Program Description: This interdisciplinary overseas study program is a partnership between IU’s Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies (CLACS), the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT), the Bowden Ben Farmers’ Association (BPFA) in rural eastern Jamaica, and The Source Farm Ecovillage in Parish of St. Thomas. Summer 2018 will mark the 10th offering of the program! In Jamaica students will participate in experiential-learning initiatives associated with cultural ecology, sustainable agriculture, eco-heritage tourism, park management (at a UNESCO World Heritage Site), and permaculture design. Pre-departure class sessions at IU provide students with a foundational understanding of: 1) Jamaican colonial history and expressive culture; 2) ecotourism and ecological issues in the Caribbean; 3) agricultural practices and constraints facing small-scale farmers in Jamaica; and 4) contemporary systems-thinking approaches to creating and maintaining sustainable and resilient communities. Seminars and workshops in Jamaica with farmers, park rangers, community leaders, herbalists, spiritualists, poets, and musicians place further emphasis on the roots, fruits, and resiliency of indigenous agricultural, environmental, and cultural practices. Highlights of the overseas component also include: service-learning projects, farm site visits, a trip to the Maroon community of Moore Town, hiking on historic trails and other outdoor recreational activities at a newly designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Students will enjoy traditional Jamaican food and hospitality at The Source Farm Ecovillage, the Holywell Recreational Area above Kingston, and at the Ambassabeth Cabins Ecolodge in the Rio Grande Valley.

Program Requirements: Students must be accepted before program/course registration is permitted. A minimum 2.75 G.P.A. is required. Students must have, or obtain, a valid passport. A non-refundable deposit of $500 is due by March 5th, 2018 (applicable to the total program cost).

Merit-based scholarships are available for qualifying IU students. Minority students are especially encouraged to apply for funding. Please contact Dr. Galuska for additional information about the program itinerary, costs, application process, and possible funding options.

Program Dates: June 16-July 27, 2018 Summer Session II:
6-Weeks (3-weeks on campus, 2-weeks in Jamaica, 1-week program wrap-up)
Field Sites: Upper Rio Grande Valley and the Blue & John Crow Mountains National Park World Heritage Site (in Jamaica from July 8-July 22)
Co-Instructors: Dr. John D. Galuska (Cultural Anthropologist, Folklorist, Ethnomusicologist and Food Activist) & Ross Brillhart (Ethnomusicologist)
Program Costs: $2,800 (Resident Students) $3,000 (Non-Resident)
**** NOTE: 3 IU credit-hours are included in the program fee ****
• Students are responsible for purchasing a round-trip airline ticket.
• A non-refundable $500 program deposit is due by March 05, 2018.
Priority Application Deadline: FEBRUARY 01, 2018
Course Credit: Undergraduates: OVST-J497 Overseas Study in the Caribbean (3-credits), honored as L426 Latin American & Caribbean Studies.
Graduate Students: L803 (3-credits) OR individualized credit by special arrangement with departmental faculty and Jamaica program director.
Additional Program Info: jgaluska@indiana.edu, 812-219-9864