



# Mexico



## Experience Latin America II: An Interdisciplinary Study Abroad Program in Chiapas, Mexico

### What's this program about?

This program provides students a dynamic, first-hand opportunity to observe and learn about the rich living cultures, environments, ecologies, rural and urban communities, and development issues in multiethnic Chiapas, Mexico. About half of the world's population depends on a subsistence (mainly traditional) type of agriculture; about 40 percent of the world's cultivated land is in the hands of subsistence farmers. The figures for many Latin American countries are even higher. Therefore, working closely with small holders over a period of years is needed to better comprehend not only land use systems, but also the cultural, social, economic, political, and religious forces influencing them. This understanding is relevant to all fields and to the social sciences and arts and humanities, in particular. Students enrolled in this program will visit historical and cultural sites as well as a variety of important ecological and agricultural projects and locales in southern Mexico. Hands-on learning and discussion sessions will be coordinated and integrated with site visits led by Mexican and US professionals from diverse disciplines. Students will interact with professionals involved in community development projects and collaborate with students from two Mexican universities as well as students from Cornell University. This is a unique learning opportunity that cannot be replicated in the university classroom.

*This program is part of a two-part series "Experience Latin America." Students are urged to take "part I" during the fall semester. Contact the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies for more information.*

More details about this program can be found at <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/mexicochiapas.html>

<b>College sponsors:</b>	Colleges of Social Science, Arts & Letters and Agriculture and Natural Resources
<b>Semester available:</b>	<b>Winter Break:</b> December 26, 2009 to January 10, 2010 NOTE: An on-campus component is also required during SS09 from January 12 - March 4, 2010.
<b>Courses offered*:</b>	AL 491; SSC 490; ANR 475; ANS 480
<b>Credits:</b>	Minimum of three (3)
<b>Requirements:</b>	2.5 GPA; minimum sophomore status
<b>Program fee**:</b>	Not yet available; please check the Web for updates
<b>Deadline:</b>	October 15, 2009; students are urged to apply by <b>September</b> as this program is expected to fill prior to the October deadline
<b>Contacts:</b>	<p><b>Robert Blake</b>, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Phone: (517) 353-1690 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:rwblake@msu.edu">rwblake@msu.edu</a></p> <p><b>Bethany Judge</b>, College of Arts &amp; Letters Phone: (517) 355-6519 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:judgebe@msu.edu">judgebe@msu.edu</a></p> <p><b>Michael Kaplowitz</b>, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Phone: (517) 355-0101 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:kaplowit@msu.edu">kaplowit@msu.edu</a></p> <p><b>Oumatie Marajh</b>, College of Social Science Phone: (517) 353-9202 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:marajhou@msu.edu">marajhou@msu.edu</a></p>



\*1) Check the program's Web page for details about courses; 2) Course prerequisites may apply; see Course Descriptions (on the MSU Web site) or program leader for details.

\*\*Program fees are not uniform and do not cover the same expenses for all programs. Carefully check the program's Web page for what is included in your program fee. If that is still unclear, contact the Office of Study Abroad to provide you with a full explanation.

# Experience Latin America I: Bridging Worlds: Rural and Urban Realities

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**Courses:** AL 491; SSC 490; ANR 491; ANS 480

**Semester:** Fall 2009

**Meeting times:** Fridays 9:00 -11:00 am

**Location:** 1208 Engineering Bldg., MSU

**Credits:** Two (2)

**Instructor:** Dr. Robert Blake, Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, MSU

**Prerequisites:** Not open to freshman; preference given to upper-class and graduate students intending to participate in AL 491/SSC 490/ANR 491/ANS480: Experience Latin America II field component spring 2010.

**Description:** The goal of this course, joint with Cornell University via video conference, is to acquaint students with the cultural, historical, socio-political, literary, anthropological, health, agricultural and development issues in southern Mexico. The lectures/discussions help establish the global and regional contexts for transcultural understanding. This course may be taken as a stand-alone survey course in international agriculture. However, it is primarily a preparatory course for participants selected to participate in Experience Latin America II: Chiapas Edition which includes a field course component in Chiapas, Mexico.

For more information visit: [www.isp.msu.edu/clacs](http://www.isp.msu.edu/clacs)

Cornell's 2009 course website: <http://ip.cals.cornell.edu/courses/iard4010/>



## ATTENTION K-16 EDUCATORS:

**\*\* ONLINE VERSION AVAILABLE \*\***

An online version of the fall and spring courses is available to accommodate K-12 teachers who may be unable to attend the weekly class meetings at MSU.

**Note:** You must be enrolled at MSU for course credit (fall 2009, 2 credits and spring 2010, 3-4 credits) to participate in the program. Non-MSU students can enroll through MSU Lifelong Education: <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/applications/index.html>

Please contact the **Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies** for more information:

Website: [www.isp.msu.edu/clacs](http://www.isp.msu.edu/clacs)

Phone: 517-353-1690

E-mail: [clacs@msu.edu](mailto:clacs@msu.edu) or Robert Blake, Director: [rwblake@msu.edu](mailto:rwblake@msu.edu)