Global Citizenship Term Abroad

UBC Arts Group Study + Service Learning, Guatemala

PHILOSOPHY 335: POWER AND OPPRESSION
SOCIOLOGY 430: CIVIL SOCIETY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Professors Sylvia Berryman (Philosophy), Thomas Kemple (Sociology)

During Summer Term One, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2015, Kemple and Berryman co-directed a Group Study Abroad programme in rural Guatemala, featuring 6 credits of upperlevel Arts coursework, informal Spanish and service learning experiences. Organized on an ad hoc basis through UBC’s Go Global office, groups of 20 students travelled for 6 weeks while studying intensively with two UBC professors. Students learned about classical social theories of civil society and of power and oppression, while visiting community groups struggling to organize to combat poverty and to deal with the legacies of centuries of colonial oppression, civil war, and systemic violence. Many students received financial support from a generous donor, through Arts Research Abroad funding.

Kemple and Berryman are currently organizing a Global Seminar in Guatemala for Summer Term One 2018, with funding available through Arts Research Abroad. Students with earn credit for Philosophy 335, Power and Oppression and Sociology 430, Civil Society in Theory and Practice. Courses will be taught in Vancouver, Quetzaltenango and Nebaj Guatemala, with opportunities for service learning, experiential learning and community visits in urban and rural settings.