

# Guatemala: Politics, Development & the City



FALL SEMESTER FIELD STUDY  
AND SEMINARS  
GUATEMALA & CUBA  
LATE AUGUST - MID-DECEMBER

- ▶ **GAIN DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES**  
on the complex urban issues confronting  
Guatemala society.
- ▶ **HANDS-ON EXAMINATION** of  
development issues, local conditions and  
efforts to bring about change.
- ▶ **IMMERSE** yourself in Spanish language  
and Guatemalan culture.



## ▶ COURSES

This program explores historical and current issues related to rural-urban migration, industrialization, government policies and effects on human communities. Students compare and critique theories of development and then explore their usefulness and limitations in understanding the region and its global context.

A "Spanish in the Field" course facilitates significant language learning directly related to current issues and field experiences of the program.

In the seminars, most lectures are in Spanish, with discussions in Spanish and English. Readings are mostly in English, though some are in Spanish. Group and independent projects require use of Spanish for work in the field — interviews, reading primary documents, etc. Papers may be written in English or Spanish.

The Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA) works to advance social justice through global learning. HECUA provides urban study programs that examine the tough issues facing society today.



[www.hecua.org](http://www.hecua.org)

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# Program Specifics & Logistics



## ► SETTING & ACCOMMODATIONS

Guatemala City is undergoing fast-paced change from small town to metropolitan area with a new public transportation system, shopping centers and growing visibility for the arts. As a country, Guatemala is a unique political arena, where a nation and a state are being created under the guiding principles of "multilingual and pluri-cultural" mandated by the recent Peace Agreements. It is also a place well known for its colorful textiles and folk art, rich Mayan ancestral ceremonies and lively local markets.

The field excursion to Cuba offers comparisons and contrasts to the realities in Central America.

Exploring issues of migration, housing, urban renewal, social movements and social change from the point of view of common people makes for an incomparable learning experience in Cuba, particularly when comparing the colonial cities of Antigua, Guatemala and Old Havana.

In Guatemala City, you will stay with a host family. There are also field projects to various sites, including a short-term home stay with a Mayan host family in the Lake Atitlán region. All meals are provided by home stay families or through a food stipend during travel.

## ► CREDIT

4 courses (equivalent to 16 semester hours or 27 trimester credits).

All students take these four courses which are taught as an integrated set of learning experiences:

*Development in the Latin American City*

*Critical Social Issues: Linking Theory and Action*

*Spanish in the Field* (advanced language course)

*Independent Study Project* (student chooses topic)

## ► CENTRAL QUESTIONS

- *Why are Latin American cities in an urban crisis and how does this crisis reflect the social conflict that all societies are facing?*
- *How do people use the lenses of various economic models (like Marxism and Capitalism) to understand and define the questions that urban and rural societies face?*
- *How can we act effectively and responsibly in our increasingly interconnected communities?*

## ► FACULTY

**Alberto Rivera Gutiérrez**, program director. Rivera has been on the HECUA faculty since 1982 and holds a Ph.D. in anthropology. He is the project director for a sustainable tourism development program in Guatemala and the co-author of *Conversations in Colombia*.

You will also learn from a wide variety of resource persons including university faculty, government leaders and community activists.

## ► QUESTIONS? For more information,

call 651-646-8832 or 800-554-1089. Or send e-mail to: [info@hecua.org](mailto:info@hecua.org)

## ► TERM

Fall Semester

Late August to mid-December

## ► FEE(2003)

\$11,000

(\$11,800 for non-member schools)

**Included:** tuition, lodging, food stipend, health insurance and field travel ground expenses.

**Additional expenses:** airfare to Guatemala and Cuba, books, passport, visa and personal expenses.

## ► SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships are available from HECUA and other sources. Information can be downloaded from our web site. Financial aid may be used for the program. Contact your financial aid or study abroad office. All students from HECUA member schools receive an \$800 discount on the program fee (see below for a list of member schools).

## ► REQUIREMENTS

- Equivalent of two years of college Spanish is required.
- Completion of first year of college.
- The program is open to students with any major.  
It is of particular interest to those concerned about diversity, development, participation and ethics.

## ► HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are available online.

*The Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA) has 30 years of experience running high quality, academic, experiential programs in the U.S. and abroad. HECUA is a consortium of 16 colleges and universities committed to an interdisciplinary approach to social issues and developing empowered students for effective local and global citizenship.*

**HECUA MEMBERS:** Augsburg College | Augustana College | Carleton College | College of Saint Benedict | College of St. Catherine  
Concordia University - Saint Paul | Gustavus Adolphus College | Hamline University | Macalester College | Saint John's University  
Saint Mary's University | St. Olaf College | University of Minnesota | University of St. Thomas | Viterbo University | Williams College