ____ / ____ / ____  Circle one: Male / Female

Home Address:______________________________________________________________

City:___________________________ State & Zip:__________________  Phone: (_____)______________

Emergency contact person:______________________________ Relation to you: ____________

Day phone: (_____)____________________  Evening Phone: (_____)____________________

Known allergies, important medical conditions: _________________________________________

Dietary restrictions (vegetarian, food allergies, etc.) ______________________________________

Current medications _______________________________________________________________

Will you need any accommodations or have other special needs while away? Please specify.

Blood Type (if known):________________________

Complete name of Health Insurance Company:___________________________________________

☐ I do not have health insurance.

Policy Number/Group Number: ______________________________________________________

Name on insurance card:__________________________ Cardholder's date of birth ____________

I, ____________________________, I certify that the above information is correct.

Signature of Participant/Volunteer:____________________________________________________
Dominican University Waiver
Hold Harmless, Photo Release, and Responsible Behavior Agreement

DATE(S) OF ACTIVITY:  May 16-23 NOLA; May 17-23 Nazareth Farm

ACTIVITY:  Summer Alternative Break Immersion to New Orleans, LA & Salem, WV

Participant Name: ___________________________________________________________
Participant Cell Phone: _______________________________________________________
Participant Email Address: ___________________________________________________

I recognize and acknowledge that there are always certain risks of physical injury during off campus activities and travel. I hereby agree to assume full risk, regardless of severity, for any injury or harm that I may sustain during the above noted activity. I waive and relinquish all claims I may have as a result of such injury sustained during or as a result of participation. I fully release Dominican University, its staff, officers, agents and servants from all responsibility of injury or claim to loss sustained during the activity.

I agree to be responsible for all costs of medical treatment or other services deemed necessary for me. I hereby give permission for the leaders of this activity to secure treatment for me in the event of an emergency.

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature                                      Date

_________________________________________
Name

I agree to release Dominican University to use photographs of myself from this experience in on-line and print publicity materials.

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature                                      Date

_________________________________________
Name

I understand that during any activity sponsored by Dominican University’s University Ministry Center I am considered a representative of the University and am expected to act accordingly. I will respect all property (of other participants and host facility) and persons. I will not use or introduce any substances including alcohol or illegal drugs. If I smoke cigarettes, I will follow all codes and smoke only in the designated areas of the facility. I will maintain mature behavior and follow the reasonable directions of the leaders. I understand that any severe breach of this agreement will result in my being dismissed from the activity at my expense.

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature                                      Date