

**School of Freshwater  
Sciences**



**MEXICO  
LAGUNA BACALAR: EXPLORATION  
OF A MAYAN ECOSYSTEM**

**Dates:**

In Milwaukee: January 3 – 6, 2012

In Mexico: January 9 – 18, 2012

**Program Leaders:**

Jerry Kaster, School of Freshwater Sciences  
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**Study Abroad Advising:**

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Contact for administrative questions about application, registration, program cost, etc.

**Credits:**

3 undergraduate/graduate credits in freshwater sciences

**Prerequisites:** Junior standing

**Estimated Cost: \$2,050-\$2,710**

- Program fees are based on a realistic estimate of participants which may change based on the final number of participants.
- Cost includes international airfare (departing from Milwaukee), in-country transportation, shared accommodations, cultural excursions, most meals, health insurance, academic costs, and support for UWM program leaders.
- Cost does not include personal spending money, some meals, learning materials, and trip/travel insurance.
- Fee differentials apply for non-WI residents and graduate students.

**Application Information:**

**October 17, 2011 (deadline)**

You may apply online after August 1. This program requires an online application and other required documents found as part of the online application; a \$250 deposit (includes a \$50 non-refundable application fee); and a valid passport.

**NOTE:** Passports need to be valid for at least six months past the program's end date. The CIE Study Abroad office strongly recommends that you expedite your passport application. Information on how to apply for a passport can be found here: <http://www4.uwm.edu/cie/students/1023/>.

**Study Abroad Fair:**

September 14, 2011 | 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Union Concourse)

**Scholarships:**

Based on eligibility, UWM undergraduate students may apply for a Wisconsin Study Abroad Grant. The award amount is up to \$500. See our website for more details.

**Financial Aid, Scholarships & Grants can be used for this program!**

**APPLY ONLINE: [WWW.STUDYABROAD.UWM.EDU](http://WWW.STUDYABROAD.UWM.EDU)**

**UWINTERIM 2012 – BACALAR, MEXICO**



This is an undergraduate and graduate student field experience in the Southern Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico. Mexico's 2nd largest natural lake, Laguna Bacalar is one of the most unique, world class freshwater lakes on Earth. Students will participate in the scientific investigation of lake and cenote bathymetry, chemistry, and ecology. Laguna Bacalar ecological studies will center on the giant freshwater, living Stromatolites (oldest known life forms at 3.5 Ga), extensive freshwater mangroves, and invertebrate ecology. Students will learn to sample water and benthos using fathometer and GPS system, YSI sondes, and other instrumentation. Additionally, students will examine resource impacts as tourism encroachment increases in the area. Students will also participate in the School of Freshwater Sciences sponsored International Stromatolite Symposium. Other activities will include trips to the Maya ruins and the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, the second largest in the world, as well as to Isla Mujeres.