

Provisional itinerary — **Ethnographic Field School in Highland Maya Culture** (Dates given in both the Western and Mayan calendars. Details subject to change)

May 17 3 Kame	May 18 4 Kej	19 5 K'anil	20 6 Toj	May 21 7 Tz'i'	22 8 B'atz'	23 9 E
<p>Pre-travel reading days. We have a lot of material to cover in this course and the more you can tackle before we leave the more you'll get out of our time on the ground.</p>						
May 24 10 Aj	25 11 I'x	26 12 Tz'ikin	May 27 13 Ajmaq	28 1 No'j	29 2 Tijax	30 3 Kawoq
	Memorial Day	<i>Richmond, Va</i> Orientation Class meets on campus	<i>Antigua</i> Dawn departure arrival in Guatemala City at noon — Micro-bus cab service to Antigua Hotel, Orientation & group dinner, rest.	<i>Antigua</i> AM Orientation & visits to local museums: Cathedral, market, Capuchines ruins,  Lunch PM Casa Popenoe, San Francisco ruins	<i>Antigua</i> Van to Guatemala city Museos Popol Vuh, Ixchel, & Arqueología Nacional	<i>Xela</i> AM Tecpan/Iximché Lunch & guest lecture, mid-PM van to Xela  Assignment to host families
May 31 4 Ajpu'	June 1 5 Imox	June 2 6 Ik'	3 7 Aq'ab'al	4 8 K'at	5 8 Kan	6 10 Kame
<i>Xela</i> AM – brief orientation to town center  PM – unstructured free time	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Chichicastenango</i> AM Public bus to Chichicastenango to observe market preparations
<p>Individualized, one-on-one Spanish language tutoring at the Escuela Español Juan Sisay each morning. Each afternoon the professor and one or more instructors from Juan Sisay will lead structured activities in Xela and its neighboring communities. These might include visits to the Mayan towns of San Andres Xecul and Zunil, the shrine of San Pascualio in Olinstepeque, the University of San Carlos in Xela, the town's vast cemetery, or the agricultural community of Xe Tuj and the volcanic steam baths on the mountain above Xela. Precise scheduling to be determined by the teachers at Juan Sisay. Participation is elective on any given day, but students are expected to attend at least four out of eight such PM activities, this week and next.</p>						
June 7 11 Kej	8 12 K'anil	9 13 Toj	10 1 Tz'i'	11 2 B'atz'	12 3 E	13 4 Aj
<i>Xela</i> AM – By van from Chichicastenango to archaeological site of Utatlán, return for lunch in Chichi. late-PM van to Xela	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>Xela</i>	<i>San Pedro</i> <i>Corpus Christi</i> AM – Class at Escuela Juan Sisay  PM – depart Xela, visit San Juan la Laguna and San Pedro la Laguna.	<i>S A Palopó</i> Early morning boat across Lake Atitlan to visit San Antonio Palopó for group ethnography of the town's fiesta patronal.	<i>Panajachel</i> AM—S. A. Palopó. PM—Panajachel. Activities and recreation with other VCU study abroad programs <i>and/or</i> visit the town of Santiago Atitlan.

ANTH 391 Topics: Highland Maya Culture

ANTH 315 Anthropological Field Methods and Research Design

June 14 5 I'x	15 6 Tz'ikin	16 7 Ajmaq	17 8 No'j	18 9 Tijax	19 10 Kawoq	20 11 Ajpu'
<b>Xela</b> AM-free time in Panajachel PM-return to Xela	<b>Xela</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">For the remainder of our time in Xela we will be meeting several times each week for formal seminar discussions of the assigned readings, while also completing various ethnographic exercises.</div>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b> Daytrip to observe ritual activities  Waqaxib' B'atz and Dia de San Simon in Zunil	<b>Xela</b> AM class meeting  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">In small groups, students attend 2 out of 4 elective afternoon activities this week. By this point students are expected to have identified and begun work on their individual research projects</div>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b> Visit Takalik Abaj archaeological site
June 21 12 Imox	22 13 Ik'	23 1 Aq'ab'al	24 2 K'at	25 3 Kan	26 4 Kame	27 5 Kej
<b>Xela</b> Momostenango market day	<b>Xela</b> AM class meeting PM elective	<b>Xela</b> AM class meeting PM elective	<b>Copan ruins</b> Depart Xela 8 AM  Lunch in Guatemala City  Arrive Copan in late afternoon	<b>Copan ruins</b> Visit Copan archaeological site and museum	<b>Antigua</b> Morning visit to nearby town and cigar factory, or return to ruins.  Depart after lunch for Antigua	<b>Antigua</b> Climb Pacaya Volcano  Optional visit to the capilla of San Simón in Itzapa
June 28 6 K'anil	29 7 Toj	30 8 Tz'i'	July 1 9 B'atz'	2 10 E	3 11 Aj	4 12 I'x
<b>Xela</b> AM – free time in Antigua markets PM return to Xela	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b>	<b>Xela</b>
<p>Seminar discussions continue on alternate mornings while students complete individualized ethnographic research projects. We should expect to make two or more day trips to communities or sites of interest outside of Xela this week (details to be determined).</p> <p>On Friday students will make formal presentations of their findings and provide feedback to each other. Final papers to be completed after the students return to the US. They will be posted on Blackboard for peer review.</p>						
July 5 13 Tz'ikin	6 1 Ajmaq	7 2 No'j	8 3 Tijax			
<b>Xela</b> To be determined	<b>Xela</b> To be determined	<b>Antigua</b> AM depart Xela  Final day	noon Departure flight	<p><b>Note:</b> This itinerary accurately represents the overarching structure of our time in Guatemala. However, students should remain flexible. Depending on varying circumstances and opportunities, overnight trips and other listed activities in and around Xela (Quetzaltenango) may be rescheduled for different dates or otherwise subject to change.</p> <p>Town names in <b>bold</b> indicate where the group will be spending the night, irrespective of the day's activities. In Xela students will be staying with host families and provided with three meals daily. When not in Xela students should expect to purchase their own meals.</p>		
<p><b>Note:</b> Ground transportation will be provided for all formal program activities throughout the trip, but students should expect to cover their own taxi and city bus fares for personal in-town travel.</p>						