Spring Break Study Abroad Program
March 9 - 18, 2018

Program Director
Dr. Susan Talburt: stalburt@gsu.edu

Program Description
Come join us in Ecuador to learn why many Latin American nations are on the cutting edge of transforming human rights agendas regarding sexuality, gender, and indigeneity. Activists, non-profits, and Constitutional reform in Ecuador are creating a vibrant, yet contested, moment of social change, with new discourses, identities, and social movements entering the public sphere. We will bear witness to the politics of everyday life as sexual minorities, indigenous groups, and transgender collectives seek recognition and rights in this contemporary postcolonial context.

Before our travel, we will read about sexuality, gender, indigeneity, and human rights in Latin America and Ecuador. In Quito, we will attend classes (in English) with faculty at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ), meet with NGO-based activists and lawyers advocating for LGBTQ issues, tour Quito’s colonial quarter (the largest in Latin America), visit local sights, and enjoy a cooking class. We will take a day-trip to Otavalo, an indigenous market town. We will also travel to the “Middle of the World,” the site of the equator, before spending two nights at an eco-lodge in the Cloud Forest of Mindo, where we can hike, watch butterflies and birds, and learn about a rare biodiverse ecosystem.

Eligibility
The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students who meet all academic requirements of the Georgia State University College of Arts and Sciences. For undergraduates, a grade of C or better in WGSS 2010, or permission of the Program Director, is a prerequisite for the course. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the program director.

Accommodations
Participants will stay in a comfortable, modern hotel near Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Quito and a beautiful eco-lodge just outside the cloud forest town of Mindo.
TENTATIVE PROGRAM ITINERARY

Atlanta, GA

Before our travel, we will agree on times for a combined 2-hour class meeting and a 1-hour pre-departure orientation. Our anticipated travel itinerary is as follows:

Day 1 Depart Atlanta and arrive in Quito

Quito, Ecuador

Day 2 Orientation and welcome lunch at Universidad San Francisco de Quito; tour Quito’s historic colonial sector

Cloud Forest, Ecuador

Day 3 Travel to Cloud Forest, stopping at Crater Pululahua Reserve and Middle of the World (equator); arrive at eco-lodge in Mindo; hiking and other activities

Day 4 Free time for hiking, horseback riding, optional visits to Butterfly Farm, “bean-to-bar” chocolate factory, or birdwatching; afternoon class

Day 5 Return to Quito; evening Ecuadorian cooking class

Day 6 Visit local NGO; class at USFQ

Day 7 Class at USFQ; visit local NGO

Day 8 Visit Capilla del Hombre museum; free time in the afternoon

Day 9 All-day excursion to Otavalo’s Saturday market; depart for airport

Day 10 Arrive in Atlanta

Courses and Credits

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive 3 semester hours of course credit at Georgia State University. Undergraduate students should register for WGSS 4910 (or, for Honors students, WGSS 4910H) and graduate students should register for WGSS 6910.

Program Cost

The program cost is tentatively set at $1875 in addition to regular Georgia State University tuition and fees. Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a $250 fee in addition to the program cost. For more information on what the program cost does and does not include, please visit:

http://www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=GenderEcuador

Funding & Scholarship Info

Georgia State University students may eligible for the IEF Scholarship or the Global Experience Scholarship. Visit http://mystudyabroad.gsu.edu/prospective/funding-study-abroad or call the Study Abroad Programs office at (404) 413-2529 to learn more about scholarships & financial aid for study abroad.

Program Director Contact Information

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Visit http://www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=GenderEcuador for more information