



Dominican Republic



Caribbean Regional Development: The Dominican Republic Experience

Summer: May 7 – 28, 2006

Sponsored by the Department of Geography and the Urban and Regional Planning Program in the College of Social Science; arranged through the Office of Study Abroad (OSA)

What's this program about?

This program organized by the Michigan State University College of Social Science offers students an opportunity to earn academic credit while experiencing Dominican culture and traditions. The program uses the Dominican Republic as a laboratory and places particular emphasis on understanding the interaction between human and physical aspects of development focusing on the role of tourism.



The Dominican Republic, where Columbus dropped anchor at the end of his first voyage, shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. It is the destination of many thousands of tourists who are attracted by the islands' tropical climate and extraordinary natural beauty. The program will take place in collaboration with the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra.

Through classroom presentations and field experiences, students will study the Dominican Republic in the context of general Latin American development and urbanization trends. These discussions will focus on the relationships among tourism and population growth issues, rural to urban migration and the internal structure of Santo Domingo.

What can I study?

The program will offer students an opportunity to observe the regional development process in the context of a different social and political organization. It will address general development themes with specific interest on the role of Caribbean tourism. In recent years the Caribbean region has experienced considerable growth in this sector. A manifestation of these changes is the rapid urban development observed during the last 40 years.

Students will be required to enroll for a minimum of seven (7), maximum of nine (9), credits from the following courses:

ISS 220	Time, Space and Change in Human Society	4 cr.
ISS 315	Global Diversity and Interdependence	4 cr.
ISS 330C	Latin America: Social Science Perspectives	4 cr.
GEO 113	Introduction to Economic Geography	3 cr.
GEO 335	Geography of Latin America	3 cr.
GEO 490/UP 490	Independent Study	1-4 cr.
SSC 496	Field Study Abroad	3-4 cr.

What are the requirements?

There are no prerequisites for entry into the program. Students from all areas of study are encouraged to apply.

Students must be in good academic standing, with a grade point average of at least 2.00 at the time of application. Meeting this minimum grade point average does not, however, guarantee admission.

Applicants' participation may be denied or their participation approval may be revoked if their conduct before departure raises doubts as to their suitability for program participation.



Where will I live?

Participants will be housed in a tourist hotel in Santo Domingo.

Who can tell me more about this program?

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How much does it cost?

The program fee in 2005 was \$1,825 and included hotel accommodations with breakfast, a coursepack of readings, accident and sickness insurance and transportation on field trips. Amounts not included in the program fee are MSU tuition and fees, airfare, additional meals, and personal spending money.



For detailed information about costs for this program, log-on to the program Web site listed at the bottom of this page.

Once enrolled in courses, students will receive an e-bill from the MSU Student Accounts Office for the study abroad program fee and tuition and fees, based on the number of credits taken.

Program fees, dates, and arrangements may be subject to change due to unexpected circumstances.



How do I apply?

Students can apply online or download an application form by visiting <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/applications/index.html>.

Applications must be received by **March 1st** for summer participation.

Detailed information about application procedures and the acceptance process can be found on the OSA Web site (<http://studyabroad.msu.edu>).

For more detailed information about this program, log-on to:

<http://studyabroad.msu/programs/caribregdevdr.html>