WHAT IS THE ACCESS SOCIAL ECOLOGY PROGRAM?

Launched in Fall 2011, ACCESS is the School’s signature retention and peer mentoring program. This student-centered program was created to assist new students (freshman, transfer) maximize their undergraduate experience with a focus on academic excellence, leadership development, and community engagement. Our target mentee population is first-generation, low-income, and international students.

WHAT BENEFITS DO I GET AS A PEER MENTOR?

- Earn 4 units of Social Ecology 199 (letter grade) each quarter. Topics covered in class include: retention and mentoring in higher education, campus climate, diversity and social justice, and community engagement. A maximum of two SE199 classes be applied towards upper-division major/school requirements via course waiver petitions.

- Explore educational and career goals, especially for those interested in attending graduate or professional school and/or pursuing a career in public service (i.e., education, law, social work).

- Collaborate with peers under the guidance of program director to assist with program development, assessment, evaluation, and marketing/communications.

- Receive quarterly training and professional development opportunities that aid in your personal, career, and leadership development.

- Work collaboratively with faculty, staff, and administrators to develop and implement high impact, student-centered programs.

- Develop and gain skills in programming, communication (oral and written), program evaluation, marketing, analytical and critical thinking, needs assessments, and event planning.

- Serve as a positive role model by assisting new students maximize their full potential and have an impact.

IF I AM SELECTED, WHAT ARE MY COMMITMENTS?

- Be in good academic standing. You must maintain an overall GPA of at least 2.5.

- Commit up to 10 hours per week. Attend and participate in program workshops, events, and service-learning projects. Note that the quarterly service-learning projects will occur on a Saturday during Week 7 or 8.

- Commit to the program for the entire academic year. If you will be studying abroad and/or graduating prior to Spring 2017, you may want to reconsider applying.

- Attend mandatory two-day training from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in late September 2016. Dates TBD and will be communicated to those who accept the position.

- Attend class and staff meetings (Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m.) and participate in quarterly one-on-ones with the program director.
2016-2017 ACCESS SOCIAL ECOLOGY PROGRAM
PEER MENTOR APPLICATION

Please carefully read and answer each question as incomplete applications will not be considered for review. In order to be eligible for consideration, you must be a major in the School of Social Ecology, have an overall GPA of at least 2.5, and achieve junior or senior standing by Fall 2016. Please attach a current resume. Feel free to attach additional sheets if necessary.

Last, First Name: _____________________________   Student ID#: _____________________________
UCI E-mail: _________________________________   Major(s): _________________________________
Contact Phone Number: ______________________   Overall GPA: ______________________________

Why are you interested in applying for a peer mentor position?

What unique qualities do you have that would enable you to develop a positive mentoring relationship with new students from diverse backgrounds?

What commitments do you have planned during the 2016-2017 academic year? Please list your participation (anticipated and/or confirmed) in all on- and off-campus activities.

What are your future educational and/or career goals?

Upon receipt of your application, you will be contacted via e-mail to schedule a 20-minute interview.

Interviews will take place during Week 6-7.