

May 13 - 24 4 HOURS CREDIT

Information Systems
in Belize: A Focus
on Communities,
Fieldwork and Service

Sponsored by the Department of Geosciences



http://sites.gsu.edu/belize



TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Highlights of the program are provided below. The university reserves the right to alter travel and other arrangements if required by circumstances.

May 13	Depart Atlanta fo	or Belize

1ay 14 Orange Walk: Agricultural Mapping

1ay 15 Orange Walk: Drone Mapping

May 16 San Ignacio: Cave Exploration

May 17 San Ignacio: Mayan Ruins and Village Dinner

May 18 Belmopan: University of Belize & Belize Zoo

May 19 Dangriga: Town Planning Mapping

May 20 Dangriga: Critical Reflection Mapping

May 21 Cayes: Coastal Debris Mapping

May 22 Cayes: Marine Biodiversity Mapping

May 23 Cayes: Barrier Reef Excursions

1 day 24 Depart Belize for Atlanta

Georgia State University, a unit of the University System of Georgia, is an equal opportunity educational institution and an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. 15-18

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2014

Given that the program size is limited, early application is strongly advised. Students are strongly encouraged to speak directly with the program directors about their interest in the trip. Individual interviews will be scheduled with students upon receipt of application.

CONTACT:

Program Director: Timothy Hawthorne, Ph.D.

350B Sparks Hall phone: 404-413-5771

e-mail: thawthorne@gsu.edu

Program Director: Christy C.Visaggi, Ph.D.

336 Kell Hall

Orange Walk, San Ignacio, Belmopan, Dangriga, and Barrier Reef Cayes, Belize

phone: 404-413-5755 e-mail: cvisaggi@gsu.edu





THE PROGRAM

Geographic Information Systems in Belize: A Focus on Communities, Fieldwork and Service is a three-week Maymester study abroad program.

The program aims to educate undergraduate and graduate students in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and related geospatial technologies, while working with community partners on geographic issues in Belize.

Using geospatial technologies, students will design maps, databases, analytical reports and related multimedia that can be used by Belizean residents and organizations. Such tangible products align with community-based development agendas of selected Belizean service providers, government agencies and community organizations and make the program a form of international service learning.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Students will stay in safe, clean rooms at multiple locations around Belize. Each student will have his/her own bed in a shared room of no more than three students. The itinerary includes lodging in Orange Walk, nights near the mountains in San Ignacio, and beachfront properties on the Caribbean in Dangriga and offshore cayes.

Disability Accommodations

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the program directors and the Office of Disability Services at the time of application. In addition, please discuss any other special medical needs as soon as possible so that arrangements may be anticipated.

ELIGIBILITY

The program is open to all undergraduate and graduate students in good academic standing with the university. Preference will be given to students with a 3.0 or higher GPA and a demonstrated ability in learning GIS and mapping; however, no prior GIS experience is required. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the program directors. Non-GSU students are also welcomed to enroll in the program as transient students. Additional fees apply.

CREDITS AND COURSES

Depending on each student's GIS experience and whether he or she is an undergraduate or graduate student, students can sign up for one of the following: Geography 4532, 6532, 4999 or 6999. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive four semester hours of course credit at Georgia State. Students from other institutions should follow their school's regulations concerning transfer credits.

COST

Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. The program cost is tentatively set at \$2,500 **PLUS** regular Georgia State tuition and fees. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a \$250 fee in addition to the program cost.

Price Includes

- Non-stop roundtrip airfare
- Lodging and some meals
- Transportation and entrance fees to all planned excursions, lectures and activities
- Student travel insurance
- Access to professor's cell phone for emergency use
- Health/Evacuation/Repatriation insurance

Price Does NOT Include

- Georgia State tuition and fees
- Passport
- Optional excursions
- Additional meals
- Travel immunizations
- Personal expenses and baggage charges

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

December 1, 2014 - \$500 deposit with application February 1, 2015 - \$1,000 payment due March 1, 2015 - \$1,000 balance due (All funds are non-refundable upon receipt.)

The program is limited. The first students who meet eligibility and secure their deposits will be accepted. The program may fill prior to the application deadline, so please plan to apply as soon as possible. Please contact Basirat Lawal, business manager in the Department of Geosciences, at blawall@gsu.edu or 404-413-5762 for questions regarding the payment process for the program.

Program Deposit Payments: Participants will pay program deposits by logging into PAWS. Please contact your Program Director to confirm that a Program Deposit Account has been established for this purpose *before* you attempt to make a payment in PAWS.

Program Payments & Remaining Balance: Other than the initial program deposit, all program payments-along with the remaining program balance-will be billed directly to your student account. Please refer to the Academic/Registration calendar for the tuition and fees deadline.

FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Georgia State students are eligible to apply for the IEF Study Abroad Scholarship/Georgia State University Foundation Scholarship and may be eligible to apply for the Global Experience Scholarship. Visit mystudyabroad.gsu.edu or contact the Study Abroad Programs at 404-413-2529 for more information.

Contact Enrollment Services at 404-413-2600 for information on how financial aid might apply toward the program.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Students interested in applying should find this program's listing at **mystudyabroad.gsu.edu** and begin an online application. Students are also strongly encouraged to speak directly with the program directors.

Transient Students: Please see the Transient Student section under the Explore & Apply tab.

International Students at Georgia State who hold F-I visas must contact the Office of International Student and Scholar Services at 404-413-2070 to discuss the possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.