How to Participate

Eligibility
Program is open to all teacher education undergraduate and graduate students who are in good academic standing and maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Prior knowledge of Spanish language or Montessori education is not required.

Find application at:
http://schoolofeducation.buffalostate.edu/dominican-republic

Submit application by May 1 to Tamara at:
horstmath@buffalostate.edu

- Applicants must submit a completed application, two academic references, and an essay of intent.
- Qualified applicants will need to attend a group interview session on May 7th or May 8th.
- Accepted participants will be notified before the end of the spring semester and must submit a non-refundable application fee to the International Education office.

Program Requirements
- Enroll in 3 credit course for fall 2015 semester.
- Attend all fall semester pre-travel course meetings on campus, Mondays at 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm.
- Participate in scheduled program activities, coursework, meetings, assignments, and cultural activities.
- Complete research project.
- Maintain reflective online journal while abroad.
- Complete agreement forms, judicial review, health exam, and health statement.
- Secure valid passport.
- Provide payment in full for all expenses on date(s) specified by the program coordinators and the International Education office.

About Cabarete
Cabarete is located in the Dominican Republic, a beautiful Caribbean country on the island of Hispaniola. It is a small town on the northern coast in the province of Puerto Plata. Due to the trade winds and physical features that produce ideal wind and wave conditions, Cabarete is a destination noted worldwide for its beaches and reputation as the premier place for kitesurfing. Average daytime January temperatures are 80F and humid with brief tropical showers.

Project Coordinators
Tamara Horstman-Riphahn, School of Education
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Wendy McLeish, Elementary Education & Reading
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Phone: (716) 878-3008
Estimated Costs

Overall estimate of $4000 includes:

- international airfare to Puerto Plata
- lodging
- ground transportation
- language course & textbook
- group cultural/city excursions
- lunches with host families
- all other meals (group & on own)
- travel health insurance
- program administrative fees
- tourist fee to enter country
- required reading material
- personal funds
- passport

NOTE: Final program costs to be determined. Seeking scholarships recommended. Financial Aid applies. Some expenses are included in a one-time fee that is applied to each student’s tuition bill. Other expenses are paid separately by each student before and during travel.

About the Program

Students chosen to participate in the Dominican Republic international education program will engage in a fall semester on-campus course plus 2 ½ weeks of study, teaching, traveling, and research in and around the coastal city of Cabarete, Dominican Republic.

Teaching & Presenting

Work with early childhood educators, parents and local children (ages birth to 8 years) at 3 Mariposas Montessori (3MM) school. Demonstrate teaching lessons and techniques, partner with a student to enhance language development and fine motor skills, meet with parents, share educational activities and songs, develop classroom materials, and discuss methods of classroom management.

Language Study

Complete an intensive Spanish language immersion course with qualified instructors at the Cabarete Language Institute (CLI). Students will be grouped into classes based on experience and will engage in interactive and practical learning methods with an emphasis on oral communication and preparation for working with students and parents at 3MM.

Cultural & Community Engagement

Visit the Mariposa Center for Girls, a non-profit investing in the education, health, and empowerment of girls through academic and wellness programs, sports activities, and job and life skills training.

Observe at local public schools. Participate in education discussions. Dine on traditional Dominican fare. Build relationships with local families in the homes of 3MM students.

Travel to Santiago de los Caballeros and see historic monuments, shop on Calle El Sol, observe murals and frescos, and enjoy an espresso in the cultured downtown area.

Explore in and near Cabarete and participate in group excursions like kayaking, horseback riding, zip lining, snorkeling, and hiking. Explore miles of beach and ocean.

APPLICATION DUE - MAY 1
INTERVIEWS - MAY 7 & MAY 8