

Imagine enjoying yourself in the Caribbean, flanked by palm trees on one side and pristine, blue-green waves on the other...

Pack your bags to be part of Ridgewater College's first trip to Cuba—study abroad coordinators couldn't be more excited! Philosophy instructor Kathy Prellwitz and English instructor Mary Gruis are gearing up to lead you—whether you're a student or a community member—into the heart of this island country March 3–11, 2017.

Since Cuba has only recently opened for travel, you have a unique opportunity to learn about its educational and political systems as well as the arts and humanities. To maximize your experience, you can also enroll in an online, three-credit literature course designed specifically to help prepare you for the trip, enhance your travel experience, and then share reflections upon returning.

"Traveling makes history and the humanities come to life," Gruis explained. "It is so exciting to not only teach a class that immerses students in Cuban culture, but to also then travel and bring that culture alive. It is an incredible opportunity."

Immerse yourself in the academic, historical, artistic, and cultural landscape of Cuba. That's what Prellwitz anticipates with the most excitement. "Every time we immerse ourselves into a culture other than our own, we are given a unique opportunity to grow intellectually," she emphasized, "It's an opportunity to place ourselves in the context of a world much larger than ourselves, to see ourselves and our own culture much more properly as just one possible version of many."

Experience Cuba!

For more information, go to www.ridgewater.edu/cuba. This nine-day experience is available through Education First College Study Tours.

A Few Cuba Highlights

- Meet with students at the University of Havana
- Discover history at Bay of Pigs Museum
- Attend chamber performance at Cienfuegos Orchestra
- Interact with Trinidad artists
- Explore Santa Clara

When: March 3–11, 2017

Cost: Approximately \$4,200–4,400

Includes:

- Round-trip transportation
- Hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast daily, select dinners
- Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions

