

Furman University Study Away Program: Academic, Environmental, Physical & Health Expectations

Program: The Southern Border: A Tale of Two Communities

Dates: May 13-June 3, 2020

Request accommodations through the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR)

Course Description: The border region between the US and Mexico is consistently in the national spotlight due to political debates about immigration policy. This course is designed to unpack the border region from a multidisciplinary perspective, including law, public policy and community health to explore the lived experiences of those whose lives are shaped by the border. MayX ONLY. 2 CREDITS.

Program Description: We will explore the border region in Texas from a multidisciplinary perspective including community health, law and public policy to explore the experiences of those whose lives are shaped by the border. The course will cover the background and history of US-Mexico relations and community health issues at the border as well as the current status of immigrants in Greenville from a legal and community health perspective. Students understanding of the tension between the national image of “the border” and local perspectives of the border will be enhanced and challenged. While in Texas students will have the opportunity to visit with local health care providers, community leaders, non-profit organizations, and residents from a variety of backgrounds including families whose lives impacted by the current crisis. Some students may find the issues and conditions difficult to see and process since this area is one of the most impoverished areas of the United States. Provocative points may be shared and considering that, this is a Presidential election year students should be prepared to grapple with a multi-faceted national debate.

	Frequency						
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Optional	Recommended	Required
Course work in a foreign language	X						
Course work in English	X						
Use of laptop				X			
Use of smart device				X			
Traditional Classroom			X				
Indoor Course Work			X				
Outdoor Course Work				X			
Group Work			X				
Presentations			X				
Interactions with local residents				X			
Field Work	X						
Internship	X						
Research	X						
Comments: The topics for discussion and observation can be triggering and provocative.							

	Frequency				
STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Foreign Language Environment				X	
Mountainous	X				
Tropical					X
Desert	X				
Urban		X			
Rural			X		
High Elevation	X				
Dusty				X	
Air Pollution			X		
Recent Terrorism	X				
Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness			X		
Earthquakes	X				
Other Natural Disaster		X			
Comments: It will be extremely hot with temperatures in the 100s. Humidity will also be very high!					

	Frequency				
PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Daily
Lifting luggage			X		
Carrying luggage upstairs		X			
Carrying equipment			X		
Carrying groceries			X		
Standing 30+ minutes				X	
Walking 1+ miles				X	
Hiking (easy)			X		
Hiking (strenuous)	X				
Sitting 5+ hours			X		
Use of public transportation	X				
Flat terrain					X
Hilly terrain	X				
Stairs				X	
Comments:					

	Frequency				
HEALTH & DIET	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Vegetarian Options			X		
Vegan Options			X		
Food Allergy Accommodations			X		
Group Meals				X	
Cooking for oneself			X		
Host family prepares meals	X				
Healthcare easily accessible					X
Comments: Meals will fequently consist of local favorites which is primarily influenced by the Hispanic community.					

	Frequency				
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
Host Family	X				
Roommate					X
Shared Apartment	X				
Dormitory			X		
Camping	X				
Hotel				X	
Cell phone signal available					X
Internet signal available					X
Comments: It will be extremely hot with temperatures in the 100s. Humidity will also be very high! The hotels will be located near restaurants and grocery stores in safe and frequented areas. Students can shop for food and cook for themselves some of the time.					

	Frequency				
WATER ACTIVITIES	Never	Seldom	Often	Optional	Required
Swimming				X	
Snorkeling	X				
SCUBA	X				
Boating (speed boat)	X				
Rowing	X				
Comments:					

Center for Disease Control Recommendations: You should be up to date on routine vaccinations while traveling to any destination. Recommended vaccines: measles, HEPA/B, rabies.