

**JOURNEYS OF RECONCILIATION**  
**Emory University**  
**Office of the Dean of the Chapel and Religious Life**

## **Definition and Purpose**

Journeys of Reconciliation is an inter-religious project promoting relationships between Emory University and communities around the world that have a history of violence and exploitation.

At the program's heart is an affirmation that barriers of race, religion, nationality, gender, and class can, and ought, to be overcome. For each two-week immersion experience, the program seeks as diverse a group as possible, drawing from Emory's unusually diverse body of students, staff, and faculty; its thirty recognized religious groups; its significant non-religious population; and its array of academic disciplines and professional schools. The program invites groups to encounter the world's complexity, to hear stories of pain and liberation, and to seek wisdom outside university walls. Intellectually rigorous and psychologically demanding, each trip carries the hope that participants will be transformed into more thoughtful and caring citizens of the world.

For Journeys of Reconciliation participants, reconciliation has several dimensions. Participants are encouraged to seek reconciliation with one another, as they share new experiences and ideas. They are encouraged to seek reconciliation with communities whose labor and struggle are often distant and unfamiliar to an urban, affluent university. And they are encouraged to observe and learn from divided parties who seek reconciliation, trying to transcend the accumulated bitterness of historic division.

Participants build relationships with host communities in varying ways. In some settings, hosts ask us to contribute to a service project, and we do so gladly. In other settings, service work carries the taint of paternalism, even colonialism, and in those areas we focus exclusively on conversation and collaborative analysis with our hosts. Trip leaders, in conversation with their hosts, help determine the best ways to foster mutual, lasting respect and goodwill. In every case, we resolve to share their stories, working however we can to support our hosts as they search for healing and justice.

*Each year, Journeys of Reconciliation sponsors a number of immersion experiences for Emory students, staff, and faculty. The program evolved out of an Oxford College service learning program that began in 1985. In 1999, the program took its current name and began to embrace both the Oxford and Atlanta campuses. Although it is for students of Oxford College and Emory College primarily, it welcomes graduate student applications. Staff and faculty are invited to serve as trip co-leaders. Past destinations include: South Africa, Northern Ireland, Cuba, Bolivia, the Texas/Mexico border, Oaxaca, Appalachia, the Mississippi Delta, and Cheyenne and Northern Crow reservations in Montana. In 2008, participants will travel to the Middle East, South Africa and New Orleans, Louisiana.*

For information, contact:

- Aysha Hidayatullah, Muslim Religious Advisor [ahidaya@learnlink.emory.edu](mailto:ahidaya@learnlink.emory.edu)
- Cathy Rhodes, Religious Life (404)727-6229/ [crhod01@emory.edu](mailto:crhod01@emory.edu)
- Judy Shema, Chaplain, Oxford College (404) 784-8392 / [jshema@emory.edu](mailto:jshema@emory.edu)
- Bridgette Young, Associate Dean of the Chapel (404) 727-6225 / [bdyoung@emory.edu](mailto:bdyoung@emory.edu)
- Susan Henry-Crowe, Dean of the Chapel (404) 727-6226 / [shenryc@emory.edu](mailto:shenryc@emory.edu)

*APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2008 NEW ORLEANS JOURNEYS OF RECONCILIATION ARE DUE  
IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHAPEL AND RELIGIOUS LIFE, DUC 260, OR IN THE OFFICE OF  
THE CHAPLAIN AT OXFORD BY 5 P.M., April 23, 2008.*

Office of the Dean of the Chapel and Religious Life  
**Journeys of Reconciliation 2008 New Orleans Application**

**PRINT CLEARLY – DO NOT LEAVE BLANKS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emory/Oxford Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Female Male

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_ Religious Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

School/Program/Major: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Fr, S, J, Sr, graduate

Languages spoken/fluency: \_\_\_\_\_

SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any medical restrictions that we need to make provisions for?

If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have special dietary requirements (vegetarian, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy and ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What does reconciliation mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- List any previous international/intercultural experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- What gifts and skills would you like to contribute to the team? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Describe an experience you have had working with a diverse group of people and what you learned about yourself in that context.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- **Please answer on another sheet of paper:** Describe in one paragraph why you want to participate in this Journey of Reconciliation and what the journey would mean to you culturally, educationally, morally, politically, or spiritually.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this application to the Office of the Chapel and Religious Life, DUC 260, or to the Office of the Chaplain at Oxford by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2008.**