

LEOPOLIS GREEN INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP  
*L'viv, Ukraine*



## L'viv, UKRAINE

### Geographical/Cultural Information

Ukraine is located on the northern coast of the Black Sea and in many regards is the dividing point between the east and the west. L'viv is the major city for Western Ukraine and contains a metro population of 1.5 million people. It is often viewed as the vanguard of Ethnic Ukrainian Identity as well as "more European" by other Ukrainians. It is located just north of the Carpathian Mountains and is a close train ride from Poland, Slovakia and Hungary. Ukrainian is the primary language of L'viv and of Western Ukraine. In the summer time, the city comes alive with outdoor cafes and tourists while the multiple parks and nearby mountains become a favorite spot, especially among university students.



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**What is Leopolis Green?** *Leopolis Green is the longest running and most intense mentored training internship of MTW. Spanning over 10 years there have been 95 interns who have been personally trained and mentored in Leopolis Green.*



**Leopolis** means "Lion City" and is the medieval Latin name for L'viv.

**Green** stands for "The Greenhouse". This summer internship program is a "**greenhouse**" for people interested in missions to be mentored and trained in a personal church planting community.

### Training/Mentoring/Ministry/Community/Hands on experience with hands on oversight

**Greenhouse:** Leopolis Green is a two-month internship for seminary and upper class college students as well as young families in American PCA churches/RUF/college groups. Many people want to know if they are called to cross-cultural missions but need a place to test their gifts and gain some valuable training, experience and personal oversight. Others know they are in need of more experience before launching into a longer-term commitment in cross-cultural missions abroad or at home. The L'viv Church Planting Team hosts the summer "greenhouse" to provide a safe community where interns are mentored, trained and taught about the workings of cross-cultural missions, with the goal in mind that this will affect their understanding, not only of missions and of themselves, but also of their place in the kingdom of God.

**Purpose and Calling in Life:** One could look at Leo-G as a bridge leading the participants to a much greater sense of purpose, direction, and calling to serve Christ in every arena of life. This is accomplished in large part through intensive training in ministry, cultural studies, and missionary dynamics. The interns are responsible for planning and implementing strategic outreaches in L'viv. Each intern will have close personal interaction with English speaking Ukrainians which will challenge the intern in many ways such as: evangelism, apologetics, theology and cross cultural dynamics.

**Goal of Leopolis Green:** The goal of Leopolis Green is to equip the interns for ministry by helping them understand who they are in Christ. The overflow of this understanding is what fuels ministry and mission. Each intern will better understand their calling and giftedness as they participate in God's mission in the world. Finally, each intern will have close personal contact with unbelieving Ukrainians as they seek to understand the culture and people of L'viv.

### History and operation of Leopolis Green:

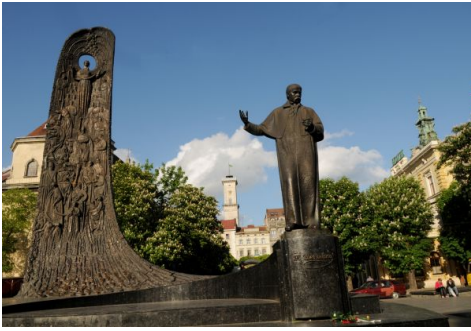
Since 1996 there have been 95 interns trained over 10 years. This group was made up of Americans as well as Ukrainians and Western Europeans. **Leopolis Green** is in its fifth year of operation in L'viv and is in its eleventh year of operation in Ukraine. **To date 95 interns have participated in the internship.**





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### **Role of the Intern**

The question most often asked is, "What will I be doing in L'viv?" It is often difficult to pin down exactly because of the fact that much of the work will come about only after the ingredients of the individual interns are put in; but, as past participants suggest, come ready to serve. **Leo-G** wants to put focus not upon "doing" ministry, but upon "being" a child of God in Christ. This does not mean that there will not be plenty of activity.

**University Ministry and ESL:** Interns will be helping to make and develop relationships with University students within the already established university ministry of the team. Building Christ-centered relationships is a large part of the summer. Still, applicants will likely learn more about themselves, "who they are", rather than "what they will do." This means the intern should expect to be challenged to learn, grow, develop, and mature as much, if not more, than they should expect to "do".

**Mountain English Camp:** The interns will take part in the planning and execution of the Mountain English Camp set in the Carpathian Mountains. The camp will host approximately 50 Ukrainian university students who are eager for interaction about language, bible, sports, hobbies and crafts. The relationships made at the camp will make up a large part of the interns follow up strategy after the camp.

**The interns' main task is to serve, learn and be teachable.** This will happen in the context of daily, morning devotion, class time teaching as well as afternoon cultural events. The intern will also spend a substantial amount of time with English speaking Ukrainian university students. This allows the Americans to move and work in the culture despite the language barrier and to get a first hand experience with Ukrainian life.



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### **What qualifications are necessary?**

**Leopolis Green** is looking for teachable, mature people with leadership ability who have an interest in foreign ministry, who are up for intense training, and who have an adventuresome attitude for two months. You must have completed at least two years of university or be 20 years of age.

### **What are the living arrangements for the interns?**

Interns will live with other interns in their own apartments. These apartments will be secure and have water and electricity.

### **What are the cultural nuances an intern should expect?**

L'viv is a beautiful European city with a long history, stunning architecture and a host of rich religious traditions. However, due to the presence of communism in the past, some of the infrastructure is not up to European standards. The people of Ukraine make the country a great place. But where do these people gather? L'viv is known for its coffee houses, Universities and the many cultural sites which make it a UNESCO World Heritage Site (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/865>). Slow walks down the narrow cobblestone streets and unhurried conversations in one of the many small coffee houses are where most of the relationships are formed and deepened.

There are many other distinctions that will be discovered as you seek to learn more about this unique ministry context.

### **What is the size of the Leo-G team?**

Interns should expect to work on a close team of 5-10 Americans.

### **What are the dates of the Leo-G Internship?**

Tentatively June 1st - July 31st, 2013

### **How much financial support is needed?**

Approximately \$5,325 (Contact MTW). This will include airfare, lodging, food, immunizations, ministry fees, local transportation, visas, etc. - everything except personal spending money, which is recommended at \$200-\$300.

### **Reference Sites:**

Team Website: [www.teamlviv.org](http://www.teamlviv.org)

Picture library of L'viv in all seasons: <http://www.leopolis.lviv.net/eng/index.htm>

### **Visa and Immunization Requirements**

A visa is not required for travel to Ukraine.

The following immunizations are recommended for Ukraine: Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and a current Tetanus. **Please check with the CDC and your doctor about other immunizations that they would recommend.**

### **Questions?**

Contact: **MTW Global Support Ministries** @ 678.823.0004 ext. 2342

You may also email Doug Shepherd, Director of Leopolis Green, at [free2travel98@yahoo.com](mailto:free2travel98@yahoo.com)