

**Education Abroad  
Application Packet****Renewable Energy and Micro-development in Nicaragua****Fall 2008 and Winter 2009****Tentative International Component Dates:****December 26, 2008 – January 5, 2009****(Early registration deadline – Friday, September 12, 2008)****Program Faculty:**

John Reuter, Environmental Sciences, PSU

**Program Description:**

This six credit undergraduate capstone is being offered in a 3+3 format, with students completing 3 credits of coursework during the fall term at PSU and an additional three credit, nine day, field experience in Nicaragua.

Students will learn about the environmental and technical characteristics for a range of small-scale, sustainable energy alternatives (photovoltaics, direct solar, micro-hydro and wind). Students will participate in an academic tour to Nicaragua and participate in a renewable energy community service project there. Students will also develop a proposal for funding and implementing community-based power generation that is suitable for submission to an NGO or local agency to fund continuing work.

In the first phase of the course, at PSU, students will address small-scale development of sustainable power that is environmentally “friendly” while also supporting community health and economic development. The second phase of the course is an academic tour of energy projects in Nicaragua. During this piece, students will travel around, mostly, rural parts of Nicaragua to see how various technologies have been employed and to talk to local agents of the government and NGOs about their successes and challenges.

**Tentative Dates in Nicaragua**

- **December 26, 2008 – January 5, 2009.**

**Cost:**

- **Tuition and Program fee expenses** are projected to be between \$2,650 - \$3,755, depending on enrollment.
- **Tuition and Program fee includes:** Tuition and fees for the six credit course, accommodations and some meals in Nicaragua, mandatory overseas health insurance, mandatory Study Abroad fees and some faculty expenses.
- **Not included:** Roundtrip airfare; visa and immunization fees and personal expenses. Students should budget approximately \$1,800 for these additional costs.

**For information please contact:**

- **Todd Waddell** (Faculty Led Programs Coordinator, PSU) **East Hall #212**, 503-725-5309, waddellt@pdx.edu
- **Professor John Rueter**, Environmental Sciences, rueterj@pdx.edu, 503-725-3693

**Application Instructions**  
**Renewable Energy and Micro-Development in Nicaragua**  
**Fall 2008 and Winter 2009**  
**International Component Dates: December 26, 2008 – January 5, 2009**

Bring your completed application to the Office of International Affairs/Education Abroad Office, East Hall, 632 SW Hall, Room 101, or mail to Office of International Affairs, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751. Typed applications are preferable.

Application Components:

- 1) **Transcripts:** (Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. )
  - a) **All Students:** Include transcripts for all courses taken at Portland State.
  - b) **Transfer Students:** Submit transcripts from your prior institutions for your last 90 credits of coursework attempted.
  - c) **Graduate Students:** Include transcripts for all graduate coursework attempted.
  
- 2) **References:** Please give the confidential reference forms provided in the application to someone who can objectively evaluate you. The reference should be from an instructor, however references from former instructors, an employer, youth leader, living group adviser, or counselor will also suffice. Do not use peers or family friends as reference. Please note that the reference form is to be returned to PSU in signed, sealed envelopes.
  - a) **Undergraduate Students:** Two references are required.
  - b) **Graduate Students:** One reference is required.
  
- 3) **Interviews:**
  - a) **Undergraduate Students:** required to complete an in-person study abroad interview with Todd Waddell. Interviews will be scheduled after completed applications are received.
  - b) **Graduate Students:** Interviews may be required at the discretion of the faculty director.
  
- 4) **Application Fee:** All students \$50.

Once your application file is complete, you will be notified when and with whom to arrange an appointment for a personal interview. A decision on your application will not be issued until all of the above components are received and your interview is completed. Please note that instructor approval is required and the final decision for acceptance will be made by the instructor AFTER you have completed your personal interview with an application committee in the Office of International Affairs.

*Questions?* Please feel free to call the PSU Office of International Affairs/Education Abroad Office, 503/725-5309.



Portland State  
UNIVERSITY

Education Abroad Application

**Program: Energy and Micro-Development in Nicaragua**

**Dates: December 26, 2008 – January 5, 2009**

Last Name	First Name	MI	PSU ID#
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<b>Contact Information</b>		
Preferred E-mail	Cell Phone	Home Phone
Current Address		
City	State	Zip
Permanent Address (if different from above)		
Permanent City	Permanent State	Permanent Zip

<b>Academic &amp; Registration Information</b>		
Class Standing (at time of program):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Freshman	<input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Degree Post-Bach	<input type="checkbox"/> MA/PhD
Major	Minor	GPA
Are you planning to use financial aid?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Former Colleges and Universities:**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:** Please list below and provide unofficial or official transcripts for all colleges and universities attended.

**GRADUATE STUDENTS & POST-BAC:** Please list below and provide unofficial or official transcripts for your degree granting undergraduate institution as well as all graduate level coursework completed.

College or University Name	Dates Attended (mm/yy – mm/yy)	Degree(s) Earned or # of credits completed	GPA

**Prospective Traveler Information**

Passport #	Passport Country	Passport Expiration <small>(Note: most countries require that passports be valid for 6 months <i>after</i> the traveler's intended return.)</small>
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Place of Birth (State, Country)	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> M

**International Travel Experience**

Country	Dates (mm/yy – mm/yy)	Type of travel (e.g. tourism, study, work, govt.)

**FOR SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS ONLY**

Please list any **relevant** work experience:

Employer	Dates (mm/yy – mm/yy)	Position	Duties

**Statement of Purpose**

On a separate piece of paper, please describe how your participation in this program will contribute to your educational, career and/or personal goals.

**Affirmations & Signatures**

(Please print all application pages then sign below and return the completed application to East Hall Room 101.)

The selection committee reserves the right to check students' conduct records at PSU and to use that information in considering student eligibility. Applicant must sign below to give permission to release his/her conduct record to the program for these purposes.

SIGNATURE

PSU ID#

I certify that my statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that my admission to or enrollment in a Portland State University Education Abroad program may be denied or revoked if any information is found to be incomplete or inaccurate.

SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINTED NAME



# Portland State UNIVERSITY

## Education Abroad Academic Reference

(To be completed by applicant)

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Program Applying to: **Renewable Energy and Micro-Development in Nicaragua**

Program/Term: **Fall 2008**

Relationship or Association with Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### Confidentiality Statement

**Note to applicant: Please read and sign before giving this form to your referee.**

Under Section 438, General Education Provisions Act (Public Law 90-247), you have the right to review materials submitted to the International Education Services/Study Abroad (IES/SA) in connection with your application. This law also allows you to waive this right if you so choose, with the understanding that confidential recommendations are not required in the admissions process.

**(Please check one)** I, the undersigned,  waive  do not waive the right to examine this recommendation.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

(To be completed by referee)

To the Referee:

The student named above is an applicant for the PSU sponsored study abroad program named above. To benefit from this experience, a student should be academically able, highly motivated and emotionally mature to adapt to the challenges of a different social and cultural environment. Therefore we would appreciate your thoughtful and candid appraisal of this applicant. Please mail this form to the address printed below. Thank you for your cooperation.

Name of Referee: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what capacity have you known this student? \_\_\_\_\_

(Continue on reverse)

Mail completed application form to:

**Off Campus:** Education Abroad • Portland State University • PO Box 751 • Portland, OR 97207-0751

**On Campus:** Mail code: OIA

Tel. (503) 725-5309 • 1-800-547-8887 Ext. 5309 • Fax (503) 725-5065

*PSU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, gender or sexual orientation, physical disability, political or religious belief.*

Renewable Energy and Micro-Development in Nicaragua

In comparison with other students you have known, please rate the applicant on the following characteristics:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Writing Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to express himself or herself orally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to cope with ambiguity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work with a group of peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Common sense and good judgment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to adjust to uncomfortable and/or unusual situations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I  would  would not enjoy having the student as a member of a group for which I was responsible.

Please explain:

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What are the student's intellectual and/or other strengths relevant to studying abroad?

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What are the student's intellectual and/or other weaknesses that might be relevant to studying abroad?

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Please comment on the student's motivation for study abroad. Does he or she have the ability and maturity to achieve his or her personal and/or academic goals in studying abroad?

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Please add any other comments that would be helpful to the Admissions Committee in its decision.

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# Portland State UNIVERSITY

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Renewable Energy and Micro-Development in Nicaragua



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