

UNM Study Tour to Nicaragua Summer 2009

SOC 461: Social Dynamics of Global Change—Recovery and Challenge in Post-Violence Central American Society

Over the past 35 years, Nicaragua has survived two wars, a revolution, a mammoth earthquake and several hurricanes, and imposition of neo-liberal economic “reforms” on its struggling economy. How have the people in this society coped with the changes and challenges? After a week of reading and classroom study in Albuquerque, we will travel to Granada, Nicaragua, a safe and charming colonial city on the shores of Lake Nicaragua. We will stay with local families, meet with scholars and activists, and visit grassroots organizations working on women’s issues, cultural and social recovery, sustainability, the effects of globalization, and other social, political and economic issues. For a week we will travel to various locations in the region and then return to Granada to compare information and prepare projects to sum up what we have learned.

For free time, we have planned a number of activities and trips so that students can enjoy the ambiance of Granada, the cultural center of Nicaragua, and the magnificence of the volcanoes, lakes, forests and beaches in Nicaragua and nearby Costa Rica.

- DATES: July 6-10 in Albuquerque; , followed by three weeks in Central America, July 12-30
- Earn 3 UNM Upper Division Credits (Graduate credit available)
- Use your UNM financial aid
- Approximate cost, including room and board, all in-country travel, and field trips: \$1,375 if 10 students enroll; \$1,200 if 12 students or more enroll. all trip expenses and airfare: \$2,800
- Program fee does not include UNM tuition or roundtrip airfare to Nicaragua (estimated at \$500 - \$800.)

For more information, contact study tour leaders:

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Nicaragua Summer Program 2009

Tentative Schedule

(Dates to be announced)

Week One

Class meetings in Albuquerque and pre-departure orientation
Readings, discussions and guest speakers

Week Two

Travel to Granada, Nicaragua
Stay with Nicaraguan families
Lectures/Discussions at *Casa Xalteva* Study Center
Visits to women's programs and children's programs in
Granada
Field trips to University of Central America in Managua
Excursions to *Mombacho* Volcano, rainforest canopy tour, *Las
Isletas*, Lake Nicaragua islands

Week Three

Travel in Nicaragua and Costa Rica
Meetings with local community organizations
Weekend excursion to Ometepe Island

Week Four

Return to Granada
Lectures/discussions at *Casa Xalteva*: Reflection & Integration
Completion of final projects
Excursions to *Masaya* Volcanic National Park, Arts & Crafts
Mercado, *Laguna de Apoyo*
Return to Albuquerque