West Virginia and Kentucky Spring Break Energy Trip

March 14th-24th, 2018, Spring Break

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the processes of energy extraction in Appalachia.
- Understand the sociopolitical, environmental, and economic impacts of fossil fuel extraction in West Virginia and Kentucky and the possibilities of integrating renewable energy.
- Explore locally-based efforts for community and economic empowerment and revitalization in West Virginia and Kentucky.
- Get to know and value a tight knit community of students who share this trip experience. Understand their backgrounds, points of views, inner experiences, and feelings.
- Develop skills in collaborating across difference, including building empathy, active listening, communication, and emotional and cultural intelligence skills.

Map and Itinerary:



Mar 14: Drive from Hanover, NH to Allentown, PA (half way point to break up driving)

Mar 15: Drive from Allentown, PA to Montgomery, WV

Mar 16-20: Programming in Montgomery with the Morris Creek Watershed Association: tours of natural gas collection sites, coal fired power power plant, mountain top mining site, and acid mine drainage in local creeks. Meeting with local organizers, community members, & government officials.

Mar 21: Drive to Fayetteville, WV to meet with community support and revitalization leaders from Family Resource Network, New River Gorge RDA, and Fayette County Urban Renewal Agency. Return to Montgomery in evening.

Mar 22: Drive to Whitesburg, KY and meet with Appalshop + Appalachian Citizens' Law Center. Drive to Williamson, WV and spend overnight.

Mar 23: Drive to Morgantown, WV and meet with Friends of Decker Creek and West Virginia University students. Overnight in Morgantown.

Mar 24: Drive from Morgantown, WV back to Hanover, NH

Timeline:

Jan 21, 2018: Applications for trip attendees due by noon (12pm). Jan 21 & 22, 2018: Attendee selection and interviews if needed.

Week of Jan 22: Welcome Dinner Week of Jan 29: Education session #1 Week of Feb 5: Education session #2 Week of Feb 12: Education session #3 Week of Feb 19: Education session #4 Week of Feb 26: Education session #5

March 13: Final exams end

March 14: Leave for Allentown, PA at noon.

Cost:

\$200 covers all travel expenses, programming, housing, and food for the entire trip duration

Financial Aid is available and we do not want cost to be a barrier to entry for this program. Please apply regardless and we'll work with you to make the trip possible!