

LACS 490.001: “Learning Through Global Partnerships”

January 13 – February 10, 2015

Tuesdays 4:00-7:00PM

1505 EQ

Instructor: Lenny A. Ureña Valerio

Office: SSWB 3661 (International Institute)

Office Hours: Mondays 2:00-4:00PM

(Or by appointment)



TQP in Ecuador, Summer 2014

This course offers an opportunity for leaders and members of student organizations participating in travel and service learning in Latin America to reflect on the nature of their relationships with communities and individuals abroad, to develop common standards and expectations of practice, and to develop projects for integrating campus resources on Latin American society and culture into their co-curricular experience.

Requirements:

- **Class Participation:** Attendance, preparation, and active participation in large and small group discussions. This includes the participation in C-Tools forums.
- **Group Projects and Presentations:** A collaborative research project to collect, summarize, and format relevant cultural, historical, and political

content about a particular field site in Latin America for the purposes of enriching preparation and reflection within student orgs.

- Final Essay: 3-4 page reflection on “volunteer tourism” or “international service learning” as currently practices by a student led organization at UM (preferably one with which you work). This reflection should employ the critical models introduced in the assigned readings.

Grading:

- Class Participation: 40%
- Group Projects and Presentation: 30%
- Final Essay: 30%

Schedule

Tuesday, January 13: Latin American Studies and the “Rule of Experts”

[Mitchell, Timothy. *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity*. University of California Press, 2002.](#)

[Hoffnung-Garskof, Jesse. “Latin American Studies and United States Foreign Policy.” *International Institute Journal*, \(Fall 2012\).](#)

[Tayla Zemach-Bersin. “American Students Abroad Can’t Be ‘Global Citizens’.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* \(March 7, 2008\).](#)

[Eric Hartman. “Becoming More Human; Building a Better World.” *Community Works Journal*.](#)

Tuesday, January 20: Building Partnerships

Visit of María Dolores Lasso and Mellsenda Yañez Hernández from Universidad de San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) to talk about their collaboration with The Quito Project.

You are recommended to attend MLK event: “Social Justice and Community Engagement: Lessons from Abroad?” Tuesday, January 20, 12:00-1:30pm (extra credit)

Tuesday, January 27: Philanthropy and International Volunteering

[Devereux, P. “International Volunteering for Development and Sustainability: Outdated Paternalism or a Radical Response to Globalisation?” *Development in Practice* 18, no. 3 \(June 1, 2008\).](#)

[Zavitz, Kate J., and David Butz. "Not That Alternative: Short-Term Volunteer Tourism at an Organic Farming Project in Costa Rica." *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies* 10, no. 3 \(2011\).](#)

Tuesday, February 3: International Service Learning

[Grusky, S. "International Service Learning: A Critical Guide from an Impassioned Advocate." *American Behavioral Scientist* 43, no. 5 \(February 1, 2000\).](#)

[Kiely, Richard. "A Transformative Learning Model for Service-Learning: A Longitudinal Case Study." *Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning* 12, no. 1 \(2005\).](#)

Tuesday, February 10: Presentations

Presentation and critique of group projects.

Monday, February 16
Final Essays due via CTools

Statement on Disabilities

If you need academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability, please see Professor Lenny A. Ureña Valerio during the first week of class. Also, if you have not yet done so you should notify the Disability Services Office, located in G 219 Angell Hall (phone 763-3000) of any special needs.

Statement on Academic Dishonesty

In the event that a student is discovered to have committed academic dishonesty, including cheating or plagiarism, the student will receive no grade on the assignment in question and the final grade will be calculated with no credit for the incomplete work. The matter may also be referred to the Dean's Office at the discretion of the instructor. Plagiarism includes the use of unattributed passages from printed or internet sources, even if the wording is altered or paraphrased. If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, please come to office hours.

Policies on Grading

Requests for reconsideration or changes in final grade or requests for reconsideration of final essay should be made within a week of receiving your

grade. You must turn in original copies of all assignments, with the instructor's comments, in order to have your grade reconsidered.