



Academy of the Sacred Heart
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

PROJECT TERM 2023

Born to Explore

Since 1974, Project Term has been an integral part of the total curriculum in the Upper School. This unique, seven month-long program provides an opportunity for students to explore and learn in a focused unit of study. Incorporating the Goals and Criteria of a Sacred Heart education, Project Term allows students and faculty to share hands-on learning experiences in a variety of fields. Participants gain exposure and increased awareness of varied communities and cultures. This time can be enriching for all who participate and is a rare opportunity provided for learning, adventure, exploration and fun.

WELCOME TO PROJECT TERM 2023!

Project Term Fieldwork Dates: March 18 - 27, 2023
(Departure dates vary for each experience)

PROJECT TERM REQUIREMENTS

All Project Term experiences must incorporate the *Goals and Criteria* of Sacred Heart education. The Dean of Experiential Learning, together with approved travel partners, plan Project Term experiences in accordance with the following specific established criteria:

- An Upper School faculty member or Academy of the Sacred Heart faculty or staff member must be on every project.
- No parent may chaperone any project unless he or she is employed by Sacred Heart.
- If an employee of Sacred Heart does chaperone a project, he or she cannot chaperone an experience in which his/her daughter participates.
- All employees, faculty and chaperones must have completed Protecting God's Children.
- All non-faculty chaperones must be at least 25 years of age.
- The objectives of the project must be clearly defined.
- The Project Term moderators must have a daily agenda available prior to departure with specific daily activities.
- Accommodations and meals should be appropriate to the experience and not be excessive. All projects must model the elements of **simple living**.
- Projects cannot be restricted to nor designed expressly for members of a specified course or co-curricular group.
- Away projects may start on Saturday, March 18 and must conclude by Monday, March 27 (the only exception allowed would be due to an unusual travel arrangement made by the Project Term team).
- Home experiences may begin Saturday, March 18 and conclude on Monday, March 27.
- All students must be present for the closing activities including the Parent Presentation Night on May 4th, 2023. Failure to attend the Parent Presentation Night will result in no credit issued for Project Term.
- **The Administration reserves the right to withhold placement of a student in any given experience.**

**** *All criteria are subject to the discretion of the Head of School.***

PROJECT TERM SELECTION

All new/transfer students **must** choose a group experience. Students in Grade 12 may choose a group or individual experience. Students in Grades 9, 10, and 11 must choose a group experience. Questions regarding this may be directed to the Dean of Experiential Learning.

Selection by Lottery:

Each student (by class) will select a lottery number. If all required paperwork is submitted on time, students in Grade 12 receive first choice in order of their class lottery number, followed by Grade 11, Grade 10 and Grade 9, also in order of their class lottery number.

If the appropriate paperwork is **NOT** turned in on time, a student loses her selection placement and will move to the last selection choice **in their class**. In the event that too many students choose one particular project, selection will be determined by lottery number, suitability to project, spirit of cooperation, and personal responsibility of the students involved. *The faculty and administration reserve the right to make final placement decisions. If a student has an incomplete Project Term experience from the previous year(s), she will lose her lottery selection placement.*

Additionally, the Finance Office reserves the right to deny placement of a student on her selected experience for financial reasons. We ask that families select a reasonable experience based on their individual financial situation.

LIVING THE MISSION

The *Goals and Criteria* of a Sacred Heart education define the school's mission. Using these as a lens through which the educational journey at Sacred Heart is viewed, experiential learning opportunities are created in ways which allow the community to live the mission. There is a call to form global citizens and to recognize wonder and hope in the students.

A Sacred Heart education has three essential dimensions: Mystical, Ethical, and Ecological.

The ***Mystical*** dimension leads us to seek the depths of mystery (through experiences yielding awe and fascination) and interiority (a person's thoughts, feelings and reactions to the situation), and to give depth and meaning to life.

The ***Ethical*** dimension leads us to recognize the sacredness in others and seek to be the face of God's mercy in the world.

The ***Ecological*** dimension leads us to recognize the sanctity of the earth and the fostering of simple living.

The process of approaching each experience with these three dimensions in mind aims to enable each student to formulate a plan for how she intends to deepen the *Goals and Criteria* in her life. This self-reflection will result in fresh insights and re-commitment to her life's journey.

PROJECT TERM ATTENDANCE

Each participant in Project Term is expected to participate fully in all activities including the preparation meetings (**research and create game plan for fieldwork**), the actual experience (**fieldwork**), reflection, post experience activities (**communicate the results**), and evaluation. During Project Term, attendance is required for all related events. Participants should be on time for all experiences and contribute to the positive attitude necessary for the success of the experience. Failure to actively participate in all activities could result in failure of Project Term, which is a graduation requirement.

PARTICIPANTS REQUIREMENTS

Each participant must complete the following on time:

- A) Application/Choice & Health Forms
Due to Room 215 7:45 a.m.
- | |
|----------------------------------|
| Wednesday, October 19 (Grade 12) |
| Thursday October 20 (Grade 11) |
| Tuesday, October 25 (Grade 10) |
| Wednesday, October 26 (Grades 9) |

Please note that once a student and family have selected and committed to participating in a Project Term (by returning the Application/Choice Form with three choices) they have reserved that position and will be held responsible for the choice (by lottery number) **as well as the financial commitment.**

- B) Learning Agreement
Due to Moderators: Friday, February 3
Due to US Office: Monday, February 13

All Learning Agreements must incorporate plans for preparation, individual and group objectives, daily plans, reflection, and evaluation. All Learning Agreements must be signed by student, parent, faculty moderator, and the Director of the Upper School, or her designee.

C) Payment for Project Term

To be eligible for a Project Term experience, a student's prior and current year tuition account balance must be in good standing. **If this condition is not met, students will forfeit their lottery number and placement.**

Out-of-town Experiences

All arrangements, including reservations, payments, refunds or credits for an out-of-town Project Term experience will be made directly to the Academy's travel partners: **Amizade, Eco Teach, Grand Classroom, Jennings Travel, Praying Pelican Missions, or Rustic Pathways.**

Empty seat fees could be incurred if experiences do not meet minimum requirements.

Travel partner payment plans along with any terms and conditions associated with out-of-town experiences through **Amizade, EcoTeach, Grand Classroom, Jennings Travel, Praying Pelican Missions, or Rustic Pathways** will be detailed to parents after lottery placements have been completed.

Purchasing travel insurance is **STRONGLY** recommended.

Local Experience

There are two payment options:

Option 1 - Default Selection: payments will be added to Blackbaud Tuition Management:

First Payment: Wednesday, November 30 (25%)

Second Payment: Saturday, December 31 (25%)

Third Payment: Tuesday, January 31 (25%)

Final Payment: Tuesday, February 28 (25%)

Option 2 - Pay in Full Selection:

Check Payment received by Friday, November 18 (100%)

Blackbaud Tuition Management payments will be removed once the check is received.

If payment Option 2 is selected, the check should be made payable to Academy of the Sacred Heart and either mailed or turned into the Finance Office or turned into the Upper School office. No payments are to be made to any other agency or sponsor.

If a student's local Project Term balance is not paid in full by February 28, she will not be permitted to participate in her selected experience and will be held accountable for any expenses we are unable to recover on the date of cancellation.

If parents have questions about tuition assistance, they should contact Mrs. Pietrangelo (epietrangelo@ashmi.org) in the Finance Office. Through the generosity of our parents at the Project Term Kick-Off and through other fundraising efforts, limited tuition assistance funds may be available for those with a demonstrated need. All policies and procedures applicable to the Tuition Assistance Program for the Academy apply to the distribution of funds for Project Term. These grants do not exceed \$400 per student in Grades 9 through 11. For students in Grade 12, additional consideration may be provided. **Project Term t-shirt and other keepsake costs will be billed separately.**

D) Project Term Journals (will be provided)

Due: Wednesday, March 29 (*at the beginning of the day*)

Each participant must complete a daily entry in the Project Term journal. The entry may be prompted by the faculty moderator depending on the activities of the day. The journaling should be reflective and thorough, not just a list of the daily activities. This journal should be turned in each day in order for the faculty moderators to review and comment. The journals will be turned in to the Dean of Experiential Learning at the end of Project Term.

The Project Term journal must come to school with the participant on Wednesday, March 29 for the Closing Prayer Service and final journal entry, as prompted by the Head of School.

E) Project Term Evaluations

Due: Wednesday, March 29

All student evaluations of the Project Term experience are due on this date. In addition, each participant will be required to plan and participate in group reflection and participate in all outputs.

Each student will receive a Pass or Fail grade for Project Term and written comments from the faculty moderator reflecting her participation in the project, based on her stated objectives. Written Project Term reports and grades will be provided to parents and posted on the Parent Portal.

If a student fails to complete all the required elements of the Project Term experience, she will be required to repeat an approved (by the US Project Term team) project during the following summer.

F) Group Output

Each student must participate in developing and creating a magazine as a group output. While no official evaluation of the group output occurs, the final project will be previewed for appropriateness by the Moderator(s). Each group will also be responsible for presenting their findings in a creative way to another community within Sacred Heart based on the Design Thinking process used during their fieldwork.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Participants are expected to uphold the *Goals and Criteria* of Sacred Heart education, the policies of the Upper School Handbook, and in this case, the general conduct rules for Project Term.

All participants are expected and required to participate in all planned group or individual activities, except in case of illness (as reported to the Director of the Upper School). Should a student be so ill that she has to miss more than two days, the Project Term experience would be incomplete and therefore she would be required to make up the Project Term experience.

Whenever any of the policies are not followed, participants are in danger of violating the Project Term Learning Agreement and thereby of failing Project Term. In the event of a Project Term failure, the student must make up the experience in a manner proposed by the student and approved by the Project Term Team.

In case of serious violation of these rules, students will be informed of the infraction by the faculty moderator and sent home (in consultation with the Director of the Upper School, the Head of School and the Dean of Students). Any costs incurred for Project Term prior to the infraction and as a result of such an infraction will be paid by the student or her parents. Financial obligation terms in any travel partner documentation will remain in effect. The Project Term experience would be incomplete and therefore she would be required to make up the Project Term experience.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Project Term is an opportunity for students to learn through experience and thrive in community. The experiences students have on Project Term are not the same as those they have in the classroom. This is by design. In order to live the experience fully and avoid unnecessary security risks, **cell phones and internet-enabled devices (like Apple Watches) are not allowed on Project Term experiences.** Each experience will have an individual policy about when and if these devices may be used. Cell phone rules on specific experiences are marked on the following pages.

In light of this policy, it is strongly recommended that your daughter bring a wrist watch and a camera.

PARENT MEETING

All experiences require a parent meeting with the moderators.

GROUP EXPERIENCES

All group experiences last seven (7) to nine (9) days within the Project Term window of March 18 to March 27, 2023, and are subject to availability. Each project must have the minimum number of students listed. If for any reason an experience needs to be canceled, the students' needs will be met with another experience.

The final experience cost is dependent on actual travel costs at the time of Project Term and the number of participants in each group.

All student travel will be arranged through Academy of the Sacred Heart's preferred travel partners: Amizade, EcoTeach, Grand Classroom, Jennings Travel, Praying Pelican Missions, or Rustic Pathways.

Students MUST travel with their group, either by ground or air transportation as indicated within each experience detailed below.

Please review our travel partners' terms and conditions for additional travel information.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 7 DAYS – 7 DAYS
Detroit & surrounding area (Day Trip to Chicago)
Local Experience

Detroit and Chicago have been shaped by the many diverse communities that call the Midwest home. Over the course of a week, we will retrace the steps of Chief Pontiac and the indigenous communities he led in rebellion, the African-American migrants who remade their lives in Paradise Valley, the Arab-Americans who have made Dearborn a thriving cultural and commercial center, and the Chinese-Americans who built Chicago's iconic Chinatown. We will cook meals in restaurants to better appreciate the cultural roots that food hides and reveals.

We will work with charitable organizations who daily attend to the needs of asylum seekers and refugees in the greater Detroit area. We will explore the final U.S. stops on the Underground Railroad in Jackson and in Detroit, visit the Polish Hall of Fame in Troy, visit the Historic Avenue of Fashion on Livernois and see hints of Detroit's vibrant jazz tradition. Together, we will come to appreciate the global journeys that transformed Detroit into a beacon of hope for people around the world.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Checked in with Moderators each day
Means of Travel:	Van and train
Minimum # of Students:	8
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$725
Includes:	Day trip to Chicago

FAIR TRADE LEARNING PROGRAM – 7 DAYS

Williamson, West Virginia

Williamson, a rural coal-mining town in Mingo County, once boasted a population of almost 50,000 residents. With the help of a thriving coal economy in the mid-20th century, jobs and education were accessible and abundant. In recent years, however, like much of rural West Virginia, Williamson has suffered from the coal mining industry's collapse. Added to the town's troubles were a series of terrible floods, and subsequent de-population. As the town struggles to keep its population above 3,000, the community faces an uncertain future, and must create ways to redefine itself.

Students will get the opportunity to immerse themselves into the thick of this transition by working with Amizade and its Williamson partners. With their hands-on learning, students will get a better understanding of what fair trade is and why it is a critical piece to Williamson getting back on its feet. Each day will bring another important piece to the puzzle, including the Williamson Farmer's Market, the Mobile Market and the Pikeville, Logan, and Williamson community gardens. Everyday will bring insight, sweat, and a new understanding of life outside our Sacred Heart community.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Phones will be collected upon arrival.
Means of Travel:	Plane and Van
Minimum # of Students:	10
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$2,000 + <u>Airfare</u>
Travel Partner:	Amizade & Jennings Travel
Lodging:	Mountaineer Hotel or B&B

FARM, AGRICULTURE, AND CONSERVATION – 7 DAYS

Tampa & Orlando, Florida

Sacred Heart students will be dropped into the middle of Florida's self-sustaining agriculture farming practices. This will include family-run greenhouses to learn about composting and getting first hand experience at the MOTE Aquaculture and Research Park to understand more about fish farming. Students will visit Land of Delight Farms to learn about ecosystems and the practices required to run and sustain farms on a day-to-day basis. The girls will also be attending a hands-on program at Sweetwater Farms, where they will learn about the practices of organic farming and participate in a volunteer service program.

The students will be staying at the Day Springs Youth Cabins (dorm style) where they will gather at the end of each day with time for reflection on the day's activities. Reflection will be student led as they hike the trails or canoe through the channels of the Manatee River to discuss what they have experienced along the way.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Phones will be collected upon arrival
Means of Travel:	Plane and Van
Minimum # of Students:	12
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$3,751 <u>includes</u> airfare
Travel Partner:	Grand Classroom
Lodging:	DaySpring Episcopal Retreat Center

GATHERING & GRATITUDE FROM THE EARTH - 8 DAYS

Kauai, Hawaii

Culture, history, & traditions - Gathering & Gratitude from the Earth. Students will be immersed into a world that takes them back to the basics. The girls will be spending their time on the island of Kauai, with native Hawaiian children from the Niihaun community. The school these children belong to provides not only a typical education, but fosters the children's connection and understanding of their culture and traditions, as well as their role in caring for our planet.

The school has identified three areas in the community we will partner during our time there; building a playground, helping to care for the community garden, and participating in their food outreach program to the surrounding neighborhood. Students will get back to the basics and gain an appreciation for the simple things in life.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Phones will be collected upon arrival
Means of Travel:	Airplane and Van
Minimum # of Students:	10
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$2,050 + <u>Airfare</u>
Travel Partner:	Praying Pelican Missions & Jennings Travel
Lodging:	St. Paul's Episcopal Church (air mattress supplied, must bring own linens & pillow)

REBUILDING IN CRESCENT CITY – 7 DAYS

New Orleans, Louisiana

Eighteen years later and there is still a need for relief efforts from the 2005 floods that devastated New Orleans. Our students will partner with the established Non Government Organization - Youth Rebuilding New Orleans (YRNO) which educates, empowers, and engages youth toward the betterment of New Orleans.

By engaging in home building projects and partnering with YRNO, our girls will be working toward solving ongoing gaps in access to resources. We will also get the opportunity to spend time in the city's many neighborhoods, learning about the region's history, ecosystems, and stories. Students will have seven days to be part of the solution.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Phones will be collected on arrival
Means of Travel:	Airplane and Bus
Minimum # of Students:	12
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$2,685 + <u>Airfare</u>
Travel Partner:	Rustic Pathways
Lodging:	Hostel

Z – IN SEARCH OF THE SUSTAINABLE SOUL – 9 DAYS **Iquitos, Peru**

Travel down the mightiest (and some say longest) river in the world! Students will have an opportunity to work with two non-profit groups firsthand to explore a world few humans ever get to experience! Prep for this program will include movie nights, in-depth discussions, and creating a game plan to make the most of this rare and unique opportunity. Students will be immersed into several local Yagua villages along with a Ribernois village located along the Amazon and Napo (largest tributary of the Amazon) Rivers.

Students will be pushed out of their comfort zone, both physically and emotionally, but will also feel a calm and sense of freedom, something they may have never experienced before. Finally, there is an expectation that students are looking to be challenged, that they are open to change and that they will find a way to immediately impact the world they live in.

Welcome to the AMAZON JUNGLE!

Students must have a valid passport.

COVID VACCINATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EXPERIENCE.

A parent meeting on March 2, 2023 is required before departure.

Cell Phones:	Phones will be collected upon arrival
Means of Travel:	Airplane, Bus, Boat, and MotoTaxi
Minimum # of Students:	12
Maximum # of Students:	12
Cost:	\$2,400 + <u>Airfare</u>
Travel Partner:	EcoTeach & Jennings Travel
Lodging:	Explorama Lodges (primitive)

**ALL TRAVEL DATES WILL BE CONFIRMED AFTER GROUP
ASSIGNMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.**

PROJECT TERM GOALS

Each program is created, planned, and implemented based on what is happening in the world around us.. Based on the *Goals and Criteria*, Project Term programs must demonstrate the following:

I. ***"A personal and active faith in God"***

By participating in the Project Term program, students are able to grow in their faith, trust in others, and encourage shared reflections in the community.

II. ***"A deep respect for intellectual values"***

Programs must emphasize students' growth in the processes of observation and questioning, and must demonstrate an ability to synthesize information. The preparation of each program must demonstrate intellectual mastery.

III. ***"A social awareness which impels to action"***

Projects include social analysis and an opportunity for participants to initiate change where necessary.

IV. ***"The building of community as a Christian value"***

Programs create opportunities for participants to work together to achieve a communal atmosphere while nurturing their communication skills.

V. ***"Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom"***

Programs create opportunities for participants to grow in their ability to make decisions and ultimately to reflect on them. Through Project Term programs, students realize their self-worth and learn how to make wise choices.

Thursday, October 13 at 6:00 PM the community will gather for the PROJECT TERM 2023 REVEAL!! - The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the Project Term offerings, and to answer pertinent questions.