



Spelman College®

A Choice to Change the World

Domestic Exchange



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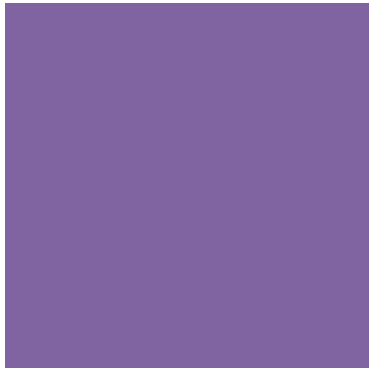
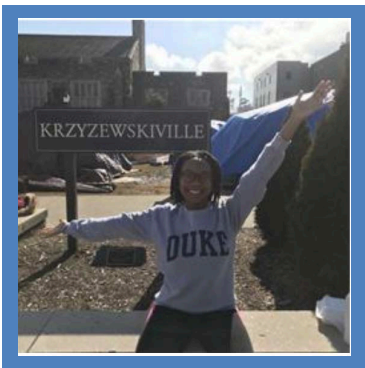
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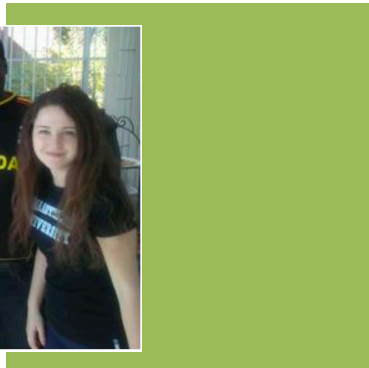
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- Babson College
- Barnard College
- Bates College
- Bryn Mawr College
- Claremont McKenna College
- Columbia College
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Grinnell College
- Haverford College
- Louisiana State University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Mills College
- Mount Holyoke College
- New York University (spring only)
- Pitzer College
- Pomona College
- Scripps College
- Simmons College
- Skidmore College (study in Paris or NY)
- Smith College
- Stanford University
- The New School
- University of California, San Diego
- Wellesley College



Pictured clockwise: Annia Rochester, Class of 2019 @ Duke University, Zayd Zori, Class of 2019 @ The New School and Chelsea Banks, Class of 2016 @ Babson College.



Why Domestic Exchange?

- Take advantage of course offerings/special programs at other institutions
- Meet professors and scholars in preparation for graduate school
- Immerse in a new and diverse social and cultural community
- Serve as an ambassador for Spelman College
- Explore internships and other opportunities in the host city

Midterms...! Excuse me? Where in the world did the time go! You haven't seen how fast time can fly until you've been in New York City (NYC). With weeks full of academics, a job, a play, and tutoring, I have no need to wish for the weekend to hurry and get here, because I know it will arrive before I know it. I believe that being in NYC as a visiting student heightens this sense of time speeding by because you want to do it all.

I may have just scared you away, but I want you to know that you will not be alone. The exchange program staff at Spelman and NYU are here to support you. More importantly, you may have Spelman sisters who are here in graduate programs as well, so definitely reach out via alumnae networks to make these connections during exchange.

All in all, NYU has been a breathtaking experience, and I'm using every single resource before I get up outta here!
#domesticexchangechangeslives

- Maxine Ford, Drama Major, Class of 2019 -





What Comes Next?

Application

To Get Started...

- Review the list of schools and their course offerings
- Select top three schools
- Research signature program(s) and graduate program(s)
- Meet with your major advisor and chair to get proposed courses approved prior to registration
- Explore offerings of the city

To Apply...

- Complete Part I of the Application
(Due the Third Friday in October)

- Part I includes:
 - A statement of purpose
 - An updated resume
 - A copy of your unofficial transcript

- Provide the names and email addresses for two Spelman faculty who will serve as recommenders
(Due the First Friday in November)

Helpful tips ...

- Review the Essay Tip Sheet
- Take your personal statement/essay to the Writing Center
- Consult the Student Career Planning and Development (CPD) Office for help with your resume

Interview

To Get Started...

- Research your top three choices
- Familiarize yourself with their curriculum, signature program(s), and graduate program(s)
- Develop an academic plan for your exchange and your return to Spelman
- Sign up for a mock interview with CPD
- Google interview questions
- Practice your interviewing skills

Interviews will take place in mid November.

The Interview...

- Choose appropriate attire that supports your image:
 - Business casual, clean and neat
 - Hair and nails, clean and well groomed
 - Modest jewelry
- Arrive early
- Bring a copy of your application materials
- Have questions for the interview committee

Post interview ...

Applicants who are approved by the committee to participate in domestic exchange will revise their personal statement/essay for submission to the host institution(s).

Exchange

To Get Started...

Once accepted by the host institution you must:

- Ensure that you have a zero balance at Spelman
- Review and accept financial agreement at host institution
- Confirm schedule at host institution
- Decline Spelman housing for your exchange term

On To The Exchange...

- Arrange transportation to your host city/school
- Attend orientation, if offered
- Meet the host school's exchange liaison
- Communicate with your advisor, chair, and exchange coordinator regarding your exchange
- Request an official transcript from your host school at the end of the term
- Explore potential internship opportunities
- Enjoy your experience!

Returning to Spelman ...

- Remember to submit housing application, if applicable
- Register for classes



Our Experience



I am so pleased that I chose to study at Dartmouth for the fall. The experiences I gained through my classes were unlike anything I'd be able to experience at Spelman. I got to meet some amazing Black students by living in a predominantly Black dorm and being an active member in spaces made for and by Black students.

Being in predominantly Black spaces made me feel like I wasn't as far away from home as I really was. Also, getting a PWI experience taught me a lot about how to communicate and interact with non-black people in academic and group settings. I already had some experience with this through my internships, but my term at Dartmouth made me even more equipped for those settings.

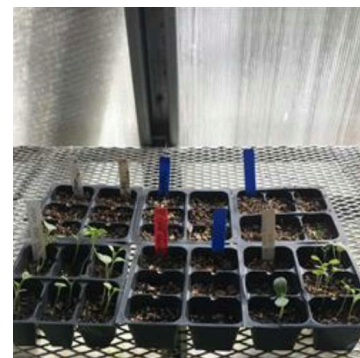
Though my move out process was abrupt due to COVID-19, I will miss the friends I made in New Hampshire! I'm already thinking about visiting in the spring. I encourage other Spelman students to consider Dartmouth for domestic exchange.

- Naomi Steplight, Independent Major, Class of 2021-

I am currently on exchange at Pitzer College located in Claremont, California where the weather has been absolutely beautiful – just 70 degrees in the winter. I have plans of connecting with alums in Los Angeles and going camping over spring break!

Being in a coed classroom has been a learning experience and so far, and a great way to hear about different experiences. I am taking a class on a farm. As someone who lives a plant-based lifestyle it has been nice getting to sit in a classroom and learn how food arrives on my plate. I have the opportunity to grow fruits and vegetables as a part of the class curriculum!

- Alston Bowman, Documentary Filmmaking Major, Class of 2021 -



I selected Mills College (Oakland, CA) as my domestic exchange institution because I wanted an environment that mirrored Spelman in some ways (small, historical women's college, near a major city) but would be validating of my queer and non-binary identities.

I think that as a student at an HBCU, it was important for me to go to a PWI and remember what it is like to interact in a classroom setting with white people. This was especially important to me since I am planning to go to graduate school and these programs are majority white.

Although at times the campus culture can be very isolating and people tend to keep to themselves, I have really enjoyed my classes at Mills and will continue to learn about the topics that I have been introduced to (decolonization, transnational outlooks, the specific histories and struggles of indigenous folk, and queer/trans literature).*

- Abeo Chimeka-Tisdale, Comparative Women's Studies Major, Class of 2020 -

To learn more about student Domestic Exchange experiences, check out our [Reflections](#) page.