



# STUDENTS *International* Study Abroad Programs

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## GUATEMALA

Partner Institution: Bethel University; St. Paul, MN  
First Program: Spring 2000

### Contact:

Ms. Alicia Juarez  
Guatemala Term Program Director  
Phone – 651.638.6326  
[juaali@bethel.edu](mailto:juaali@bethel.edu)

### Courses

#### Spanish\*

SPA 203E Intensive Intermediate Spanish I in Guatemala	4 credits
SPA 204E Intensive Intermediate Spanish II in Guatemala	4 credits
SPA 206 Spanish for Health Care Professionals I	4 credits
SPA 302 Hispanic Cultures: Guatemalan Perspectives	4 credits
SPA 306 Spanish for Health Care Professionals II	4 credits
SPA 308 Current Issues in Guatemala	4 credits
SPA 309 Advanced Oral Communication in Guatemala	3 credits
SPA 315 Advanced Spanish & Written Communication	4 credits
SPA 325 Spanish for Business I	4 credits
SPA 326 Spanish for Business II	4 credits

\* *Students chose two of these courses*

#### Sociocultural Studies Courses\*\*

*SCS202E Holistic Ministry and Human Needs* 3 credits

Survey of human needs with attention paid to the cultural perspectives and reality of those populations in need. Social, cultural, political, spiritual, environmental and other forces that shape human needs are studied. Students are exposed to a wide range of holistic ministry responses to human needs with special emphasis on those models that are participatory and culturally contextualized.

*SPA385 OR SCS385 Cross-Cultural Experience in Guatemala* 4 credits

Students choosing this course as a Spanish elective for a minor in Spanish or a major in Spanish or Spanish Education must complete the majority of course assignments in Spanish and will register for SPA385. Students choose to work at a ministry site that offers hands-on experience in a field of interest. Students International staff members closely mentor students at each site, which are located in neighboring villages. A Guatemalan faculty member guides students in connecting their work at their sites and the understanding they are gaining about holistic ministry.

\*All students take these two courses

### Program Schedule

- 1 Wk Orientation & Intro to Guatemala
- 1 Wk at Ministry Sites
- 4 Weeks of Language School
- 2 Weeks at Ministry Sites
- 4 Weeks at Language School
- 3 Weeks at Ministry Sites
- 3 Day Debriefing

### Ministry Sites

- Agribusiness
- Appropriate Technology
- Art
- Education
- Health Care
- Media/Communications
- Micro-Finance
- Social Services
- Social Work



# STUDENTS *International* Study Abroad Programs

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## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Partner Institution: Bethel College; Mishawaka, IN  
First Program: Fall 2007

### Contact:

Mr. Brent Reimer  
Director of Semester Abroad Programs  
Phone – 574.259.8511  
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### Courses

Note: Final official course offerings for this program are in the approval process

#### Spanish

SPAN 161 Elementary Spanish I*	3 credits
SPAN 162 Elementary Spanish II*	3 credits
SPAN 262 Intermediate Spanish I*	3 credits
SPAN 361 Spanish Conversation*	3 credits
SPAN 163 International Spanish Experience**	3 credits

\* Students receive credit for combination of two of these courses.

\*\*All students receive credit for SPAN 163.

SPAN 351 Civilizations & Cultures of Latin America: Dominican Republic 3 credits  
An intensive survey of Latin American culture, history, art, film, and architecture conducted on the Bethel-in-Latin America program. The class will consist of museum tours, excursions to historical sites, visits to local Latin American establishments, and the viewing of current Latin American cinema.

MIN 361 Issues in International Ministries 3 credits  
A study of the historical issues faced during each phase in the development of international ministries, including an analysis of the strategies and methodologies in vogue during that period.

Other Courses Available Based on Individual Student Need:

- Practicum Credit
- Physical Education Course
- FA 370 Field Work in Fine Arts
- LIT 251 Multicultural Literature

### Program Schedule

- 3 Day Orientation
- 5 Weeks of Language School
- 1 Week Travel for Civilization and Cultures Course
- 7 Weeks at Ministry Sites
- 1 Week Travel for Civilization and Cultures Course
- 2 Day Debriefing

### Ministry Sites

- Art
- Construction
- Dentistry
- Developmental Therapy
- Education
- Medical Site
- Physical Therapy
- Social Work
- Special Education
- Sports



## STUDENTS *International* Ministry Description

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Students International does long-term, on-going community development in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, and Guatemala. The International Office, located in Visalia, California provides leadership, supervision and service in the areas of funds development, human resources, information technology, finance and administration, ministry and program development, and organizational marketing. Our staff, outreach participants and the poor come together cross-culturally to encounter God, share the Good News, disciple and serve others in a specific area of occupation that correlates with their career or academic interests. These occupational settings are called ministry sites.

Our style is relational and is therefore centered around our long-standing presence within the communities where we work. This may be challenging for people who expect to see immediate "results" in evangelism and project completion. As a result, however, we see outreach participants and the poor transformed into the likeness of Christ and discover their true calling.

The most common objectives for short-term mission outreaches are to broaden our perspective of the world and our responsibility to it, deepen our relationship with the Lord, and share the Gospel with others in need. While these objectives are important and needed, Students International intentionally strives to accomplish three additional goals:

1. Enabling outreach participants and the poor to discover how God can use them in their occupation.
2. Providing outreach participants and the poor the opportunity to be a part of ongoing ministry and not just a short outreach where follow up is difficult.
3. Helping outreach participants and the poor understand the value of building personal relationships in sharing the Gospel.

Depending on the length of the outreach, participants spend from 9 days to a semester working alongside our staff at a ministry site. Each ministry site is within close proximity of our facilities and has a different occupational focus: agribusiness, appropriate technology, art, construction, dentistry, education, health care, physical therapy, social work, special education, and sports.



## STUDENTS *International* **Mission and Vision**

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**Our Mission:** Bringing students and the poor together cross-culturally, to encounter God, share the Good News, disciple and serve others in occupational ministries.

**Our Vision:** To see students and the poor transformed into the likeness of Christ and discover their true calling.

### **Students**

- *Share* the Gospel while caring for those in need
- *Discover* their true identity and vocational calling
- *Expand* their worldview, gaining more understanding of their responsibility in it
- *Respond* to God with clearer purpose for their lives and a deeper pursuit of Him

### **The Poor**

- *Discover* their true identity and capabilities
- *Expand* their worldview and understanding of God's role for them
- *Improve* their physical, social and spiritual lives



## STUDENTS *International* Testimonials

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"Student's International provides an incredible opportunity for students in cross-cultural missions. I've seen students transformed as they've served the poor in relevant occupational roles. I am also thankful for the tremendous administrative support S.I. offered in the months leading up to the outreach."

– Zach Riley, Campus Minister, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

"Four of my five outreaches in the past seven years have been with SI because of their student-centered and Christ-focused ministry to the poor. Students have multiple opportunities to see and experience how their gifts, talents and interests can be used to serve God by serving people -- at home and abroad. The obvious passion and enthusiasm of the full-time staff is contagious, and the administrative support, invaluable. Years later my students remember their outreach as an important part of their own personal, spiritual journey."

– Deanna Finch, Spanish Teacher

"Students International provided an opportunity for me to develop a deep connection with my team and allowed my team to also develop that same connection with their teammates. One year later I am still watching individuals on our team continue to be transformed by our experience with SI."

– April Fisk, Women's Volleyball Coach, Crown College

"There is no way to describe the feeling of working alongside your students in a setting where the whole team is learning how to serve God, the poor, and each other. Every year my students have come to me months after an outreach with comments like: "My life will never be the same" and "God showed me His plan for my life/career while I was on the mission trip." I can teach and demonstrate content in the classroom. I can teach, but not effectively demonstrate, God's heart for missions in the classroom. I realized after several outreaches with SI that not only were the trips ministering to the students (and to me), but also to their parents and siblings."

– Linda Ternes, Math and Spanish Teacher, Brethren Christian High School

"Students International provides a life changing outreach experience for our students in which they are stretched, challenged, taught and inspired to tangibly love God and love people, especially the poor. This opportunity has become a key ingredient in a healthy discipleship diet for our students (and parents) who are ready to take a few more steps in their journey with Christ." – Steve Duyst, Pastor, Tulare Community Church

"An SI outreach provides the perfect opportunity to put faith into action. My students can experience a different culture, gain economic perspective, and learn Biblical principles that they can apply in their own church, school, and community." – Vito Mazzara, Associate Pastor, Country Bible Church

"Going on a Students International Outreach has meant so very much to me and to our team because it enables us to target the specific gifts God has given us. The program effectively puts into action what God calls for each one of us to do. Personally, this outreach to Guatemala has enabled me to see transformation in my students and in their Spanish speaking ability, giving me satisfaction as a teacher. The Students International staff was so impressive to me as they make each outreach meaningful and allow us to see God's hands in action."

– Connie Branderhorst, Spanish Teacher, Central Valley Christian High School.

"Going on a Students International outreach is a key component in our ministry with students as we seek to disciple them and see their lives transformed. We see God accomplish as much in the life of a student on a thirteen day, intense outreach as we see in a year of ministry on campus."

– Rob Dixon, Area Director, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

"Students International and its staff have a unique understanding of 'the big three' for our Short Term Missions program: cross-cultural ministry, vocation (or God's call), and college students. I have come to trust SI to bring those three things together in a powerful way for our students' spiritual transformation and for kingdom impact."

– Matt Runion, Associate Campus Pastor, Bethel University