

South American Travel Seminar (Paraguay) May 2019

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Do I need to be studying a specific major?

A: No. The trip is 3 credit hours under Liberal Arts & Sciences (LASI 398 travel seminar) but is designed to appeal broadly to students with a variety of majors, both undergraduate and graduate students. Any student wishing to learn more about South American culture, history, people and do service learning by volunteering in schools will enjoy the trip.

Q: Will we have free time?

A: Yes. The instructor will provide many set activities for the group including tours, visiting some of the most remarkable sites, but students will also have free time during which they can visit other locations of interest to them and spend time with their host families. If you are not comfortable spending free time on your own, you are always more than welcome to accompany the instructor throughout the trip.

Q: Do I have to know Spanish?

A: No. We will have some language tutorial sessions before we travel, but these sessions will only provide a very basic vocabulary so that you can politely communicate in Spanish with()10.6u b()10.1eh

Q: When do I enroll in the class?

A: We will observe the laws for whatever country we are in for legal drinking age. We are traveling to soak in the culture and a glass of wi

A: It is particularly challenging to find public pay phones and cards that work in South America. Alert your family members that 'no news is good news' and that they may not hear from you regularly (except by email). Our days will be full and it may be difficult to take time out of the schedule to call home often. Cell phones are very common, just like in the U.S. If you'd like to check into the feasibility and cost to use your cell service, check with your own provider. Some providers do offer service in South America at no extra charge; however you will need to know how to set that up. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND "UNPLUGGING" DURING THIS TRIP. Previous travelers have found it extremely enjoyable NOT to be linked to the world by a cell phone. They could enjoy the company of the group and immerse themselves in the sights and experiences around them instead of being at the disposal of an electronic device.

Q: Can we do laundry there or do we need to pack for a full 2 weeks?

A: Your host family in Paraguay should be able to help you find laundry facilities if you need them, however there will most likely be a cost. I would recommend that you pack enough clothes for the 2 weeks if possible as long as you can stick to one suitcase and one carry-on. Pack the essentials.

Q: What kind of weather might we expect?

A: The weather can be quite variable in May and June in Argentina and Paraguay. We may experience rain and 50 degrees, or sun and 80 degrees in Paraguay, probably 70s to 80s for the highs, however lows could get down to the 50s at night and possibly only 60s during the day. You should have a flexible wardrobe that can accommodate these variations by packing clothes that you can layer.