

GEARS Seminar Course Catalog

An overview of courses and activities that can be offered within GTI programs, such as the GEARS Seminar. Please refer to your specific program schedule provided after your visa and housing have been secured for activities, schedules and dates relevant to your particular program.

Intro to Raleigh and Acclimating to US Culture Courses:

- Welcome & Check-In: Connect with fellow participants, setting the stage for your program experience.
- Orientation to NC State University/Raleigh: Navigate the university and city, gaining insights into campus life and local culture.
- Integration & Departure Preparation: Prepare for seamless integration into the program and receive departure tips.
- American Business Culture through VR: Immerse yourself in American business culture through virtual reality, experiencing real-world scenarios to enhance your understanding of professional environments.
- Volunteerism: Engage in the local community through volunteer activities, making a positive impact and learning about the importance of community service in the U.S.
- Company Visit: Explore local businesses and industries through company visits, gaining insights into the professional landscape of Raleigh and the U.S.

NC State University Resources Courses:

- NC State Main Campus Tour & Activity: Immerse yourself in the vibrant energy of campus life and explore key landmarks.
- Hunt Library Tour & Centennial Campus Tour: Discover cutting-edge technology and innovation on Centennial Campus.
- Campus Lab Visits / Lecture Visits: Gain hands-on experience in intensive labs, collaborating with peers, and learning from mentors on a project relevant to your academic and professional goals.
- Departmental Tours and/or Presentations: Explore our campus community through departmental tours and presentations.

Higher Education Courses:

- Higher Education in the U.S.: Navigate the U.S. higher education system and explore academic opportunities.
- General Structure of U.S. Higher Education: Examine the overall framework of higher education institutions in the U.S.
- Finding and Applying to the Right PhD Program: Receive guidance on selecting and applying to Ph.D. programs that align with your goals.
- Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Hone your academic writing skills specifically tailored for graduate-level work.
- Graduate Admissions: Demystify the graduate admissions process and prepare for a successful application.

Research Labs & Mentorship:

- Lunch and Learn: Meet your mentor: Connect with mentors, fostering meaningful relationships over lunch.
- Intensive Week 1, 2, 3, and 4: Immerse yourself in intensive labs, collaborating with peers, and learning from mentors on a project relevant to your academic and professional goals.

Culture through Culinary Experience Courses:

- US College Student Meal Prep for Success: Learn essential meal preparation skills for a successful college experience.
- Cultural Dimensions of American Cuisine: Explore the diverse cultural aspects of American cuisine.
- Lunar New Year Gala: Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a festive gala.

Research Skills Courses:

- Research Methodology: Dive into the fundamentals of research methodology, exploring various approaches, techniques, and frameworks used to design and conduct research.
- Library Resources: Uncover the wealth of resources available in the library, both digital and physical. Learn how to navigate databases, access scholarly articles, and utilize library services to enhance your research skills and information retrieval.
- Research Tools: Familiarize yourself with essential research tools and technologies relevant to your discipline. This course provides hands-on

experience, ensuring you are well-equipped to employ the latest tools in your research endeavors.

- Research Poster Presentation Skills: Polish your presentation skills with a focus on research poster design.
- Research Presentation Skills: Enhance your ability to deliver compelling research presentations.
- Interim Presentations: Showcase your research progress and receive constructive feedback.
- Final Poster Critique: Receive expert feedback on your final research poster.
- Project Portfolio Formal Submission: Formally submit your comprehensive project portfolio.
- Final Presentation Symposium: Culminate your program with a symposium, presenting your final research.

Tours and Events:

- Shopping Trip to Outlet Mall and Ticket to a Sporting Event: Enjoy shopping and a live sporting event, experiencing American leisure.
- Tour of Local Universities & Meeting with Their Graduate School Representatives: Explore neighboring universities and discuss academic opportunities.
- Visit Downtown and Tour Museums: Discover the cultural richness of downtown Raleigh through museum tours.
- Celebrate at Community and Cultural Festivals or Attend an Arts Performance: Immerse yourself in local culture through festivals and arts performances.
- Trip to DC or to the Beach: Enjoy an excursion to Wilmington or Washington, DC to see another side of US culture. (additional per participant cost; not available in all programs)