Welcome to Experiential Learning! As part of our goal of promoting volunteerism and service learning activity at the University of Montana, we are collaborating with the ASUM student group Volunteers in Action to bring you the Alternative Breaks Program. Alternative Breaks coordinates two to four trips every year where teams of students travel to a new community or landscape and perform short-term volunteer projects during school breaks. The focus of each trip ranges from improving social conditions of those in need to working on environmental improvement projects. This year’s trips are shaping up to be especially exciting!

Alternative Break Mission
To serve as an opportunity for students to engage in fun, educational, service-based trips, by taking them out of their college community and immersing them into new realms of society and service. To heighten social awareness, provide for personal development, and group building. To advocate life-long civic involvement.


Environmental Restoration in Moab UT

- Students will leave March 15th and return March 21st.
- Students will work with Plateau Restoration Inc.
- Students will be camping in Moab, Utah outside Arches National Park.
- Students will learn about the unique eco-system in the valley and the dangers it currently faces, as well as work to help restore the area.
- The cost for this trip will be $300
- The cost includes transportation expenses, and room and board (does not include food while driving).
- Program is filled on a first come first serve basis.
- Applications are due by Friday, February 7th.
Financial Information

Please note there are student costs associated with these trips. Experiential Learning office is a non-profit, UM organization. Any money collected will be used to cover the costs of room and board, transportation, and program fees and are supplemented by minimal funding from private donors to help keep the cost of the trip down. There will be no refunds if you choose to withdraw from the trip after the final payment to the organization has been made.

Thank you for your interest in the Alternative Breaks Program. We look forward to working with you! If you have any questions about this trip or any of our services and projects contact us anytime.

Eric Vorkoeper
Alternative Breaks Coordinator
eric.vorkoeper@mso.umt.edu
Alternative Spring Break 2020 Participant Application

Please complete all portions of this application, including the release of liability for your trip, the drug and alcohol policy, and the questionnaire.

Name_____________________________________________ Age___________________________
E-mail address_______________________________________ Phone________________________
Street Address___________________________________________________________________
Student I.D.______________________Major____________________ Year__________________
Allergies and/or medical problems____________________________________________________
Emergency contact __________________________Relationship______________________
Phone________________________Address___________________________________________
Health Insurance Company and Policy Number___________________________________________

How did you hear about the Alternative Break Program? ______________________________

Time commitment as a participant:
* 1-2 pre-trip meetings, approximately an hour in length.
* The trip! (March 15-March 21)
RELEASE OF LIABILITY

WHEREAS, I wish to participate in the Alternative Spring Break program with the University of Montana by working with Plateau Restoration Inc, and enjoying various sites on the way to and from the site; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that my work will consist of contributing to environmental restoration in Moab, UT; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that I will be camping near Arches National Park in Moab, UT; and,

WHEREAS, I understand and recognize that there exists the possibility and risk of bodily injury to me or damage to my property while traveling to and from Missoula MT, and during my stay in Moab, UT, and my participation in the program; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that my participation in the Alternative Break program is voluntary.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the University of Montana allowing me to participate in this voluntary Alternative Break program, I hereby release, relieve, and hold harmless The University of Montana, its trustees, officers, employees, and representatives from any liability or claim of liability, including liability for bodily injury or property damage arising out of or in connection with my participation in the Alternative Break Program, including my travel to, from and around the location where I will be residing and working during the program, except such liability or claim of liability as may result from the gross negligence on the part of the University of Montana.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read this release of liability and am signing it voluntarily.

___________________________________________
Signature and Date

___________________________________________
Printed Name and Student ID#
*All participants must read and sign the drug and alcohol policy and initial that they understand what will be expected of them.

**Alternative Breaks Drug and Alcohol Policy**

As these are University sanctioned service-learning projects, students **MUST** follow the University of Montana’s alcohol and drug policy and conduct themselves in a manner according to the Student Conduct Code. For more information see UM’s drug and alcohol policies in the publication, “With Your Personal Safety in Mind.” Print copies are available in the offices of Public Safety, ASUM and the Vice President for Student Affairs or by going to: [http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/](http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/). The Student Conduct Code is also available from these sources. The Office of Experiential Learning prohibits illegal drug and alcohol use in violation of applicable laws and UM policy; and conditions participation in the Office of Experiential Learning on compliance with these laws and policies. Persons who violate these laws and policies will be removed from the program.

*By signing below, I agree to follow the University of Montana’s Alcohol and Drug policy and the Student Code of Conduct while participating in all parts of the Alternative Breaks Program.*

_____________________________________________________________________________
Signature and Date
_____________________________________________________________________________
Printed Name and Student ID#

**Additional Requirements of the Alternative Breaks Program**

Indicate your understanding and acceptance of these requirements by placing your initials next to each item. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in removal from the program.

1. _______ All participants are expected to be ready to work on time each working day, and to contribute a full day of activity as per the program schedule. “Working” hours are considered from **8am until 6pm** (this may be adjusted for your specific program) on all service days. This includes service work, meal preparation, and reflection activities.

2. _______ Participants are not allowed to miss any days of service for any reason excluding sickness or very serious family emergencies.

3. _______ All participants are expected to participate in daily group-reflection activities. These activities will follow your day of service, and are important to help participants incorporate what they have learned. These activities are incorporated into “work hours.”
Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions as completely as possible. The only correct answers are honest answers! Please type or write your answers on a separate sheet of paper and attach them.

1.) Please describe your past community involvement experience.

2.) Why are you interested in participating in this Alternative Spring Break Trip?

3) What skills and qualities will you bring to the group and to the experience, and what do you hope to gain?

4) Please describe, as colorfully as you feel appropriate, your ideal break. Your response does not need to have anything to do with this program (although it just might!) and can be as fantastic as you wish. Be creative.

5) [OPTIONAL] If you are interested in more responsibility and leadership experience please note this in your application and give a quick overview of why you think you would be a good fit in a Site Leader position. Site leaders receive a 50% discount (limited to 2 site leaders).

*Turn in applications ASAP, no later than Friday, February 7th. Programs are filled on a first come first serve basis. Participants will be notified as soon as they are chosen.*