

# COR 275: GUATEMALA

**MAY 2020**

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

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.

## 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** May 2020 experiences will begin sometime during the week following the projected May 15 commencement date and will last 19-23 days. Students should not make irreversible plans until their departure date is confirmed by the CCS office in early February 2020.

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).



“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**

“I don’t know that I’ll ever be good enough with words to convey just all of the amazing things I felt and learned during my short time there. Communication was much easier than I anticipated, too. The people were remarkably friendly and patient, and excited to hear me try to speak their language. I was struck by the juxtaposition of how foreigners are treated in America. People are chastised or worse when they don’t understand English very well in America. In Guatemala, the people light up when you speak Spanish to them, even if you aren’t very good.”

**Tessa Diaz**

\*CCS May program costs do not include summer school tuition charges. Participants who are full-time students at SAU both fall and spring semesters 2019–2020 are encouraged to consider NOT taking a class for interim (January 2020), as the available January credits may then be applied to the summer school tuition charges of a May or Summer 2020 CCS. Tuition and program costs are separate monies.

\*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.