

Argentina May Term Information Sheet

Description: “Another World is Happening: Social Reconstruction and Peace Education in Argentina.”

The emphasis of this May Term is on economic and social change. Classes will deal with education for peace, human rights, and participatory democracy in the context of contemporary social changes not just in Argentina but in Latin America and globally. Students are expected to learn practical ways to promote social change derived from Latin American experience, as well as to deepen their theoretical understanding.

The afternoons will be devoted to site visits, which will provide opportunities to meet young activists the same ages as Earlham students. Many of the visits will be coordinated by Fabian Maldonado, of the Centro de Juventud of Rosario. Among the sites to be visited are women’s self-help cooperatives; Rosario’s unique network of educational theme parks; worker-run businesses, urban agriculture sites; cooperative housing; the city’s Office of Sexual Diversity, which promotes gay, lesbian, bi, and transgender rights; Rosario’s unique system of local neighborhood health clinics, and numerous others. Some students will develop their own list of projects they want to know more about, and over time there will be increasing flexibility for students to decide which of the innumerable social innovations in Rosario they want to visit. Other students will prefer activities organized by the professors, or by their host families. Evenings are open at this point, for the sake of flexibility, but in any case the Earlham faculty members on the trip will be available in the evenings as well as at other times for students who stop by to debrief and process what they are learning. Students do not need to drop by to debrief with the faculty on any particular evening, but they should do so with reasonable frequency, meaning at least once every five days.

Course Name and Number: Social Reconstruction and Peace Education in Argentina. PAGS 431, three credits. Grades will be based on quizzes that may be answered on paper or by internet at one of Rosario’s many cyber cafes, and on debriefings. Journals and voluntary papers are not required, but they will be responded to if written, and will be considered in assigning grades, as will anything else students submit as evidence of learning.

Dates: Students are expected to arrive in Buenos Aires the morning of May 11, 2009. The last day of classes will be June 1, 2009.

Faculty: The Earlham faculty members will be Joanna Swanger, Director of PAGS and Asst. Professor of Peace and Global Studies and Latin American History; Howard Richards (whose recent book on Rosario is on display at the PAGS office), research professor of Philosophy, Education and Peace and Global Studies; and Caroline Higgins, emeritus professor of Peace and Global Studies and Latin American History, author of the novel *Sweet Country*, who also has recent publications treating events in Rosario in the context of Peace Studies.

Itinerary: Students will be met at Buenos Aires airport (Ezeiza) and taken to the Hotel Bauen, a hotel that is one of the “recovered” industries now run by its workers. They will spend two days

in Buenos Aires learning about the Bauen and other key sites, including Brukman Textiles, one of the industries featured in the film “The Take.” The remainder of the May term will be spent in Rosario. Students who want to visit other places after the May Term ends will be helped to make contacts.

Eligibility: The classes will be taught in English for the benefit of those who do not know Spanish, and there will be translations for site visits.

Cost: \$2000 plus the cost of airfare to Buenos Aires. Transportation, meals, tuition, lodging are included in this cost; excluded are other activities people may choose to do on their own within Argentina. In Rosario students will stay with Argentine families. We can seek to accommodate people’s preferences regarding lodging if people make them known to us.