

## **IU Summer Oaxaca Program: Tips and Hints for your Application**

Information Session for Summer Field Programs in Anthropology and Archaeology  
January 17, 2008

### General:

- Our ideal applicants are independent, mature, and able to keep their wits about them when the unexpected happens. Any evidence that you or your recommenders can provide that this is the sort of person that you are will make your application stronger.
- During our 22-day program we will be criss-crossing the state of Oaxaca. Are you a good road-tripper? How well do you handle bumpy roads, changes in climate, lack of regular access to the internet or to freshly laundered clothes?

### Academic Plans:

- If you are planning on using your trip to Oaxaca as an opportunity to prepare for a thesis or honor's thesis or senior project then tell us a little something about the project you have in mind.
- Are you hoping to arrive early in Oaxaca or to stay after the trip ends and explore Mexico on your own? Tell us about your plans (however tentative they may be at this point).

### Language skills:

- We are particularly interested in hearing about your ability to *communicate* in Spanish, so if you've ever lived or traveled in a Spanish-speaking country, had to use Spanish at work, at home, or in some other activity that you do then please tell us about this experience.
- If your knowledge of Spanish is limited (or non-existent) tell us something about your ability to overcome language barriers, or perhaps describe how you would go about learning some basic Spanish phrases and vocabulary between now and May.