THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC DESIGN-BUILD

The School of Architecture
Southern Illinois University
Spring Break 2015
SERVICE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
PEACE CORPS INITIATIVE

The Eco Challenge
Spring Break 2015
March 8-15
MISSION

• This environmentally focused service experience is a collaboration with the Brigada Verde

• (Green Brigade), a Peace Corps Initiative devoted to environmentally responsible tourism in the Dominican Republic. Based at the Escuela Nacional Forestal in Jarabacoa, students will spend a week working with the Brigadistas on engaging projects and local initiatives that promote environmental awareness across the country.
• Join the Dominican Republic’s Brigada Verde (“Green Brigade”) in their push for country- and worldwide environmental responsibility.

• At National Forestry Service sites in Jarabacoa and Salto de Jimenoa, hands-on fieldwork and transcultural collaboration define a service experience rooted in education, while community exchanges and nature excursions challenge the way you see the world.
WHAT YOU’LL DO EACH DAY:

• Day 1: Fly to the Dominican Republic
• Day 2: Colonial zone tour and service orientation
• Day 3: Service and waterfall hike
• Day 4: Service and volleyball
• Day 5: Service and rafting excursion
• Day 6: Service and soccer
• Day 7: Snorkeling at the beach
• Day 8: Depart for home
Twenty students from Southern Illinois University composed of undergrads and graduate students from architecture, interior design, psychology, and education participated in a design-build-service learning adventure in the Dominican Republic.
Our goal was to assist the Peace Corps who had been awarded a $5000 grant from the USAID and a $1000 grant from the southern Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects build a new Ecological Center for a Dominican Women's Foundation.
Awarding the $1000 check to the Dominican Women's foundation from the southern Illinois American Institute of Architects.
Ekow the Peace Corps Volunteer who acquired the USAID Grant..

Great Person!
Our classroom, the Dominican Alps!
The site for the new Ecological center.
Andrea clearing the jungle!
Randy lead carpenter building the trusses for the ecological center.
Drilling the holes in ¼” steel gusset plates.
The building site for the Ecological Center.
Rachel clearing brush in the jungle.
Resting on the seating they just built!
We ate lots of beans and rice!
This was our inspiration...the Architecture for Humanity project (a new school) in Haiti.
Walking the line!
Roadside cafes!
Phil building a new deck by the rivers edge.
Our students meeting local boys swimming.
Lara with our t-shirt
Gabby digging holes for new trees
Our team building a new deck.
Hansen and Rachel preparing saplings.
The Truss crew.
4 hours of dancing!
Gene our film-maker dancing!
Colten just gave all these boys new baseball caps!
The architecture of Santa Domingo
Our white water crew getting ready to hit the river!
On the river.
Off to the sand bar for snorkeling.
Reflecting back to January...
The initial site visit to set up the spring break adventure.
Review of the proposed Ecological Center last January.
Our home for the week.
Farewell Dominican Alps!
I want to thank all the great SIU students for their hard work! You are great travelers and have shown great empathy in your spirits to help build the Ecological Center for the Women's Foundation in the Dominican Alps.

Truly Salukis Abroad!
INCLUDED

• Round-trip flights
• Bus transfers
• 7 overnight stays in hotels or lodges with private bathrooms
• 3 meals daily
• Full-time Tour Director
• Service Director
• Entrances: Salto de Jimenoa waterfall
• Whitewater rafting
• Snorkeling at the beach
• Experiential learning: 35 hours of service learning
WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO SIGNING UP?

- Decide that you want to participate.
- Call EF Tours and register for the trip (you must call).
- Traveler support department at 877-485-4184 and speak with Max, Stephanie, or Emily.
- You will pay $95 the rest of the bill will be placed on your bursar bill.
- Go online at SIU Center for International Education and register for the Trip.
- Register for ARC 444 (3 credits) spring 2015 or ARC 502, these classes will be up in two weeks...
- If you are going to be acquiring a minor in Environmental Studies please go to [http://www.environmentalstudies.siu.edu/](http://www.environmentalstudies.siu.edu/) and sign up for this minor
- Starting at the beginning of the spring semester there will be three informal pizza and discussion meetings covering the various aspects of the Deep Roots: Environmental Citizenship Dominican Republic Trip.

- More info: Jon Davey 618 453 3734  jdavey@siu.edu