

ROOTS, FRUITS & JAMAICAN ECOLOGIES: Permaculture Initiatives in the Blue & John Crow Mountains SUMMER 2012



Blue & John Crow Mountains National Park, May 2010

Course Description:

This interdisciplinary service-learning course is a partnership between IU's Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies (CLACS), the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDDT), and the Bowden Ben Farmers' Association (BPFA) in rural eastern Jamaica. Summer 2012 will mark the 6th offering of the course and Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of independence! To celebrate, we will help coordinate a special trail hike/adventure race on the historic *Cunha Cunha Maroon Pass* trail. In Jamaica students will also participate in permaculture and service-learning initiatives associated with sustainable agriculture, ecotourism, national park management, and forest ecology. Permaculture is creative systems-thinking approach to designing productive ways of living for humans while working with and sustaining natural environments. Summer intensive class sessions at IU (Bloomington) provide students with an understanding of: 1) basic permaculture design principles; 2) cultural practices in rural Jamaican communities; 3) ecological characteristics of mountainous regions in the Caribbean; and 4) the ways in which humans (re)shape local environments. The seminars and workshops given in Jamaica with farmers, conservationists, park rangers, community leaders, herbalists, spiritualists, poets, and musicians place further emphasis on the *roots* and the *fruits* of indigenous agricultural, environmental, and cultural practices.

Course Requirements: *Course enrollment will be limited to a maximum of 15 students. Students must apply and be accepted before course registration is permitted. A minimum 2.75 G.P.A. is required. Students must have, or obtain, a valid passport. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is due by February, 27, 2012 (applicable to the total course costs). Need-based and merit-based financial aid and scholarships may be available for qualifying students. Please ask Dr. Galuska for additional information when applying for the course.*

Fieldsites: Rio Grande Valley & the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (in Jamaica from **May 27-June 10, 2012**)

Instructors: Dr. John Galuska (Anthropologist, Urban Farmer, Permaculture Designer) & Dr. Keith Vogelsang (Biologist, Ecologist)

Course Dates & Times: **Summer intensive (6-weeks)**
May 08-June 14, 2012, M-F (afternoon meeting time T.B.A.)

2012 Course Costs (EXCLUDING Round-Trip Airfare):

\$2,400 (Resident Students) \$2,600 (Non-Resident Students)

NOTE: Students are responsible for purchasing a round-trip airline ticket. A non-refundable \$500 deposit is due by Feb. 27, 2012.

Application Deadline: JANUARY 30, 2012

Course Credit: Undergraduates: OVST-J497 Overseas Study in the Caribbean (3-credits), honored as L426 Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Culture Studies (A-list).

Graduate Students: L803 (3-credits) OR individualized credit by special arrangement with departmental faculty.

Additional Course Info: jgaluska@indiana.edu, 855-6215