

Jamaica



HAMLIN
UNIVERSITY

JANUARY TERM 2015



Rural Jamaica: Exploring the Natural World through Art and Biology INTD 1980

Description

This course will explore remote parts of Jamaica, far from tourist crowds. The Caribbean islands are global hotspots of biodiversity. We will investigate this diversity artistically and biologically as we visit habitats from tropical forests to ocean shores. This course is appropriate for all majors seeking art or natural science experience. Because students will be drawing outdoors for extended periods and hiking in rough terrain a reasonable level of physical fitness is advisable.

Students will experience how artists and biologists investigate the environment in terms of issues such as time, scale, shape, and color. For example, the shapes drawn in a mountain landscape might create a sense of hope, peace, excitement, or unease, when considered artistically. Biologically, the landscape might be analyzed in terms of how mountain shapes and elevations create habitats differing in sunlight and moisture, which favor different plant forms.

Biological investigation will emphasize field projects in which students learn to generate and test hypotheses about basic ecological principles. In artistic investigations, students will create original artwork using digital photography and drawing to explore issues such as composition and aesthetics. Through artistic and biological understandings of the surroundings, students will enhance their aesthetic and scientific creativity.

About the Professors

Professor Bonnie Ploger teaches courses in animal behavior, ecology, and anatomy in Hamline's biology department. As artist in residence with the Center for Global Environmental Education, she also teaches workshops that combine art and biology. She has led college courses in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Brazil, and China, and studied ecology in Senegal and Australia. Professors Ploger and Wykes have taught "Exploring the Natural World through Art and Biology" in Arizona and Jamaica.

Bonnie Ploger, bploger@hamline.edu, 651-523-2587

Professor Andrew Wykes' area of specialization is painting and drawing. His work is exhibited extensively throughout the United Kingdom and the United States. A citizen of the United Kingdom, Professor Wykes has travelled extensively in the United States and in Europe. He teaches courses in painting and drawing in Hamline's art department.

Andrew Wykes, awykes@hamline.edu 651-523-2387

Dates of travel

January 1-16, 2015

Mandatory On-Campus classes

Nov. 13, 20, & Dec. 4, 11, 2014

January 20-23, 2015

Estimated Cost: TBD

*There is a \$250 application fee that is separate from the cost of the course.

Course information

Grading: A-F

Hamline Plan: F, N, L
(four credits)

Prerequisites: None

Required Readings: TBA

Course limited to: 12 participants

INCLUDED in the itinerary

- Round-trip airfare, covering all points between: Minneapolis and Jamaica
- Multi-bedded accommodations
- Airport transfers and ground transportation between towns
- All meals except on travel days
- All guides and entry fees to museums and sites listed on itinerary
- Emergency International Medical Insurance

NOT INCLUDED in the Itinerary

- Trip cancellation insurance
- International Student Identity Card
- Meals on travel days
- Cost of individual recreation
- Laundry and personal expenses
- Telephone/fax charges
- Internet