CHF 404: Early Childhood Teaching Practicum in Isla Mujeres, Mexico

Spring Semester 2020 • Travel to Isla Mujeres, Mexico • May 13–31, 2020

About the course:
During this travel study course students will support and teach English language education in early childhood elementary classrooms (Pre-K and K) on the island of Isla Mujeres, Mexico. This teaching practicum is designed to examine the nature, role, purposes and curriculum of early childhood education on Isla Mujeres. This course will challenge you to discover your values and beliefs as they relate to education, and will invite you to make a contribution to the educational life of young children.

Students will:
• Attend seven 90-minute meetings held during the spring semester before traveling to the island of Isla Mujeres, Mexico to prepare to live and teach there. Meetings will include information about Isla and lesson planning for classroom units of study. Meetings will be held on Wednesday evenings. Dates to be announced
• Team teach English to non-English speaking students (3, 4, and 5-year olds) for 60+ hours during 10 days in a classroom (practicum placement by professor) on the island of Isla Mujeres.
• Be supervised and instructed by a graduate student, the course professor, and local classroom teachers (who do not typically speak English) to ensure that the learning of each young student is as continuous and productive as possible.
• Take a day trip off the island of Isla Mujeres to the town of Vallidolod, the Mayan ruins of Ek Balam, and swim in the underground Suytun Cenote.

Dates:
Travel will take place Wednesday, May 13 through Sunday, May 31, 2020.

Cost:
Three credits of spring tuition, plus approximately $2,000 course fee (this amount is still being finalized and may change). The course fee covers: airfare, transportation in Mexico, hostel stay, some meals, and day trip off Isla.

A valid passport and proof of appropriate health insurance is REQUIRED.

For an application contact:
Dr. Julie DellaMattera
Associate Professor of Early Childhood Development and Education
julie.dellamattera@maine.edu • 207.581.3118