

# GUATEMALA & HONDURAS

ALL MAJORS · MAY 2016

Trinity Western University Travel Studies



## EXPLORE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

New interdisciplinary approach: course offerings in international studies, leadership communication, and environmental studies/science.

**Ruth Anaya**

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TRINITY  
WESTERN  
UNIVERSITY

# Guatemala & Honduras

MAY 2016 — Trinity Western University Travel Studies

A new approach. A new disciplinary partnership.

A new perspective on culture, change, environment, development & leadership.



This program is designed to expose students to Central America, create a climate for personal transformation, and open up global career options in social justice, global leadership, environment and habitat, community development and social change.

You will get first-hand exposure to a range of geographic, economic and social environments. You will dialogue with indigenous peoples struggling with poverty. You will observe and participate in projects for socio-economic development. INNOVATIVE and INSIGHTFUL solutions and strategies, along with the warmth of the people, will INSPIRE you.

## ACTIVITIES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the cafes, shops and cobblestone alleyways of Antigua, a World Heritage City
- Explore the natural phenomena and the ancient Mayan ruins of Copan
- Engage in a development project and learn how NGOs address poverty and social justice issues
- End this travel study scuba-diving or relaxing in Roatán, one of Honduras' Bay Islands of the Caribbean.

## COURSES

### COMM 315 TR · Central America Field Study\*

This interdisciplinary and experiential course fosters interaction with diverse physical and human environments. It provides exposure to the region's history, religions, politics, and socio-economic realities that shape the communication and cultures of Central America.

### IDIS 450 TR (COMM 451 TR) · Transformational Development & Leadership\*

Explore social and humanitarian responses to critical social issues such as poverty—issues understood through cultural, political, environmental, economic, religious, and historical lenses. Study leadership in cultural and organizational contexts. (3 s.h. meets IDIS requirement for graduation). *Prerequisite: 70 s.h. for IDIS 450*

### GEOG/BIOL/ENVS 400 TR · Environment, Agriculture & Development\*

Students may tailor this Directed Study toward Geography, Biology, and/or Environmental Studies, and focus their interests on a particular agricultural or environmental topic related to development. Examples of possible topics include small-scale coffee production, erosion, managing nutrients on small-scale farms, soapberry science, or social impact of a developing soapberry market, to name a few. Students should consult with the instructor. *\*Pending approval*

*\*Students are required to take two courses.*

## INSTRUCTORS



E. Ruth Anaya, D.Litt. et Phil. (Cand.)

Ruth teaches in the School of Arts, Media and Culture and the School of Business. Her area of expertise is in global leadership and international socio-economic community development in East Africa and Central America. Her focus also includes cross-cultural communication and gender studies. This travel study will be her 20th return to Central America where she engages students in transformative experiences. She is interested in increasing effective leadership responses to global and regional social, environmental, and economic challenges.



Paul D. Brown, Ph.D.

Paul teaches courses in Chemistry, Biology, Geography (soils) and is a member of the Environmental Studies program. He is engaged in research concerning the science and marketable applications of natural compounds found in *Sapindus saponaria*, a tree native to Central America. The fruit of the tree has high amounts of natural soapy compounds (called surfactants), and the research involves collaborations with scientists at three Honduran universities. He is interested in how understanding the environment and underutilized plants can translate to local, sustainable development.