

Mexico - Dr. Cheryl Claassen /Anthropology /828-252-2295/ claassencp@appstate.edu

Eleven days will be spent exploring the 7 major prehistoric sites in the mountainous central Mexico, representing Teotihuacan, Cholula, Cacaxtla, Toltec, Purapecha, and Aztec cultures from hotel bases in Mexico City and Taxco, the silver jewelry city. To do so we will travel by public transportation into the states of Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos, Hidalgo, and Puebla. We will learn about the making of a Mexican identity through the use of archaeology and crafts and will visit craft markets, murals, and the National Museum of Anthropology as well as the floating gardens of Xochimilco and view the meeting place between the Cortez and Moctezuma, the body of the last Aztec emperor, and Aztec dancing circles. There will also be opportunities to hear from people who have been to the U.S. illegally, from Indian families living in the city, and learn about the role of crafts in modern Mexican economy. This trip is the culmination of a three hour survey course on Mexican Culture and Prehistory.

March 6-16, 2008. **\$650. Airfare not included.**