Students who participated in last year's Institute and inaugural trip reported having the experience of a lifetime, building lasting friendships in Japan and the United States, and gaining the knowledge and inspiration that strengthened their commitment to and efforts in behalf of world peace. This year's Institute promises to be equally memorable. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity.

For more information or to register, please fill out the enclosed card or contact:

Professor Peter Kuznick, Director

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Institute Objectives

The fiftieth anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has passed, but the threat posed by nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction continues. The Nuclear Studies Institute will build upon the foundation of last summer’s successful Nuclear History Institute, which sponsored the internationally renowned exhibit, “Constructing a Peaceful World: Beyond Hiroshima and Nagasaki,” in cooperation with the City of Hiroshima and with assistance from the City of Nagasaki.

The Institute will equip students with the knowledge of nuclear history, culture, and policy that will enable them to understand the historical roots and psychological and political dimensions of current nuclear weapons programs and options. It is designed to begin to provide students with the kind of intellectual and experiential background that will enable them to analyze policy options and take leadership in international efforts to build a just and peaceful world.

Special Institute Features

The Institute consists of two courses at American University and a study tour in Japan. Students may take either or both of the courses, in addition to the study tour, allowing them to earn up to nine undergraduate or graduate credits.

July 1–July 25, 1996: On-campus courses

Two courses will be offered at American University in Washington, D.C. (3 credit hours each):

American Culture in the Nuclear Age, taught by Professor Peter Kuznick of the American University Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, will examine the evolution of nuclear culture through literature, film, television, and music. It will explore the ways Americans have adjusted to and rebelled against living with the constant threat of nuclear annihilation.

Nuclear Decisions from Hiroshima through Arms Control and Disarmament, 1945–1996, taught by Professor Gar Alperovitz, will analyze modern strategies to control nuclear weapons, by exploring a number of topics, including the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, nuclear testing, efforts at arms control and disarmament, and the dangers of nuclear proliferation. Several outside speakers will offer specialized presentations.

July 30–August 10, 1996: Study tour in Japan Beyond Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be a study tour in Japan (3 credit hours). Students will live and study with Japanese students, professors, and experts in the field and with other participating Asian students in Hiroshima and at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto. They will hear first-hand accounts from atomic bomb survivors and Asian victims of Japanese atrocities. The course will focus on Japanese wartime aggression, the human and physical devastation wrought by the atomic bombings, current Japanese and international efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons, and the building of closer ties between the peoples of the United States and Japan. Students will also participate in a broad range of Japanese commemorative events.

If you are interested in the Institute courses but are unable to participate in the study tour in Japan, you may register for either or both of the on-campus courses. Students planning to participate in the study abroad course are strongly recommended to take at least one of the other two courses. The fee for the study abroad course is $800 in addition to tuition and airfare. Financial assistance will be available.