The Rising Sophomore Abroad Program (RSAP) is a study abroad opportunity for engineering and science students at the end of their first year. The program has two components: a spring semester course and 1-2 weeks of international travel.

Accepted students must register for the course ENGE 1644 (Global STEM Practice: Leadership and Culture). It will meet twice weekly during the Spring 2020 semester. The course is designed to introduce students to global engineering and science practices, emphasize the importance of cultural competency for engineers and scientists, and focus on how differences in cultural, social and economic contexts influence engineering and science work.

The program culminates with travel to one of the ten international tracks offered. Travel will take place very shortly after Spring 2020 final exams. Below is the the list of the ten tracks offered for RSAP 2020 with their tentative costs (subject to change). Cost of the program varies by international track. You will be asked to rank your preference for the various tracks in your application.

1. Australia and New Zealand - Track 1, North Island ($4,500)
2. Australia and New Zealand - Track 2, South Island ($4,500)
3. Chile and Argentina ($4,100)
4. China ($4,300)
5. Ecuador and Peru ($4,000)
6. Italy and Germany ($4,300)
7. South Africa ($4,300)
8. South Korea and Taiwan ($4,300)
9. Spain and Morocco ($4,100)
10. United Kingdom and Ireland ($4,000)

Costs include the program fee, airfare, lodging, in-country transportation, company visits, admission fees to major attractions, guided tours, and some group meals (see program descriptions for more details on what is included for each track). Not included in this fee is the cost of most lunches and dinners and personal expenses.

Financial support is available to students on the basis of financial need. Applicants will be considered for such financial support at a later date, so we encourage you to apply.

To be considered for acceptance, please submit a complete RSAP Application, sign the required signature documents, and submit the $50 application fee.

Final selection of participants will be based on applications, fall academic performance (with continued good academic standing in the spring), and continued good standing with respect to student conduct and honor code.

(*) Indicates the question is required.

1. Student ID (NOT your PID. No dashes, e.g. 90XXXXXXX) (*)

2. First Name (as it appears on your driver's license or official ID) (*)

3. Middle Name (as it appears on your driver's license or official ID)

4. Last Name (as it appears on your driver's license or official ID) (*)
5. Cell phone # (XXX-XXX-XXXX)  
(numeric data only: 0-9 and decimal point)  

6. Birthday (MM-DD-YYYY) (*)  

7. VT e-mail address (*)  

8. Permanent/Home Address (not your VT campus address) (*)  
Include street address, city, state, zip code or equivalent format for international addresses.  

4,000 characters left  

9. Major/planned study major (*)  

10. Are you a US citizen? (*)  
(Note: This information will help us plan for different visa needs, but does not impact your application.) If no, what country is your passport from?  

Please select one  

11. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your first choice. (*)  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my first choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

12. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your second choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my second choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

13. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your third choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my third choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

14. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your fourth choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my fourth choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

15. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your fifth choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my fifth choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

16. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your sixth choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my sixth choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one  

17. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your seventh choice.  

Please select one  

18. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your eighth choice.  
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my eighth choice.  
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.  

Please select one
Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my seventh choice. 
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.

Please select one

18. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your eighth choice.

Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my eighth choice. 
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.

Please select one

19. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your ninth choice.

Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my ninth choice. 
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.

Please select one

20. Indicate from the available RSAP tracks your tenth choice.

Yes, I would participate in this track. It's my tenth choice. 
NOTE: Your preference will have no bearing on your selection into the program.

Please select one

21. Indicate any RSAP tracks you would not like to participate in.

No, I would not like to participate in this track. Hold down the Ctrl key to multiple select. 
Please double check that you have listed ALL tracks as either YES (in the above ranking) or NO in this question.

Australia and New Zealand, North Island ($4,500)
Australia and New Zealand, South Island ($4,500)
Chile and Argentina ($4,100)
China ($4,300)
Ecuador and Peru ($4,000)

22. Have you traveled outside of the United States before? (*)

If yes, please describe your international travel experiences (e.g. location, year, and purpose of travel).

Please select one

23. How often have you traveled outside of the United States? (*)

Please select one

24. Please list any extracurricular activities that you have participated in at Virginia Tech (*)

Provide your response using the space below. (250 words max.)

25. Why do you want to participate in the Rising Sophomore Abroad Program? (*)

Provide your response using the space below. (250 words max.)
26. You have the ability to design a 6-month engineering study abroad program: Where would you go? (*)
What would you do and why? (250 words max.)

27. Why are you interested in the track you have listed as your top choice? (*)
Provide your answer using the space below. (250 words max.)

28. Tell a story of the experiences of a person who you've met since beginning classes at Virginia Tech. (*)
What makes this story meaningful to you? How can you use this person's story to shape your time at VT and beyond? (250 words max.)