Short-term Faculty-led Program ● 2nd Block Spring ● May 23 - June 1, 2015

Program Fee: $2,086

Program Fee Includes: Airfare, ground transportation, lodging, meals, translators, field trip expenses, insurance, tips and Study Away student fee. Separated costs not available.

Program Fee Excludes: MSU tuition for 2 hours of undergraduate or graduate credit ($408/$500); misc. personal expenses.

Applications are due by February 16, 2015. A nonrefundable deposit of $313 will be billed to your student account. Please see Application & Payment Procedures for MSU and Visiting Students on reverse.

Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid
Students may apply for the College of Health & Human Services 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.

Course Overview & Objectives:
This course is designed to bring students and Nicaraguan communities together in a mutually beneficial experience. Student participants will provide hearing and speech services to children and adults in rural areas and have the opportunity to become familiar with cultural practices other than those commonly observed in the U.S.

Through this course, participants will
• Enhance their understanding of the language, culture and customs of individuals living in rural Nicaragua
• Expand their knowledge of regional and cultural differences with regard to elementary education and health care systems in a developing nation
• Gain experience administering screenings for communication disorders
• Build mutually beneficial relationships between Missouri State University and Nicaraguan village schools

Interested in going?
Contact Dr. Letitia White or Dr. Lisa Proctor for more info.
LetitiaWhite@missouristate.edu
417-836-4710
Lisa Proctor@missouristate.edu
417-836-6192
Course Purpose & Activities
Familiarity with non-American customs, cultural beliefs and the effect of socioeconomic status is crucial for the continued growth of individuals preparing for careers in health care and education.

In this course, students will develop their cultural competence—the ability to understand and effectively interact with people of a different culture—while gaining practical experience administering hearing and speech services to an underserved population in rural Nicaragua.

Pre-travel class meetings and in-country activities will provide an overview of Nicaraguan culture, language and regional topography, as well as first-hand knowledge of education and health care in a developing nation.

This course strives to enhance each student’s understanding of community and social responsibility within our global society. In addition to providing a framework for personal and professional growth, a study away experience such as this may improve a participant’s marketability upon graduation.

Course Credit & Requirements
This course will be offered to undergraduate and graduate students at Missouri State University during 2nd Block Spring 2015 as a 2 credit hour course. To receive credit, students must fulfill the following academic requirements:

- Attend scheduled meetings before, during and after the program
- Attend all lectures, presentations and relevant educational excursions provided during the program
- Participate fully in assigned activities
- Participate in a post-travel focus group to share feelings about the program and discuss strengths/weaknesses, potential improvements for future programs, etc.
- Be able to count and say/understand 20 words/phrases in Spanish
- Maintain a daily reflection journal during the program
- Organize, write and present a 4- to 5-page report on personal and professional observations and development resulting from the course

The class will meet four times at Missouri State University before departure and will convene each day in Nicaragua. Prior to travel, participants will receive background information on the sites where the hearing and speech services will be conducted, as well as on culturally accepted behaviors and dress of the Nicaraguan people. Students will also be provided with a complete itinerary, a list of items to pack, and a review of safety and conduct during the program.

Required Text: No text required.

Assessment of learning: There will be no exams for this course. Participations will complete reflection journal before, during, and after the trip and will complete additional written assignments. Students will also be evaluated on their participation in trip activities.

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 $313 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Feb. 16, 2015). You will receive a second billing on March 13, 2015 and a final billing on April 10, 2015, for the balance of the program fee ($1,773). MSU course tuition ($408/$500) will be billed to your University account separately and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $313 must be paid through the Study Away Storefront on or before Feb. 16, 2015. The balance of the program fee ($1,773) must be paid through the Study Away Storefront by April 10, 2015. MSU course tuition ($408/$500) is also due by Jan. 16, 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 10, 2015 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $390 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student must withdraw after April 10, 2015 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $390 deposit and non-refundable expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after April 10, 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.