

Western University | International Internship Program in Nicaragua

May 8 – August 4, 2017

Week:	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week #1 May 8-13		Arrival	Orientation Session and Spanish class	Tour of Managua and Spanish class	Nicaragua Context and Spanish class	Integration & Reflection Skills	Group Excursions
Weeks #2-6 May 14-Jun 17	Indep Excursions	Individual-Small Group Placement Part I				Spanish tutor Integration	Indep Excursions
Week #7 Jun 18-24	Indep Excursions	Research issue Spanish upgrade Reflective expression					Indep Excursions
Weeks #8-12 Jun 25-Jul 29	Indep Excursions	Individual-Small Group Placement Part II				Spanish tutor Integration	Indep Excursions
Week #13 Jul 30-Aug 4	Indep Excursions	Research and Integration presentations Evaluation Activities				Departure	
Prospective placements each with 2 Interns	5 in Managua area 3 in Jinotega area	Los Quinchos School – teaching english with K-12 students and professional development with teachers Podcasts for Peace – engaging youth in digital storytelling, creative expression, academic, health, and life skills Esperanza en Accion – developing educational resources for fair trade artisans and consumers Compañeros Inc – developing training resources for community education, health, housing, and water projects CIASES or FIDEG – researching and presenting an educational topics related to Nicaragua and/or Canada CESESMA – developing resources for children’s health and environmental well-being on coffee farms El Recreo Coffee Farm – skill reinforcement and recreation with rural K-8 students and teachers on coffee farms Club Infantil – collaborating with youth to produce critical journalistic radio, television, and social media					

Accommodation and Meals – In the Managua area, students stay in clean, safe, and simple accommodation with selected host families in a middle class neighborhood. Private bedroom with shared bathroom, phone, and internet access. Breakfasts and dinners provided by host families. Students prepare or purchase their own lunches. In the Jinotega area, students may stay in selected host family or hostel-like accommodation in semi-rustic conditions with various amenities and meal arrangements depending on location.

Transportation - Ground transportation by public and/or private vehicles to the placement site will be negotiated depending on location, safety, and time factors.

Orientation – Health, safety, and security information and cross-cultural specifics and standards of practice will be established with students during the 1st week.

Spanish Language Learning – Intensive opportunities to learn useful speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills will be available during the 1st and 6th week.

Placements – Placements are arranged according to the interests and abilities of both the student and the host organization. Typically, students are placed in pairs or small groups depending on their and the hosts’ capacity. Students and their placement counterparts negotiate a common set of goals, methods, and parameters.

Independent Excursions - At their own expense, students may wish to explore Nicaragua on weekend outings. Travel ideas available at www.vianica.com

Integration and Reflection – Each week students may investigate an issue of choice, take part in facilitated integration activities, and/or create a tangible reflection product.

Compañeros Staff – Bilingual program and project coordinator(s) will arrange placements in advance, manage in-country logistics, facilitate most aspects of the student’s experience, and be available for 24/7 support and emergency purposes. For staff bios see <http://companeros.ca/about.html>

Participant Goals:

1. To learn about people, issues, and agencies engaged in local development in Nicaragua and their relationship to Canadian and global concerns.
2. To contribute to short-term (housing, water, creative) and long-term (education, health, research) community projects identified by partners.
3. To explore and inform your own and other people's personal growth, active citizenship, academic interests, and professional direction.

Expectations of Participants:

1. Respect the Standards of Practice of Global Service Learning.
2. Attend and fulfill pre-departure requirements at Western.
3. Pay and/or fundraise for your program costs as necessary.
4. Independently research and read about Nicaragua.
5. Learn and practice useful Spanish phrases.
6. Be flexible and cooperative in a cross-cultural context.
7. Return to Canada and share the benefits of your experience widely.

Price per Participant based on 16 Interns in Group:

Community Placement	= \$400 (10%) includes advance planning, equipment, materials, delivery, local labour, and contributions
Transportation	= \$280 (7%) includes 2 airport transfers, daily transport to/from program and placement destinations
Accommodation, Meals	= \$1,955 (49%) includes 76 nights accommodation (shared bedroom, bathroom), 76 breakfasts and 76 dinners
Activities, Spanish	= \$120 (3%) includes entrance to 3 activities and Spanish instruction
Director, Coordinator, Interpreters	= \$840 (21%) includes advance planning, orientation, facilitation, interpretation, health, safety, and group management 24/7
Continuous Operations	= \$400 (10%) includes administration, accounting, legal, communications, office, and supplies

Total USD = \$3,995 per person **Subject to revision in January 2017**

NOT included:

Lunches, personal activities, weekend excursions not referred to in the itinerary. Out-of-country health and travel insurance. Entry and/or exit visas to Nicaragua, if applicable. Transportation to/from Managua, Nicaragua where this program begins and ends. Fluctuations in currency, fuel, service, or gratuity rates resulting in unforeseen surcharges.

Terms & Conditions:

USD\$400 per person deposit payable by cheque or interac bank transfer to "Compañeros Inc" account with Bank of Montreal in Canada. **Due January 20, 2016.**
 USD\$3,595 final payment by same method as deposit. **Due April 21, 2017.** Late penalty of 5% on past due outstanding balance.

Participants must carry a valid **passport** with an expiry date 6 months beyond the date of return. The name in their passport must match their bus or plane ticket and Registration document. Participants are responsible for ensuring **proper documentation** for entry/exit via countries of transit and destination.

Participants are responsible for determining their own out-of-country health and trip cancellation, interruption, and baggage **insurance** coverage needs and demonstrating proof of coverage before departure upon request.

The organizers reserve the right at any time before or during the trip to **cancel and revoke registrations** and refund participants in part or in full should they perceive correctly or incorrectly the participant constitutes a threat to the well-being and security of the program, other participants, and/or partner organizations. Should Compañeros Inc not be able to deliver the stated program it will endeavour to provide comparable alternatives and/or refund amounts remaining after existing liabilities are paid. **Refunds** for voluntary participant withdrawal after payment are entirely at the discretion of Compañeros Inc.

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