May 13 - 24
4 HOURS CREDIT

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the Department of Geosciences

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

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 for Belize

May 14
Orange Walk: Agricultural Mapping

May 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

May 24
Depart Belize for Atlanta

CONTACT:
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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.

How far will your education take you?

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

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

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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 credit at Georgia State. Students from other institutions should discuss these needs with the program directors and the Office of Disability Services during their study abroad experience. Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the program directors.

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 deposit with application
• March 1, 2015 - $1,000 balance due

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 blawal@gsu.edu or 404-413-5762 for questions regarding the payment process for 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.

International Students at Georgia State who hold F-1 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.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2014

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 INFORMATION
For more information about all aspects of study abroad, please contact the Office of International Student and Scholar Services at 404-413-2070 or visit mystudyabroad.gsu.edu.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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.

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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.

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

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