

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - SPRING 2022

COLGATE IN TRINIDAD



Director:

April Baptiste, Environmental Studies
Program and Africana and Latin American
Studies

Tentative Program Dates:

Mid-January to Mid-May 2022

**Learn about the 2021-22 Colgate Study Groups and
Talk With the Faculty Directors at the Study Group
Fair on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020, 4:00–5:00:
[https://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/
campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair](https://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair)**

For more information about the program:

Please contact Prof. Baptiste at abaptiste@colgate.edu

Information Sessions will be held on:

Monday, December 7th, at 7pm: <https://colgate.zoom.us/j/97811436737>

Colgate University's

Trinidad Study Group will expose Colgate students to life in a developing country with a vibrant culture and dynamic society where virtually everything is different from what they are accustomed to at Colgate and in the United States. It will most certainly take them out of their comfort zones and into an entirely new and unfamiliar world. Their lived experience among Trinidadian and Caribbean students of different ethnic backgrounds and with widely differing values and interests will challenge, expand and enrich their understanding of the world, how it functions, and their place in it. The UWI will place the study group participants in a scholarly environment where academic traditions and pedagogical systems are very different from Colgate; and they will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in courses in different disciplines that emphasize the issues of relevance and importance to the Caribbean and the developing world. This study group also enables students to take courses that can count towards a minor or major (Caribbean Studies emphasis) in the Africana and Latin American Studies curriculum.



The UWI St. Augustine campus is situated 15km from the bustling capital of one of the Caribbean's most rapidly developing island states, Trinidad and Tobago. With its focus on research and innovation, fully accredited programmes across seven faculties, and a cosmopolitan campus community, St. Augustine is a true representation of an innovative, internationally competitive, contemporary university deeply rooted in the Caribbean.

The scenic St. Augustine campus boasts a unique mix of twentieth century and modern architecture as well as an impressive landscape of indigenous and introduced trees and shrubs. Modern teaching and learning centres, a wide range of extra-curricular activities and a deep commitment to our role in preserving Caribbean integration and culture make St. Augustine an ideal choice for higher education.

The West Indies study group to Trinidad is a semester long program, running from mid-January to early May, and students are eligible to earn four credits. The classroom experience will be enhanced by field trips, concerts and shows, and by living and studying with Caribbean students in a prestigious multi-national university. Students will find this study group offers a unique educational experience through combining excellent courses with a rich cultural environment.

Prerequisites

Students are required to have taken at least one course that counts towards Caribbean Studies from the Africana and Latin American Studies Program OR one Environmental Studies course.

Courses

There will be a standard four-course load, with some additional cultural activities and field trips. Students will be required to take one course with the Study Group Director, and three UWI courses. The director's course will provide students with the academic grounding to assist them to interpret and understand the physical and social environment they are living in and their experiences in it:

ALST/ENST 3xx: Ecosystems, environmental threats, and response in Trinidad and Tobago

Caribbean environmental issues and concerns are usually overshadowed by the images of sun, sea and sun, yet the region which is composed of a multiplicity of countries face both individual and common environmental threats. Trinidad and Tobago provide a unique perspective on the Caribbean given its cultural cosmopolitan richness and its label as the most industrialized. This course seeks to understand the main ecosystems, environmental threats, and the ways in which the country has responded to these threats. While studying in Trinidad and Tobago students will get hands-on experience with these ecosystems and threats in addition to learning from a number of stakeholders – NGOs, community-based organizations, and government – to understand the complexity of responses for small island states. Students who successfully complete this course will satisfy the following requirements: Global Engagements, ENST interdisciplinary perspectives, Social Relations, Institutions, and Agents, and ALST major and/or minor requirements.

Colgate students will have full access to the library facilities and academic support programs at the UWI. A wide range of courses will be available across a number of different faculties including: Humanities & Education, Science & Technology, Social Sciences, and Food & Agriculture.

Course Credits

All four pre-approved credits earned will count towards graduation, and grades for all the courses will be recorded on the students' transcripts as Colgate grades.

Appropriate courses will count towards concentrations in Africana and Latin American Studies, and credits for other concentrations should be negotiated directly by the student with the Chairs of those departments.

Extracurricular Activities

Students will be able to participate in all sporting, religious, and other cultural activities at the University of the West Indies, and a range of other activities is available off-campus. In addition, a variety of activities and field trips will be organized by the Director to places of academic interest such as Tobago (the sister island to Trinidad) where we will visit the second largest barrier reef in the Caribbean, the rain forest and other important ecosystems on the isle; historic colonial sites, museums, indigenous villages and major environmental sites such as the leather back turtle nesting area.

Accommodation

All students will live in campus housing, sharing accommodation with UWI and other Colgate students. Students will have a choice of preparing some meals for themselves in the kitchens provided in the halls of residence or eating at various local food places on the university campus or in various facilities in the surrounding community. Most students choose a mix of these eating options. Housing is fully secured with 24-hour security service provided throughout the campus.

Student Group Costs

Costs above Colgate's tuition include room and board, travel to and from the program site, visa fees, and necessary out-of-pocket expenses. On average students can expect to spend about the same as a semester on campus. Students who are planning extensive personal travel will need to increase their budget accordingly. Student cost estimates can be found at www.colgate.edu/ocs.

Passports and Visas

You must confirm that your passport is valid through December 2022. With participation on this study group comes the responsibility of understanding and complying with any visa requirements. If you will not be traveling on a U.S. passport it is imperative that you contact an adviser in Off-Campus Study and International Student Services, 101 McGregor (Center for International Programs), to learn as much as you can about the visa requirements. For some students there are significant requirements to be met that take time, advance planning, and incur extra costs.

Deadlines

The study group application must be submitted by January 15, 2021, and are submitted online at offcampusstudy.colgate.edu. Interviews of applicants will take place after that date and will be arranged by email. The faculty director will announce their admissions decisions on February 2021.