LAS NUBES
SEMESTER ABROAD

INFO SESSION
October 22, 2019
HNES 109
Agenda

• Intro
• Course Info & Fees
• Calendar and case scenarios
• Important Dates
• Requirements
• Disability and Accommodations
Location of Las Nubes and the Alexander Skutch Biological Corridor
This course centers on the nature and function of narratives as they relate to the construction of subjects, communities and nations. Students analyze local narrative environments, including fiction and non-fiction, community narratives and life stories. Students are also given the option of creating their own narrative based on their experience abroad, while reflecting on the act of telling/writing as an act of (self) knowledge production and its potential for building archives of memory, articulating communities and fostering empathy.

✓ The course will be taught in English, but students majoring in Spanish will have to complete their assignments in Spanish to receive major credits.

✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Visits to local bookstores, libraries, and local organizations and communities; San Jose, San Isidro

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on April 30 (Thursday) at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on May 11 (book your flight after 2 PM)
This workshop offers students the opportunity to experience environmental arts that are integral to struggles for food sovereignty in Costa Rica, and to work with key artists on community-engaged artistic productions: mobile murals proclaiming small farmers’ rights against corporate agriculture and youth art projects in a community permaculture garden. The course culminates with artistic participation in the annual Alexander Skutch Festival.

✓ There are no prerequisites
✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Field visits and production sites: Farmers’ Market, San Isidro; Longo Mai.

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on May 11 at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on May 22 (book your flight after 2 PM)
EDUC 3700/5900: Education for a Sustainable Future
Instructor: Steve Alsop
May 23 – June 1, 2020

This course provides an introduction to the theory and practice of education for environmental sustainability. It traces approaches from its origins in outdoor, experiential and environmental education to contemporary expressions as an interdisciplinary approach that explores relations between education and social, economic, cultural and environmental justice. The course seeks to attract students with an interest in education and the possibilities and shortcomings that associated policies and practices might offer/foreclose. It draws from selected readings and experiences in Las Nubes to explore ESF (Education for a Sustainable Future) as an open-question for examination within selected social-ecological contexts within Costa Rica and Canada.

✓ There are no prerequisites
✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor; San Isidro

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on May 22nd at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on June 2nd (book your flight after 2 PM)
This course examines and evaluates how contemporary advocates employ law to protect the environment, secure equal access to environmental health, and contribute to social justice. Environmentalists over the past four decades have invested heavily in legal strategies as a means to achieve social change. The environmental justice movement, in contrast, has called this focus on law reform and litigation into question. Tracking the evolution of the movement, this course examines how contemporary advocates employ law in their struggles against environmental inequities, through a series of local and global case studies. Understandings of the contested concepts of “environment” and “justice” will be continually refined throughout the course. Students will gain a grounding in the theoretical underpinnings of the environmental justice movement, with particular attention to the dynamics of gender, race and class in contemporary debates, and the central role of Indigenous peoples in land and water defense transnationally.

There are no prerequisites
✅ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor; San Isidro

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 2nd at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on June 13th (book your flight after 2 PM)
This course examines and evaluates how contemporary advocates employ law to protect the environment, secure equal access to environmental health, and contribute to social justice. Environmentalists over the past four decades have invested heavily in legal strategies as a means to achieve social change. The environmental justice movement, in contrast, has called this focus on law reform and litigation into question. Tracking the evolution of the movement, this course examines how contemporary advocates employ law in their struggles against environmental inequities, through a series of local and global case studies. Understandings of the contested concepts of “environment” and “justice” will be continually refined throughout the course. Students will gain a grounding in the theoretical underpinnings of the environmental justice movement, with particular attention to the dynamics of gender, race and class in contemporary debates, and the central role of Indigenous peoples in land and water defense transnationally.

There are no prerequisites

✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor; San Isidro

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 2\textsuperscript{nd} at 2 PM \textbf{(must arrive by 2 PM)}

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on June 13\textsuperscript{th} \textbf{(book your flight after 2 PM)}
ENVS 4215: Globalization and Indigenous Peoples
Instructor: Ravi de Costa
June 14-23, 2020

Indigenous peoples are distinct communities who have experienced the processes of globalization in particular ways. Focusing on the experience of Indigenous peoples in Costa Rica, the course examines the global historical processes of imperialism and colonialism and their legacies of racism, assimilation and marginalization. The course then examines Indigenous peoples' resistance to globalization and engagement with global networks, movements and institutions, in order to protect their cultures and assert their rights. We will think about these issues in context, by living with and learning from several Indigenous communities in the south of Costa Rica.

✓ There are no prerequisites
✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Biological Corridor; Aradikes, Salitre; Boruca

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 13th at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on June 24th (book your flight after 2 PM)
ENVS 4446: Protected Area Management
Instructor: Sheila Colla
June 25 – July 4, 2020

This course will investigate the ecological, cultural and social components involved in protecting habitats to maintain biodiversity. Based at Las Nubes Eco Campus, case studies, readings and field trips will explore various governance issues including conflict, stakeholder interests and collaborations. Measures of successful conservation management will be discussed, including the use of biodiversity indicators. Students will be involved in the design and data collection of local protected area biodiversity monitoring schemes for a variety of taxa through group projects. Some prior knowledge of ecology is expected.

✓ No prerequisites, but some prior knowledge of ecology is expected.
✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor

Arrival:
We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 24th at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

Departure:
We will drop you off at SJO on July 5th (book your flight after 2 PM)
LOCATIONS
Las Nubes Biological Reserve
Los Cusingos (COBAS) Bird Sanctuary
Alexander Skutch Festival
Local Arts and Crafts
Coopeagri
Sustainable Coffee
ARADIKES

- ARADIKES is a non-governmental organization that represents four indigenous groups (The Bri Bri, Brunca, Cabecares and Teribes) in six territories of the Buenos Aires area. ARADIKES’s mission is to strengthen indigenous communities in the struggle to defend their rights through grass-roots associations.

- ARADIKES also strives to promote environmental conservation and micro-enterprise economic development.
Boruca
Bri Bri Territory & Salitre
Uvita
Dominical
Course Fee

- Course fees include all in-country transportation, room and board, as well as park entrance fees that are part of course programs. Accommodations include a mix of homestays with local families, lodges and hotels.
- Students are responsible for paying their own airfare and getting travel insurance, as well as any personal expenses. Air fare approx. $500 - $800 (York International Mobility Award)
- **LA&PS students can apply for funding to cover the course fees.** For more information contact Harj Singh, International Engagement Coordinator
- Glendon students: Contact COMS4608 professor Maria Constanza Guzman
- Course fees *do not include regular York tuition.*

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**Possible Scenarios**

**A**
- Arrival: May 11, 2020
- Departure: May 22, 2020
- **CAN$1,300 + airfare + tuition**

**B**
- Arrival: April 30, 2020
- Departure: June 2, 2020
- **CAN$2,400 plus $5 for 11 extra days for homestay in COBAS or you can make your own plans + airfare + tuition**

**C**
- Arrival: June 2, 2020
- Departure: June 24, 2020
- **CAN$3,300 + airfare + tuition**
Important Dates

- Deposit: 3 Feb. 2020
- Mar. 2020 Summer Term Enrollment
- Course Fee Due: 2 Mar. 2020
- 20 Mar. 2020 Forms Submission
- Final Mandatory Meeting: 20–29 Apr. 2020
- Orientation sessions for each course (TBA): 3 Apr. 2020
Requirements

**Undergraduate Students**

Fill out the eligibility form (https://fes.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=114406).

**Graduate Students**

Check with your program director (electives)  
Request to enroll in an undergraduate course (https://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2014/08/course-grad-undergrad.pdf)

**ENVS 4446 – Protected Area Management in Costa Rica**: all students should have basic familiarity with ecology.
February 3, 2020

DEPOSIT

- CAN$200 per course.
- Non-refundable
- Cash
- We need to check your eligibility first (STEP 1: https://lasnubes.fes.yorku.ca/education/programs).
- You can pay:
  - Before or by the deadline date at HNES 139F (Bev Rutherford’s office); or
  - At the end of an information session; or
  - By appointment at lasnubes@yorku.ca

Courses are capped!!
March 2020

- York University official Summer registration starts at the beginning of the month.
- Notification by email.
- We will send reminders.
PAY REMAINDER COURSE(S) FEE

- Paid by money order or bank draft cheque to York University
- Balance = Course Fee – Deposit
- You can pay:
  - Before or by the deadline date at HNES 139F (Bev Rutherford’s office); or
  - At the end of an information session; or
  - By appointment at lasnubes@yorku.ca
March 20, 2020

FORMS SUBMISSION

- Risk assessment forms (links on the website):
  - International Travel Waiver Form
  - Photo Video Waiver and Consent Form
  - You are required to have a travel insurance with specific requirements
April 3, 2020

**Final Mandatory Meeting**

- 1-3 PM, HNES 140.
- Things to pack
- York International’s Mobility Award form and instructions
Several classes will have an orientation session during this week (updates on the website)

Download papers and materials for sessions and to take to Costa Rica

Spanish workshop (free) – Spanish Resource Centre at Glendon
Disabilities & Accommodations

Contact:

Josephine C. Zeeman
Director, Office of Student & Academic Services
Faculty of Environmental Studies
josecamp@yorku.ca
Physically and emotionally demanding
Will encounter spiders and other critters
Side effects may include:
  - Life transformation
  - Paradigm shifts
  - New passions
  - New understandings
  - New questions
May not want to come back to Canada!!