

Murrow Backpack Journalism Application - 2021/22

Backpack Journalism 2022 - Serbia

The Murrow Backpack Journalism Program provides a unique opportunity for the most accomplished students in the college to travel abroad and work in an international environment. Funded by generous alumni and donors, backpack journalism trips enable us to send students to destinations such as Nepal, Greece, Galapagos Islands, Guatemala, Costa Rica, China, Sri Lanka and others.

Students equipped with the latest video, audio and web technology produce multimedia content suitable for publication by media outlets. Backpack Journalism students experience the challenges and benefits of international travel, may have their work published by professional media and enrich their academic and professional lives.

The Backpack Journalism destination for March 2022 is: Belgrade, Serbia

Students will travel to Serbia to conduct research on journalism and the state of press freedoms. In recent years, the U.S. State Department has placed an emphasis on improving the state of journalism and press freedoms in Serbia both by promoting the training of journalists and working with independent journalism organizations. Working in conjunction with the State Department and independent journalism organizations, Backpack Journalism students will interview long-time journalists about the current state of press freedoms as well as seeking to put the issue in historical context. Students will also conduct outreach by meeting with Serbian journalism students and faculty members to discuss the state of journalism education in the United States. The goal of this program will be to publish findings in a media outlet or journalism trade publication.

Hearts in Motion - March 2022

Along with a group of Washington State University healthcare students, selected Murrow student(s) will be reporting on, and working with, the non-profit organization, Hearts in Motion. Hearts in Motion is focused on imparting medical care and support to "children, families, and communities through its programs and sponsorship in the U.S. and Central and South America." Murrow students will participate in this program in either a journalistic or a promotional capacity, depending on interest/training.

More information about this program is available:

https://mystudyabroad.wsu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=2195.

Interested Murrow Students DO NOT need to complete the Pre-Screening Application through International Programs. They DO need to complete THIS application.

Qualifications

Are you a certified student in any major within the Murrow College of Communication?

Do you have multimedia production skills?

Are you interested in international travel?

Do you have a strong work ethic?

If you answered yes to all of the above questions, then you should apply for these amazing opportunities.

Application deadline: 11:59 PM, Wednesday, Sept. 29 via email to comm.murrowcollege@wsu.edu.

Applicant information

First Name M. Last Name

WSU ID No.

Email address (WSU) @wsu.edu Phone Number

Mailing Address

City State Zip

What is your intended graduation date (month/year)? _____
(Students graduating in December 2021 do not qualify for this program.)

What degree and major within the Murrow College are you pursuing? (i.e., Strategic Communication, major in Public Relations)?

Do you have a valid passport? Yes No Expiration Date: _____

Emergency contact information

First Name Last Name Phone Number

Address

City State Zip

Which experience(s) are you interested in? Selected students can only participate in one (1) BPJ experience each academic year.

- Backpack Journalism, Serbia
- Hearts in Motion, Guatemala
- Both

To help us learn more about you, please answer the following questions. You may attach a separate sheet, but please keep your answers to no more than one (1) additional page.

Please describe your multimedia writing/production skills (writing, video, audio, photography, web publishing):

Provide links to at least three examples of your work. (It is important that you provide accurate and valid media links. Please send links to specific pieces of work instead of to your entire body of work.)

Please discuss briefly your academic and professional goals and how this program will help you reach those.

If selected, you will be sent to a foreign country and may encounter some harsh living and working conditions and potentially disturbing social environments. How will you prepare for these?

If you speak, write or read any foreign languages please describe your level of fluency.

What other experiences or extracurricular activities have you been involved in and how might these experiences help you in this program?

A brief essay is required for this application. Please select a news story from a foreign country, summarize how you would cover it and explain why it would be significant to our local audience. Limit: 500 words. (Submit your essay as an attachment to this application.)

Provide the name of one (1) faculty member from the Murrow College of Communication who can provide a reference for you, if requested.