

## MESOAMERICA STUDY ABROAD: 2009 Application Packet



### I. Directors (for more information):

Joelle Moen  
English Dept., Smith 356  
208-496-1462  
MoenJ@byui.edu

John Griffith  
Biology Dept., Benson 294A  
208-496-2026  
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Greg Palmer  
Religion Dept., Taylor 224  
208-496-2236  
PalmerG@byui.edu

*Visit our web site.* <http://emp.byui.edu/GRIFFITHJO/MesoAmerica/default.htm>

### II. To Apply:

- a. Fill out the application at the back of this packet. Get the necessary signatures (parents/guardians and witnesses).
- b. Take/send the last two of the application to Sis. Moen in Smith 356. (Fax: 208-496-5462. Address: Joelle Moen, English Dept., Rexburg, ID 83460-0820). If Sis. Moen isn't in, slide the application under her door, leave it with the English Dept. office in Rigby Hall 180, or with one of the other directors—Bro. Palmer in Taylor 224 or Bro. Griffith in Benson 294A.
- c. You'll receive an e-mail notifying you of acceptance to the program. Once you've been accepted you have a week to pay the \$300 deposit. Otherwise we'll give that spot to someone else.

### III. Selection/Screening Process:

Your position on the tour is final after a short screening process and you pay your deposit. First, you're screened by the Admission and Dean of Students offices. Then, tour directors consider student demeanor, personality, health, academics, and interests. Evaluation is based on recommendations, director knowledge, and information supplied by the student. Preference is given to earliest applications. However, not all applicants will be accepted, even if they apply early. *Students on any track may apply.* If for some reason students aren't accepted to the tour, they receive a full refund of their deposit. Students may lose the \$300 deposit only after being accepted to the program.

### IV. Tentative Dates: 1<sup>st</sup> block, Summer Semester, mid-April - beginning June, 2009

We will stay on campus approximately 13 days in April and travel in MesoAmerica 4 weeks (returning in time for the second block of summer semester). Exact dates will be announced at a later date.

### V. Tentative Itinerary:

We will fly into Mexico City. We then travel by charter bus and boat to other locations.

#### MEXICO:

Mexico City  
Latin American Tower  
Zócalo (town square—the heart of the city)  
National Palace, National Cathedral  
Archeological Museum  
Pyramids of Teotihuacán and Palenque  
Oaxaca and the ruins at Monte Alban  
Colonial San Cristobal de las Casas  
Villahermosa--the zoo and outdoor Olmec exhibit  
Stay with an LDS Family  
Practice your Spanish as much as you like

#### HONDURAS:

Copan ruins and town

#### GUATEMALA:

Tikal  
Hike through a rain forest with monkeys and toucans  
Stay on a farm with tree houses, horses, and rainforest  
Colonial Antigua and Guatemala City  
Market in Chichicastenango  
Lake Atitlan with Panajachel and Santiago Atitlan  
Hike an active volcano and swim through a cave  
Witness indigenous Maya religious and cultural ceremonies

#### BELIZE:

Snorkeling in the coral reef and stay on an island  
Belize Zoo  
Immerse yourself in Caribbean Creole culture

Various proposed Book of Mormon sites along the way

### VI. TENTATIVE Classes (may be dropped, added, or changed):

Anthropology 101, Cultural Anthropology	GE social science credit	3 credits
Anthropology 290, Tour Anthropology/Culture	GE elective credit	1 credit
English 362, World Literature	English major, minor, cluster credit	3 credits
FA 100, Fine Arts Attendance	GE required credit	0 credits
FdHum 102. Foundations Humanities. Machine and Garden.	Foundations credit	3 credits
FdInt 202. International Foundations. Developing World	Foundations credit	2 credits
FdSci 101. Science Foundations	Foundations credit	2 credits
FdSci 203. Environmental Stewardship	Foundations credit	3 credits
FdRel 122, Book of Mormon	GE religion credit	2 credits
International Studies 350, Latin American Culture	PolySci Minor/cluster/elective credit	3 credits
Spanish 490, Tutoring Spanish Conversation	GE elective credit	1-2 credits

Notes on classes:

- All students must take one anthropology/culture class (Anthro 290 or Anthro 101).
- Students must take at least five credits and can take up to ten credits.
- Some of the above classes may not be offered if not enough students are enrolled.
- You must have a new Bishop's endorsement, pay all college fees, and see your advisor before registration.

**VII. Cost:** \$2495 + tuition

*Includes:*

Transportation (round trip air fare to and from Salt Lake, bus/boat fare, airport taxes)  
All meals in MesoAmerica  
All lodging in MesoAmerica  
Entrance fees/tickets to mandatory attractions

*Does not include:*

Tuition (\$127 per credit, up to \$1530 for a full summer semester)  
Souvenirs, camera, film/cards, snacks, water (about \$1/day)  
Passport application fee (\$97)  
Extra activities during free time  
Books, supplies for classes (usually less than \$75)  
Expenses for your stay in Rexburg (We suggest you stay with a friend, bishop, or professor)

**Payment Schedule:**

You may pay for the tour in one lump sum or use the following payment schedule:

\$300 non-refundable deposit, due at time of acceptance to the program

\$700 by January 10, 2009

\$700 by February 1, 2009

\$795 by March 1, 2009

Payment of the non-refundable deposit (\$300) secures your space. In the case of cancellation on the students' part (no matter the cause), students will lose the deposit as well as any additional costs already incurred. However, every effort will be made to hold losses to a minimum. Students not accepted to the tour receive a full deposit refund.

**VIII. Information/Meetings:**

Fall semester we have information meetings for prospective tour members (those who are thinking of applying). At those meetings we talk about the tour and answer a lot of questions. Feel free to contact a director at any time to ask questions.

Starting in December and continuing through April, we have meetings once a month for those who have been selected for the tour. In the past, some students have not been in Rexburg winter semester or were unable to attend the meetings. Although that's usually a little more difficult for the student, we send e-mail updates and reminders.

**IX. Baggage:**

Pack lightly! Most hotels we stay in have multiple floors and usually no elevator. You don't want to be weighed down by lots of luggage. You will be limited to one *small* suitcase and one carry-on. Try to find a bag no larger than 29" X 20" X 10". We will give you a suggested packing list, currently available on our web site.

**X. Insurance:**

You must have health insurance to travel with a BYU-Idaho program. You may also want to purchase life insurance and/or a basic travel insurance policy. BYU-Idaho has no funds to compensate for the loss, damage, or theft of luggage and/or personal belongings, or to cover hospitalization or other medical expenses.

**XI. LDS Standards and the BYU-Idaho Code of Honor:**

While traveling you are ambassadors of the church, BYUI, Idaho, your home state, and the US (or your home country). As such, all participants are required to maintain high standards of honor, integrity, and morality in harmony with the values of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This includes abstinence from coffee, tea, alcohol, and narcotics, as well as following the LDS standards of chastity. Participants will dress modestly and appropriately for the occasion.

**XII. Health:**

While you aren't required to climb *all* the pyramids, go on every hike, swim in every river, etc., that's half the fun. Be in shape before you go. Also, you will be asked to fill out a health form.



## MesoAmerica Tour 2009 Application Form

**Directions:**

1. Neatly complete all information on both sides of this form. Print clearly. Get all necessary signatures.
2. Take/send both pages of this application (or front and back of this page) to Joelle Moen in Smith 356, English Dept., Rexburg, ID 83460-0820. Fax: 208-496-5462. Your application is NOT final until the form has reached Sis. Moen.
3. Once you've received notification of acceptance, pay the \$300 deposit (non-refundable upon acceptance to the program) at the BYU-I Cashier's Office, Kimball 130, Rexburg, ID 83460-1625.

**Full Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **I-number (BYUI ID number)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Citizenship** \_\_\_\_\_ **Admitted to BYU-Idaho** yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rexburg Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Rexburg Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year in school**    Freshman (0-30 credits)    Sophomore (31-60)    Junior (61-90)    Senior (91-120)

**Spanish experience (how many classes, mission, etc.)** \_\_\_\_\_

**References:** Name and e-mail of BYU-Idaho professor (or other professor) \_\_\_\_\_

Name, phone, e-mail of BYU-Idaho bishop (or other bishop) \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons you want to go:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone**(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City/State/ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact (other than parent/guardian):**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City/State/ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT COMMITMENT**

If accepted as a member of the MesoAmerica Study Abroad program, I promise to

1. Support and uphold the moral standards and ideals of the LDS Church.
2. Follow the behavior, honor, and moral codes and expectations of BYU-Idaho and MesoAmerica Study Abroad program.
3. Abide by the decisions of the tour directors in all matters pertaining to the tour.
4. Make all payments by the deadlines as outlined in the tour packet. I understand that if I choose to or am forced to withdraw from the program after being accepted, I may lose not only the deposit, but all expenses incurred in my behalf.
5. Fill out a physical and mental health information and release form before final acceptance.

I understand that

1. To participate in this program I must fulfill all requirements for enrollment in BYU-I, including but not limited to clearance from the Dean of Students and a bishop, and enrollment in college courses;
2. If I do not conform with Church, Tour, and University standards and policies, I may be denied acceptance, removed from the tour, and/or sent home from the tour at my own expense;
3. A variety of my professors will be contacted, beyond those I've listed, to learn more about my academic preparation and dedication.

**Signature of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Participants under 21 or financially dependent upon parents/guardians must have parental/guardian approval.)*

## MesoAmerica Tour 2009

### ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE AGREEMENT

I know and recognize that participation in the MesoAmerica Tour conducted by BYU-Idaho is done on a voluntary basis without compulsion or coercion and is not a mandatory class or program. However, if I choose to participate in the tour, I know I must take at least five academic credits. I know there may be dangers and hazards associated with the tour and assume the risks associated with participation in the tour, including but not limited to:

hazards associated with travel, whether by land, sea, or air, and including airplane, auto, or bus failures or crashes and boat crashes or capsizings; hazards of hiking, running, climbing natural and man-made objects, horseback riding, walking, biking, scootering, snorkeling, and swimming, such as falls, crashes, being struck by a vehicle, drowning, being harmed by a water or land animal, or suffering physical exertion; hazards of storms; hazards of unstable governments, rebels, bandits, and related potential violence; hate crimes; illness caused by food, water, heat, cold, altitude, contagious diseases or other foreign agents; assault, theft, or robbery; trip cancellation or change in itinerary and travel plans; acts of God; any activity I decide to participate in during free time.

I acknowledge that these hazards could cause physical, mental, or emotional harm or even death.

Knowing the risks, and in consideration for being permitted to participate in the 2009 MesoAmerica Tour, and as inducement to BYU-Idaho to permit me to participate in this tour, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue and waive liability for death, personal injury or property damage of any kind or nature, and any other claims whatsoever arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in this tour., even though liability may arise out of carelessness on the part of BYU-Idaho, including its officers and employees.

This release extends to all claims of every kind or nature whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown.

MY SIGNATURE BELOW AFFIRMS THAT I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER TERMS; I UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT AND PURPOSES AND I VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO ALL THE TERMS SET FORTH ABOVE.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*(required if participant is under 21 or dependant on parent/guardian)*