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**Dates**: June 22 to July 4, 2017

**Academic Course: WLC499: OSU in CUBA**

**CGEE Leader: Fidel Xinico Tum**

**Academic Institution: Oregon State University**

**MLKC Guide: Carmen Eladia Pérez Díaz**

**MLKC Interpreter: Alberto González**

**Professors: Dr. Christina León and Dr. Adam Schwartz**

**Thursday, June 22**

01:00 am Arrival of CGEE Leader Fidel Xinico

10:15 am Arrival at the José Martí International Airport on Delta Flight # 625L from Miami

11:30 am Change Money into CUC

12.30 PM Lodging at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center (MLKC) guesthouse in the working class *Marianao* neighborhood

1:00 pm Lunch at MLKC

02.00 pm Introductions, Orientation, health and safety guidelines, expectations and

schedule review by Carmen Pérez and Fidel Xinico

06.30 pm Dinner at MLKC

07.30 pm Meet at “La Figura” Restaurant-Bar owned by Raul Diago Izquierdo and presentation on the history of different traditional Cuban rhythms by Lic. Lisandra Hernández Pérez

Exchange time with Diago, his wife, daughter, Carmen, Eibar, Alberto, Jose Luis (El Chino).

**Friday, June 23**

08.00 am Breakfast at MLKC

08: 45 am Departure by bus for Ciénaga de Zapata in Matanzas Province

12:00 PM Visit to a Crocodile Breeding Farm with a guided tour by the veterinarian Dr. Gustavo Rodríguez. Opportunity to hold a 3-year-old “Panchito” Crocodile, under the care of Armando as the keeper of the farm. Students learn how to preserve crocodile in the area from Dr. Rodriguez.

01.30 pm Lunch in the historical town of Pálpite at Fernando Restaurant, a private restaurant. Joined by Dr. Verdeal, Carmen, Alberto, Jose Luis (El Chino). Listen to the 6-member ‘*Soy Caribe*’ musical group. Students tried to learn to play some of the musical instruments.

02:30 Talk at Fernando Restaurant, at Pálpite, by Dr. Oscar Verdeal, Sales and Development Manager of the Comprehensive Forestry Enterprise (EFI) of Ciénaga de Zapata National Park, about endangered species and the care of the environment. Students had the opportunity to ask Dr. Verdeal questions.

03:30 pm Visit to a ration store (*bodega*) in Pálpite. Observation of the products available to Cuban families and pricing. Students had the opportunity to ask a couple of questions to the people who were in charge of the store.

04:15 pm Arrival at Caletón and lodging in private houses (*casas particulares*) licensed to receive foreigners. Host families: Ana Pérez de Corzo, Zuleyda López, Horacio Ameieba, Gustavo Figueroa, and Gustavo Sosa.

06:30 pm Dinner at Casa Zuleyda y Viñola

**Saturday, June 24**

08:30 am Breakfast at *casas particulares*, and time to interact with host families

10:00 am Drive by bus to the Bay of Pigs (Playa Girón) and guided tour of the Museum to learn about the invasion of Cuba in 1961. Q&A.

12:30 am Picnic lunch in Playa Girón

02:30 pm Informal exploration in small groups in Playa Girón

06:30 pm Dinner at Casa Zuleyda y Viñola and listen to a 6-member musician group. Singing along and dancing.

**Sunday, June 25**

09:00 am Breakfast at *casas particulares* and interaction with host families

10:00 am Visit Korimakao Cultural Project to learn about its mission and to observe groups of Cuban students perform different dances. Explanation and tour by Professor Yander Roche Millares

01:30 pm Lunch at Fernando Restaurant in Pálpite and listen to the ‘*Soy Caribe*’ musical group

02:30 pm Return to Havana by bus

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

**Monday, June 26**

08.00 am Breakfast at MLKC

08:30 OSU Class Session

10.30 am Visit to *Casa de Las Américas*. Talk on ‘From Revolution to Globalization’ by Public Relations Director Gerardo Hernández Bencomo. Tour of the facility and visit to the book store

12.30 pm Bag lunch provided by MLKC

Individual exploration and rest time at Casa de las Americas.

04:00 pm Return to MLKC by bus

04:55 pm Arrival of OSU Professor Ronald Mize in Havana on Alaska Airlines and transfer to MLKC

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

07:30 pm Informal exploration in small groups of *Hotel Nacional* and the surrounding *Vedado* neighborhood, visiting the room with historical photos and using WiFi

10:30 pm Return to MLKC by bus

**Tuesday, June 27**

08:00 am Breakfast at MLKC

08:30 am OSU Class Session

10:00 am Visit to a family doctor’s office in the *Marianao* neighborhood to talk with Dr. Bárbara Romero Sánchezabout Cuba’s health system**.** Q&A

11:45 am Visit to the park of “John Lennon” and observe how people interact with each other

01:00 pm Lunch at *Dulce Habana* Restaurant (*paladar*)

02:00 pm Visit to the mall “Carlos III” and learn about local business.

03.00 pm Visit to the ‘*Raquel Pérez Gonzalez*’Elementary School in Municipio Centro Habana. Interaction with a group of 11 students, welcoming OSU group in English and performing a Cuban song. Principal Elizabeth Graw Aballe, Prof. Bernaldo Castell Cobas, teacher Lidia Ester Terry, Address: Hospital y Valle, Municipio Centro Habana

04:30am Visit the home of Randy Menéndez , a young *Babalawo* (Santería priest) in the *Marianao* neighborhood to learn about the Yoruba religion. Q&A

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

**Wednesday, June 28**

08.00 am Breakfast at MLKC

08:30 am OSU Class Session (Quick Introduction to “Scavenger Hunt”)

10:00 am Visit and walk around the campus of the University of Havana.

10:30 am Walk from the University of Havana to the historic *La Coppelia* Ice Cream Parlor. Informal exchange with waiter.

11:00 Return to MLKC. Other activities cancelled due to very hot weather.

01.00 pm Lunch at MLKC

Rest time (sleeping)

06.30 pm Dinner at MLKC

08.00 pm Visit to the *San Carlos de la Cabaña* Fortress. Historical reenactment of the nightly closing of the Port of Havana, with cannon-firing

**Thursday June 29**

08.00 am Breakfast at CMLK

08:30 am OSU Class Session

10:00 am Exchange time of the OSU group with 15 senior citizens from the *Marianao* neighborhood who participate in MLKC’s *Psico-ballet* dance therapy project, led by professor Elizabeth Gomez. Introductions, dance, play games and accompany the seniors in the therapy.

11:00 am Leave for a visit to the Environmental site of *Escaleras de Jaruco* and to see the “Stone Women Sculpture” by sculptor Ana Mendieta inside of a cave. Class discussion of the sculpture led by OSU Professor Christina León. Tour to the cave by Tour Guide Gerardo Castro

02:30 pm Lunch at *El Criollo* Restaurant (*paladar*) at the Environmental site of Escaleras de Jaruco

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

**Friday, June 30**

08.00 am Breakfast MLKC

08:30 am OSU Class Session

10:30 am Visit to the Latin American School of Medicine (ELAM, *Escuela Latinoamericana de Medicina*), to learn about its history and mission and meet with Victor Diaz, the International Relations Office. No interaction with students because they were in a week of evaluations.

12:30 pm Lunch at MLKC

02.00 pm Conversation at MLKC with National Center for Sexual Education (CENESEX, *Centro Nacional de Educación Sexual*) representative Dr. Dr. Alberto Robles about sex education in Cuba, gender equality in a machismo society, education and advocacy to end discrimination against LGBTQ persons, efforts to address situations of domestic violence, awareness of sexual diseases, etc. Q&A

04:00 pm Visit to the Visual Arts Community Project: “The Children and the Neighborhood” in the Eastern neighborhood of Havana, run by Cuban painter and art professor Saulo Serrano, who is a member of the Union of Cuban Writers and Artists (UNEAC, *Unión de Escritores y Artistas Cubanos*),. Visit Professor Serrano’s home and hear his story and philosophy as an artist.

05:50 pm Departure of OSU Professor Ronald Mize from Havana on Alaska Airlines.

05:00 pm Exchange time with foreign and Cuban students, coordinated by prof. Cristina Leon

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

**Saturday, July 1**

08.00 am Breakfast MLKC

08:30 am OSU Class Session

10:00 am Visit to the Museum of the Revolution the *Gramna* Boat Memorial guided tour by MLKC interpreter Alberto González, who shared some of his own life story and how he benefited from the literacy campaign.

01.00 pm Lunch at MLKC

02.00 Visit to ‘The Strawberry’ (*La Fresa*) organic garden, a local experience on urban agriculture by agricultural engineer Barbara Yamila Pérez Diaz

06.30 pm Dinner at MLKC

08.00 pm Observe, Listen to Cuban Music: ARTEX live band with 6 members. Dancing and

singing along, led by Eibar.

**Sunday, July 2**

08.00 am Breakfast at MLKC

08:30 am OSU Class Session

10:30 am Conversation at *La Figura paladar* (private restaurant) owned by Raúl Diago Izquierdo, Cuba’s world champion volleyball setter, with Dr Julio Fernández Estrada, LawProfessor at the University of Havana, about US/Cuba Relations. Q&A

01:00 pm Lunch at MLKC

02:00 pm Talk by a professor on current Social-Economic situation in Cuba, coordinated by OSU professor Christina Leon.

03:00 pm Informal exploration of Old Havana in small groups, visiting the market and the central plaza.

06:30 pm Dinner at MLKC

**Monday, July 3**

07:30 am Breakfast at MLKC

09:00 am Briefing on U.S.-Cuban relations at the US Embassy by Public Affairs Officer Patrick Ryan with Q&A

12:30 pm Lunch at MLKC

02:30 pm Final written evaluations and time for students to prepare their final presentations in small groups

07:00 pm Farewell (d*espedida*) dinner at *La Figura paladar*. Thank you presentation by each student to their Cuban guests: Carmen Perez Diaz, Alberto Gonzalez, Jose Luis (el Chino), Eibar, Raudel Urdelino Torres (Pitti), Raidel Cadaya Martinez, Diago’s wife and daughter. CGEE Leader Fidel Xinico.

**Tuesday, July 4**

07:30 am Breakfast at MLKC

08:00 am Departure for the airport

11:15 am Departure on Delta Flight # 6560L to Miami, USA.

**Centro Memorial: “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”  
Ave. 53 No. 9609 e/ 96 y 98,  Marianao 11400,  La Habana, CUBA  
Telephone: 260-9731  / 260-3940**

**Email:** [**solidaridad@cmlk.co.cu**](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/h/cawc2ggwkf8g/?&v=b&cs=wh&to=solidaridad@cmlk.co.cu) **very near 100 & 51 in Marianao!**