

BSU Office of Study Abroad 2016



Nicaragua

Spring Break Non-Credit
Educational Program



Travel dates: March 5-12, 2016

Nicaragua: Coffee, Culture and Nature



Application Deadline

Priority Application Deadline: Dec. 18

Rolling Acceptance

Applications will now be reviewed and students accepted on a rolling basis. Students will be expected to pay the \$500 deposit within two weeks of notification of acceptance.

Program Leaders

Dr. James Hayes-Bohanan: jhayesboh@bridgew.edu

Pamela Hayes-Bohanan, Library & Foreign Languages

Program Cost

Estimated program price range: \$1,550 - \$1,750

The program fee will never exceed the maximum amount advertised and program fee refunds will be issued if there are savings.

Program Includes: meals, airfare, transportation, admissions, guides, events and accommodations.

Additional Costs: tips & spending money

Accommodation

Home stays, cabins, and hotel in Matagalpa, Jinotega, and Granada, including Selva Negra Ecolodge

Program Description

The purpose of this geography program is to learn about the coffeelands of Nicaragua from the point of view of local experts, including some of the world's most renowned coffee growers. The tour takes place early in coffee's "off season," so harvest and processing activities will not be taking place. Rather, we will spend time on the farms and the surrounding landscape, learning about the important relationships between sustainable farming practices and the social and environmental health of coffee-growing regions. The journey includes home stays in a coffee-growing community, and the opportunity to participate in the daily life of farm families outside of the harvest season. We will also learn first-hand about the ecology and hydrology of the rare and increasingly endangered cloud forests. The tour ends with a brief visit in the Pacific region, including the Masaya volcano and the historic city of Granada.

Historical Sites and Highlights

This non-credit tour is a celebration of TEN YEARS of Bridgewater State travel courses in Nicaragua. Highlights include the historic Selva Negra coffee estate and ecolodge, the world-famous Los Pinos coffee farm of Byron Corrales, and the families of the La Corona coffee cooperative.

Contact Information

BSU Office of Study Abroad

Maxwell Library RM 330

Bridgewater, MA 02325

508.531.6183

www.bridgew.edu/studyabroad

studyabroad@bridgew.edu

NOTE :

All costs and dates may be subject to change by BSU Office of Study Abroad.

Nicaragua

ITINERARY

Day 1

Fly from Boston; travel to the Northern Mountains
Accommodations at Hotel Selva Negra



Day 2

Sustainable farming tour
Lunch and talking with the Corrales Family at Los Pinos farm
Dinner and accommodation in Selva Negra



Day 3

Travel to the Peñas Blancas Nature Reserve & hiking in the forest to the waterfall Arcoiris
Talk with Doctor Allan Bolt, director of CEN research center
Dinner and accommodation at CEN, Peñas Blancas



Day 4

Breakfast and tour of the CEN in Peñas Blancas
Departure to La Corona coffee Community
Dinner and accommodations with local families



Day 5

Tour in a diversified farm, learn about coffee, cacao, vegetables, fruits, etc.
Visit to the public school in La Corona
Cultural farewell activity. Music and dances. BSU prepare its cultural performance



Day 6

Departure to Matagalpa City with city tour
Tour in the SOLCAFE dry coffee mill
Special dinner in Matagalpa to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the study trip Nicaragua with special guests!



Day 7

Departure to Granada Colonial City
Visit the national park Volcan Masaya
Departure to Granada and city walking tour



Day 8

Departure to the International Airport in Managua





Bridgewater State University
NICARAGUA MARCH 2016 PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

If a current BSU student: Banner ID: _____

Major(s): _____ Minor(s): _____

Current GPA: _____ Credits Completed: _____

Do you have a valid passport? Yes ____ No ____ If yes, expiration date _____

On a separate page, please answer the following questions:

- 1) Please share what you think will be the greatest rewards and challenges traveling to Nicaragua as part of a group.
- 2) Have you traveled overseas before? If so, where and for what purpose?

I understand that participating in the BSU Nicaragua 2016 Program requires my time, energy, and commitment before and during the program. I understand that group travel requires flexibility and that travel in rural Nicaragua involves outhouses and lack of running water. I agree to attend all pre-travel planning meetings and remain fully engaged throughout the program, and that the itinerary is physically demanding.

Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Priority Application Deadline: December 18, 2015

Please return your completed application and materials to:

Michael Sandy, Director of Study Abroad
BSU Study Abroad Office, Maxwell Library Room 330
Bridgewater State University,
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Questions and comments can be directed to:

Dr. James Hayes-Bohanan, Geography Professor 2016 Program Co-Leader jhayesboh@bridgew.edu
Michael Sandy, Director of Study Abroad msandy@bridgew.edu