Purpose: To better understand the astonishing diversity of the tropics.

Students will work together to investigate these ecosystems: how they were formed and how they are changing. Quite simply, we will learn by doing! We’ll look, ask questions, discuss, reflect, and look again.

Required: An Attitude of Discovery! Fitness needed compares to Elderhostel Program Activity Level 4 or 5.

Who: Undergraduate students
     Graduate students
     Seniors

What: Two weeks in Belize, learning about
     o Natural history
     o Tropical ecology
     o Culture and ethnic groups
     o Ancient Maya culture

When: July 14th-28th, 2011

Where: Belize, Central America

Why: Learning ... Fun ... Excitement ... Beautiful plants, animals and people!

How much: $2,900 all included

Tentative itinerary

July 14-18 - La Milpa Field Station in northern Belize. Highlights:
     o Moist rainforests
     o Mestizo culture

July 18-21 - Spanish Lookout Mennonite colony in central Belize. Highlights:
     o Wet rainforest
     o Caves – natural and with ancient Mayan artifacts
     o Mennonite and Creole culture

July 21-24 - Maya Mt Research Farm in southern Belize. Highlights:
     o WET rainforest (really wet!)
     o Permaculture

July 24-27 – Cayes
     o Marine and coastal ecosystems – reefs, mangroves and human development
     o Garifuna culture
Instructors

No not this howler monkey … tho’ some folks might see a resemblance …

Dr. Donna McCollum
Donna has been teaching adult students of all ages in Belize for more than 10 years and has been an educator more than 30 years. She currently is the Environmental Monitoring Coordinator at Miami University’s Institute of the Environment and Sustainability (IES).

Dr. Hays Cummins
Hays has been leading students to tropical climes for nearly a quarter of a century. He teaches in Belize, Costa Rica, south Florida, the Bahamas and Curacao. He currently is faculty in Miami’s Western Program & the Geography Department.

Both of us enjoy teaching in the field more than any other kind of teaching!

Come learn with us …

See and identify Belize birds and other wildlife

Wonder at beautiful tropical flowers

Explore the ecosystems of Belize, tropical ecological relationships and ancient and modern cultures

Join us on an intergenerational course:

Connections: Belize Ecology and Natural History

IES 531
July 14-28th, 2011

Info:
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