Cross-Cultural Travel Seminar

Immigration, Communication & Border Cultures

MFJS 3656/4656 - 4 credits

Location: Arizona-Mexico Border
Travel Dates: Arrive in Tucson by the morning of June 12th, Depart Tucson on/after June 18th
Course Dates: June 12-18, 2016
Instructors: Margaret Thompson and Maria Suarez Toro

This class will take place in Tucson and the US-Mexico border area to study immigration issues, which are front and center in the news headlines, but in a way that often masks the complex realities of many immigrants' lives, both undocumented and documented. For those who decide to cross the border, it is an extremely dangerous and arduous journey that all too often results in arrest by the Border Patrol, and possible deportation. Many of these dynamics center on the US-Mexico border, which is a unique and ever changing cultural space, shaped from afar by media coverage and imagery, but also through experiences of those living near or crossing the border.

This course will be conducted in collaboration with Borderlinks, an organization located in Tucson, Arizona that has offered educational programs along the US-Mexican border region for the past 25 years. Students will also meet twice during the Spring Quarter 2016 to discuss assigned readings and prepare for the trip. They will complete short papers and journal assignments, as well as a final project due after the trip is over.

Activities on the trip may include: walking the migrant trail in the Sonora Desert, visiting the US-Mexico border wall, an immigration detention center and the courts, and meetings with human rights activists and immigration officials.

Approximate Travel Expenses*:
Airfare to and from Tucson, Arizona: $250+ (Students are responsible for making flight arrangements. This is an estimate and subject to change.)
Program fee: $900 (Applied to tuition bill. Fee covers lodging, meals, and transportation provided by Borderlinks)
Cancellation fee: $900 (Non-refundable. Applied if student drops the course after the deadline)
*Tuition fees apply and are in addition to travel expenses.

SPACE IS LIMITED. Applications are being accepted until April 30, 2016 OR until the course is full.
Application forms available online at www.du.edu/specpro/interterm/registration
Financial Aid is available. Apply online at www.du.edu/specpro/interterm/finaid.html