

Nicaragua



Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Spring Break • March 17-25, 2012

Course Name: **Study Away
Nicaragua**

Course Numbers: **CSD 492/792**

Credit hours: **1** (undergraduate or graduate)

Course Overview & Objectives:

This course is designed to bring together students and Nicaraguan communities in a mutually beneficial experience. Student participants will provide hearing and speech evaluations to children and adults in rural areas and have the opportunity to become familiar with cultural practices other than those 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

Estimated Cost: \$1,650

Includes: airfare, ground transportation, lodging, meals, Spanish lessons and translators, field trip expenses, insurance, tips and Study Away student fee. Separated costs not available.

Excludes: MSU tuition for 1 hour of undergraduate or graduate credit; misc. personal expenses.

Nonrefundable deposit due with application by Nov. 1, 2011: \$248
(will be billed to your student account)

Balance due Jan. 20, 2012: \$1,402

Voucher Eligibility & Financial Aid

If you entered MSU as a freshman in 2009 or 2010, you may use the **Study Away \$500 voucher**. Students who receive financial aid through MSU may apply that aid to the program, if eligible. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at **836-5262** for more information.



**Missouri
State**
UNIVERSITY

An EO/AA Institution

Informational Meeting:

Tues., Oct. 11, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

Professional Building #238

Application Due: **Tues., Nov. 1, 2011**

Pre-travel Class Meetings: TBA

Depart Springfield for Managua, Nicaragua:

Sat., March 17, 2012

Depart Managua for Springfield:

Sun., March 25, 2012

Post-travel Meeting, Papers Due:

Fri., March 30, 2012

Interested in going?

Contact Communication Sciences and Disorders Department Head Dr. Neil DiSarno:
NeilDiSarno@missouristate.edu or
836-6511 for more information

Study Away!

Missouri State University Study Away Programs

Jim D. Morris Center for Continuing Education, Suite 403

301 S. Jefferson Ave., Springfield, MO 65806

P: 417-836-6368 • E: studyaway@missouristate.edu

W: <http://international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/>

Course Purpose & Activities

Familiarity with non-American customs, cultural beliefs and the effect of socio-economic 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 evaluations 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 Schedule & Itinerary

5:30 p.m., Tues., Oct. 11, 2011 -

Informational Orientation:

Overview of course and logistics (lodging, transportation, expenses, what to bring, etc.)

Pre-Travel Class Meetings: TBA

Review syllabus, course expectations and assignments; introduction to Nicaraguan history, culture, language and other issues.

Sat., March 17, 2012 - Depart Springfield for Managua, Nicaragua

Sun., March 18 - Sat., March 24 -

Daily Class Meetings and Field Trips.

Field trips will include coastal areas and a volcano, as well as Nicaraguan villages.

Sun., March 25 - Depart Managua for Springfield

Fri., March 30 - Post-Travel Meeting

Journals, papers and presentations due

Course Credit & Requirements:

This course will be offered to undergraduate and graduate students at Missouri State University during Spring Break 2012 as a 1 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 twice at Missouri State University before spring break and will convene each day in Nicaragua. Prior to travel, participants will receive background information on the sites where the hearing and speech evaluations 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 - A textbook is not required.

Assessment of learning - There will be no exams for this course. Participants will prepare a reflection paper to be presented at the post-travel class meeting on **Friday, March 30, 2012.**

Application & Payment Procedures:

Missouri State University students who are approved by the Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on program application. A **non-refundable deposit of \$248** will be billed to your student account upon application. The balance of the program cost will be billed to your account on **Jan. 20, 2012.**

The published program cost is 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% in the program fee if costs increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies:

- Students who withdraw prior to Jan. 23, 2012 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the \$248 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student is forced to withdraw after Jan. 23, 2012 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the \$248 deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after Jan. 23, 2012, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.
- Once the program has started, students withdrawing receive no refund under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and to Elizabeth Strong at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. **Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.**
- Any plans by a participant not to travel and return with the group must also be submitted in writing to the Program Director and the Study Away Office.
- The program will be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 12 participants. In this event, students will receive a full refund.