D-Lab Development, Design, Dissemination

Practicing Poverty

The average Haitian citizen has \$1.39 to spend each day, in India the average is \$1.23. It is difficult to imagine what this is like, so your assignment is to experience it directly. For the next week, limit your spending to \$2 per day. Try to minimize your reliance on pre-existing resources (such as using food that is in the pantry, eating your room-mates leftovers etc.).

While it is true that the cost of living is higher here in the US, you will also have access to resources that are unavailable to most citizens in developing countries that you do not have to pay for on a daily basis (shuttle bus service to your dorm or fraternity, free access to computers, drinking fountains that provide safe water, central heating).

Write a one-page paper on your experience.