

# COR 275: GUATEMALA

**JANUARY 2020**

Dr. Terry Darling &  
Paul Nemecek

Mountainous, heavily forested and dotted with Mayan ruins, lakes, volcanoes, orchids and exotic birds, Guatemala is one of the most beautiful countries in Central America.

## Learning-intensive activities may include:

**EDUCATION** Spend time in schools and understand the challenges of gaining an education in Guatemala.

**FAMILY** Understand the issue of the “disappeared” in conversation with support groups for their families. Learn to make Mayan cuisine, especially tortillas. Experience the Mayan Indian culture in a mountain village. Participate in a typical Mayan wedding. While in Antigua, live with Guatemalan host families.

**GOVERNMENT** Experience the colonial capital of Antigua and beautiful Lake Atitlan surrounded by three majestic volcanoes. Meet with organizations monitoring work conditions in the maquiladoras, export assembly plants.

**RELIGION** Visit missionaries and fellowship with Guatemalans. Learn about Mayan beliefs as well as the influence of the Catholic Church in Guatemala.

**ECONOMICS** Learn about ministries to thousands of impoverished people. See how families scavenge at the city dump. Visit markets displaying artisan crafts. Gain a better understanding of the roots of poverty and marginalization

No cost\* for those with full CCS benefit  
\$1,400\* for those with half CCS benefit  
\$2,800\* for those with no CCS benefit

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS MAY INCLUDE:

- Study Spanish language with your own tutor at your own level for a week in Antigua.
- Experience Guatemalan family life, hospitality, and cuisine in your week-long family home stay in Antigua.
- See how the famous Mayan weaving is done on back strap looms. Try it yourself.
- Visit Mayan ruins and learn more about their great civilization.
- Meet today’s Mayans, who make up half the population of Guatemala.
- See how some of the world’s best coffee is grown and roasted.

**DEPARTURE DATES** January 2020 experiences may begin sometime during the last week of December 2019 and last 19–23 days. Students should not make irreversible plans until their departure date is confirmed by the CCS office in early Fall 2019.

This experience, like all CCS experiences, is subject to political and safety realities at the time of departure. CCS options can be physically and emotionally intense and stretching. Before enrolling, all participants should consult the disclosures on Physical Hardships of CCS.

Passport and immunizations required (both at additional cost).



"I loved being in Guatemala. It was such a beautiful country with so many unique groups of people. One of my favorite places that we visited was Antigua because it was such a small city, but had so much to experience and so many cool people."

**Nathan Salsbury**

"Guatemala, though we were only there for three weeks, has my heart. The culture, people, food, and breathtaking views were ones I could only have dreamed of. The fact I am able to go because of Spring Arbor is something I will forever be thankful for!"

**Haley Lutz**

"Guatemala was a chance for me to be challenged to go out of my comfort zone and embrace the Mayan culture. I grew so much from my trip, and so much from being involved with and serving those who don't have the privileges that I have. My time in Guatemala was beyond amazing! I loved being able to show God's love to the Mayan people just by being willing to open up and embrace their culture. My favorite part was showing love and spending time with the children of the Mayan village."

**Kamijha Hein**

"To future groups I would advise them to be open to everything. Being open to new foods, people, and experiences that we are not used to is extremely necessary for a cross cultural experience. I would advise them to try new things even if it scares you. I'm scared of heights so going to Tikal and climbing some of the ruins made me nervous, but the pictures and the experience is something that I am so glad to have had."

**Natalie Fairchild**

"Spending three weeks in the most beautiful country on Earth was my greatest achievement in life. Being in Guatemala for Core 275 was the greatest experience I will ever have. This country is indescribable for its beauty, history, and most importantly, people."

**Kaitlyn Mapes**

\* CCS program costs do not include: tuition, passport, immunizations, or the \$150 study abroad fee. The study abroad fee provides the basic international ID, insurance, travel photos and support services.