Guatemala & Honduras

Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Summer • May 20 - June 12, 2015

Course Name: The Mayan World: Guatemala and Honduras; ANT 490: Field Experience in Anthropology

Course Numbers: ANT 490 Field Experience in Anthropology, SPN 297 Special Topics in Spanish

Credit Hours: 3 undergraduate

Course Overview & Objectives: Participants in this program will:
- gain first-hand knowledge of modern and traditional Guatemalan cultures by staying with local families, studying both Spanish and Tz’utujil Mayan languages, and touring diverse Mayan villages surrounding Lago de Atitlan
- examine various forms of tourism and their economic, environmental and cultural impacts
- acquire an overview of Honduras and Guatemala’s geography, climate, natural resources, biodiversity, and agricultural practices
- explore pre-Columbian archaeological sites, the Spanish colonial city of Antigua, and Chichicastenango on market day; hike one of Guatemala’s 37 majestic volcanoes
- see how diverse religious and cultural traditions have found expression through the architecture, arts, crafts, music and literature of Honduras and Guatemala
- gain a deeper understanding of the country’s tumultuous history, how the current sociopolitical structure evolved and what forces are shaping its future

Program Fee: $1,400

Program Fee Includes:
- In-country land transportation, some meals, guide and entry fees for parks, museums, and eco-tourism outings,
- one-on-one language instruction, lodging, Study Away student fee and basic medical insurance.

Program Fee Excludes:
- Passport, airfare, ground transportation in San Pedro, meals (other than those served by the host family), incidentals/ misc personal expenses, and souvenirs.
- $612MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate credit. Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the Mo. resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

Online applications are due by February 6, 2015. A nonrefundable deposit of $210 will be billed to your student account. To apply, please:
- Visit the Study Away website at international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/
- Choose Apply Now
- Search for a Program (under Apply for a Study Away Program)
- Choose Simple Search
- Type Guatemala under Program Name
- Choose The Mayan World: Guatemala and Honduras; ANT 490: Field Experience in Anthropology
- Choose Apply Now

Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid
Students may apply for the College of Humanities and Public Affairs Study Away scholarship. Applications are due to the Study Away office by April 10, 2015. Please see the scholarship page on the Study Away website. Additionally, students who receive financial aid may apply aid to this program. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at 836-5262 for more information.

Informational Meeting:
TBA

Application Due:
February 6, 2015

Pre-Travel Meetings:
TBA

Depart Springfield:
May 20, 2015

Return to Springfield:
June 12, 2015

Post-Travel Meetings:
TBA

Interested in going?
Contact the Program Director, Jason Shepard, Department of Sociology & Anthropology
417-836-5640
JasonShepard@MissouriState.edu
OzarksJason@gmail.com
417-234-7544
Course Schedule & Itinerary

Before leaving for Honduras and Guatemala, students will participate in two meetings briefing them on course content, conduct, and expectations. A brief historical, economic, geographical and cultural overview of Guatemala will also be presented and a pre-departure briefing will cover the practicalities of international travel to Guatemala.

On May 20, 2015, students will be met in the airport in Guatemala City by the instructor Jason Shepard. Students will then be transported to the village of San Pedro on Lake Atitlan where they will live with local families and study Spanish and Tz‘utujil Mayan for two weeks.

All students will have opportunities to climb volcanoes, take historical tours, visit museums, coffee plantations and other industrial and agricultural projects. All students will take excursions to the colonial city of Antigua and the colorful outdoor market in Chichicastenango.

STUDY TOUR

May 20, 2015: Students will be met at the Guatemala City airport by the instructor and spend the night in the city.

May 21, 2015: Students will travel from Guatemala City to San Pedro to meet their host families.

June 5, 2015: Students will travel from San Pedro to Antigua. Weekend excursions to climb San Pedro volcano and visit the market town of Chichicastenango will be taken place prior to this date while students are staying with host families in San Pedro.

June 8, 2015: Students will travel from Antigua to Copan in Honduras.

June 11, 2015: Students will travel from Copan to Guatemala City.

June 12, 2015: Students will be shuttled to the airport for their return flights.

Course Credit & Requirements

Students will be evaluated with the submission of a digitized version of daily field notes, participation in language instruction sessions and preflight meetings, and the submission of a 4-6 page reflection paper incorporating journal data and preflight reading selections.

Required Text: Students will select two of the following three books:


Application & Payment Procedures

Missouri State University students and others who are approved by the Program Director may apply.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of $210 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Feb. 6, 2015). You will receive a second billing on March 6, 2015 and a final billing on April 10, 2015, for the balance of the program fee ($1,190). MSU course tuition ($612) will be billed to your University account separately and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $210 must be paid through the Study Away Storefront on or before Feb. 6, 2015. The balance of the program fee ($1,190) must be paid through the Study Away Storefront by April 17, 2015. MSU course tuition ($612) is also due by April 17, 2015 and must be paid at the bursar’s office or on-line through my.missouristate.edu.

In order to ensure participation in this Study Away program, each student must pay the entire program fee by May 1, 2015. Alternatively, a student may show proof of the financial aid that will pay for the fee. If a student does not pay the program fee, or does not show proof of financial aid that is sufficient to cover the fee, the student will be withdrawn from the Study Away program, dropped from the course, and his/her airline reservation will be canceled. Visiting students must also fully pay the tuition amount by May 1, 2015 in order to stay enrolled in the program. Estimated program fees are based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change. Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% if rates increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies

- Students who withdraw prior to April 6, 2015 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $500 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student must withdraw after April 6, 2015 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $500 deposit and non-refundable expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after April 6, 2015 will receive no refund.
- When the program begins, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and the Director of Study Away Programs at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. Non-payment of fees does not guarantee withdrawal.