

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 1

the

Office Of Engaged Learning



"I am leaving Nicaragua knowing that these children made a huge impact on my life, even if I only worked with them for a week. I'm walking away with unique friendships, an awesome experience, and never ending memories. I'm walking away knowing that

NEC goes to Nicaragua!

by Kim Liaboe

For a week in January, a group of students from New England College took a trip to Jinotega, Nicaragua, for an exciting service learning project. The project involved volunteering with Orphanage Outreach, a wonderful program of education, health and social services for children in the impoverished country of the Dominican Republic and most recently, in Nicaragua. When our group of nine students and three faculty



Greece!

Another group of NEC travelers ventured to Greece for a nine-day fun-filled experience. The purpose of the 'short-term study abroad' travel opportunity was to help students gain awareness of global connections and cultural diversity among world societies. In preparing this trip, the belief was that the best way to experience any culture is to see it, breath the air, hear the sounds, and interact with the locals.

Over the course of nine days, the group visited Athens, took a cruise to the Saronic islands of Hydra, Poros, and Aegina, visited Delphi, Patras (the capital of the Peloponnese), Olympia, Argolida, Epidaurus, Mycenae, and the Corinth Canal.

As part of the experience, students were also able to take part in a series of travel courses, choosing from offerings by Business, Art History, Education, Writing, Economics, and Sports and Recreation Management faculty members.

This course is part of a five-year plan to provide NEC students with endless educational and personal opportunities to experience different cultures in all parts of the world.



8 Days in Belize

In conjunction with an LAS 5 course called Tropical Marine Biology, a group of 16 NEC students and two faculty members traveled to Belize for an eight-day hands-on learning experience. They were stationed at the Tropical Research and Education Center on an island off the coast of Belize in the Caribbean Sea, studying the life in and around a tropical barrier reef. This course focused on the tremendous biodiversity and interaction of life forms exhibited by tropical marine environments, including coral reefs, sea grass beds, sandy/rocky shores, and coastal mangroves. As part of their experience, all students participated in a research project intended to assess the health of two species of coral in shallow and deep patch reefs.

“The trip to Belize was a hands-on interactive class that made it possible for students to have fun and learn a lot all at the same time. There was nothing more amazing then to be able to go with a class to a foreign land to not only learn about marine life and conservation, but also to experience a new culture and way of life. Who would have ever thought that I could go to the tropics and experience so many new things like snorkeling with marine life and get credit for it? The trip was a once in a life-time experience and was totally worth all the work that went into it!”

-Chantale Lacroix, Class of 2012

