Global Community Projects

Guatemala: 2019 Mayan Families Engineering Service Stream

Program Details: The Schulich School of Engineering is pleased to offer a global community experience in Guatemala City! This program provides a unique opportunity for engineering students to apply their in-class learning while being immersed in Mayan culture on beautiful Lake Atitlan. SSE has collaborated with a local organizations to develop programming within the community of Panajachel. We will be working with their local water filtration systems, including supporting in their large scale data collection and individual installation in homes. In addition, we will be helping to implement ONIL fuel efficient stoves in smaller communities. Visits to local schools, senior’s centres, and remote communities around the lake are included to increase the opportunity for cultural immersion and connection within the local area and Mayan community.

Dates: November 9th- 16th, 2019.

Location: Guatemala City, Guatemala

Language: English

Program type: Group study

Application status: Open

Application deadline: Sunday, September 15th, 2019

Participants: Open to a maximum of 10 undergraduate and 1 graduate student in any major or year level. Priority will be given to students in good academic standing who have not previously participated on one of these experiences. Students will be required to complete the Global Community Project application form. In the event that more applicants are received than there are available spaces, a random lottery system will be used to select participants.

Eligibility: Students must have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months past the date of the return and be eligible to travel to that destination. You may also require a visa/ study permit prior to travelling. Please refer to https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/guatemala “Entry/Exit requirements” to check if you are eligible. A student visa can take from 3 days to 3 months to obtain, depending on the country to which you are travelling and which passport(s) you hold.

Cost: Students eligible for this Guatemala Global Community Experience program will be required to pay out of pocket $750. This includes round-trip airfare, field trips, local
transportation, emergency medical insurance, and accommodations. Some meals will be provided, but students should budget for food and snack purchases.

**Funding:** Due to significant existing financial contribution, students will not be eligible to receive Schulich Student Activities Funding (SSAF) or UCalgary International Funding for these experiences.

**Accommodation:** Participants will be staying in single-gender hotel rooms shared with another student.

**Pre-departure:** The Engineering Student Centre and Chaperone(s) will host a mandatory pre-departure session for students. Topics covered will include student rules of conduct, customs/norms of the country, attendance expectations, and a full overview of the agenda.

**Student conduct:** Students will be bound by university non-academic misconduct policies and will be required to sign the SSE Rules of Engagement for Group travel document. In the event that misconduct occurs, the faculty chaperones, in consultation with the Dean’s Office, reserve the right to send the student(s) home. Students will be required to sign risk and student conduct waivers prior to departure.

**Additional Student Expenses** - Managed directly by program participants

- Meals (some will be provided, depending on program)
- Visa/study permit fees (if required).
  - Go to [https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/guatemala](https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/guatemala) to find out if you need a visa permit.
    - Entry/exit requirements → Visas
- Departure fee/tax (if required)
- Additional baggage fees (if required)
- Passport & Photos (If required)
- Immunizations: based on recommendations from travel clinic, cost varies depending on individual circumstances and destination.
- Travel insurance (Medical & emergency are included)
- Cell/Mobile phone plan
- Other equipment