WASHINGTON PROGRAM IN NATIONAL ISSUES

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Description
The Washington Program in National Issues was established in 1973 through the initiative of Washington-based alumni who sought to provide Kent State University undergraduates with a unique living and learning experience in the nation’s capital. Open to junior and senior students from all academic disciplines, the full 15-week spring semester program is administered through the Department of Political Science.

The purpose of the program is to accomplish the following:

• Facilitate learning about the U.S. political system through briefings with government officials and other working professionals in Washington, DC
• Develop a personal understanding of the demands and rewards of the professional work world through an internship experience
• Encourage initiative through individualized research, which may involve resources at the Library of Congress, among other sites

Students participate in internships—in places such as Capitol Hill, in a governmental agency or with an interest group—and attend seminars. The program requires a semester-long residence in the Washington, DC, area. Alumni in the nation’s capital continue to support the program by introducing students to the culture and serving as consultants and mentors.