

Western University | Faculty of Education Internships in Nicaragua

April 3-27 (4 weeks) or April 3-May 4 (5 weeks), 2018

Week:	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Week #1			Arrival	Orientation Session and Spanish	Tour of Managua and Spanish	Placement Site Introduction	Group Excursion	
Weeks #2	Host Family activity (optional)	Teacher-Candidate Placements with host site organization – in pairs for mutual learning and support. Plus co-curricular involvement in existing activities such as mural making, health workshops, computer literacy workshops, coffee production, pedagogy and reflection exchange with teachers and host organizations.					Indep Excursion	
Week #3	Host Family activity (optional)						Indep Excursion	
Weeks #4	Host Family activity (optional)						Indep Excursion	
Week #5	Host Family activity (optional)	Placement Site Conclusion		Integration & Evaluation Activities		Departure		
Prospective placements each with 2 Interns	5 in Managua area	Los Quinchos School – teaching English with K-12 students and basic computer literacy skills 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 global citizenship learning materials for Canadian and Nicaraguan participants CIASSES or FIDEG – researching political, economic, and/or educational topics of interest (e.g. Child Labour, Coffee Supply Chains, Fair Trade, etc)						
	3 in Jinotega or Matagalpa area	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 other areas, students 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 norms and standards of practice will be established with students in first week orientation sessions.

Spanish Language Learning – Intensive opportunities to learn useful speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills are available at a cost of \$5-10/hr.

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 work place parameters.

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

Pedagogy and Reflection – Students are encouraged to explore and reflect upon a variety of education issues, and participate in facilitated integration and evaluation activities.

Compañeros Staff – Bilingual program and project coordinator(s) will arrange placements in advance, manage in-country orientation, accommodation, transportation, and 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 and experience cross-cultural educational approaches that affect positive change in Nicaragua and Canada.
2. To contribute to host site organizations and community projects identified by local partners in Nicaragua.
3. To explore and reflect upon your 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 your institution.
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.

Cost, based on 2-8 Teacher-Candidates:

Transportation, Excursions	= \$77 (4%) includes 2 airport transfers, initial excursion, weekday transport to/from placement site, coordinator's movements
Continuous Operations	= \$200 (11%) includes administration, accounting, communications, office space, and supplies
Community Project Support	= \$293 (16%) includes placement and host organization coordinator's advance planning, facilitation, and materials
Accommodation, Meals	= \$530 (29%) includes 21 nights shared private bedroom, bathroom, internet, and 21 breakfasts and 21 dinners
Coordinators, Interpreters	= \$700 (39%) includes program coordinator's advance planning, orientation, interpretation, health, safety, and logistical management

Total USD = \$1800 pp for 6 candidates | \$2000 pp for 4 candidates | \$2400 pp for 2 candidates -- for 4 weeks. Add \$200 pp -- for 5 weeks.

Not included:

Personal excursions and activities not listed on the itinerary. Out-of-country health and travel insurance. Entry and/or exit visas to Nicaragua, if applicable. Airfare to/from Managua (MGA) where this itinerary begins and ends. Fluctuations in currency, fuel, service, or gratuity rates resulting in unforeseen surcharges.

Terms & Conditions:

USD\$400 per person non-refundable deposit payable by cheque or e-transfer to "Compañeros Inc" at Bank of Montreal. **Due February 16, 2018.**
Remaining balance by same method as deposit. **Due March 23, 2018.** 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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