

Towson University
TU Tigers Abroad: Cuba
Summer 2024
(subject to change)

Date TBD, online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class: <i>Methods and Rules for the Study of Cities</i> [Dr. Sillah]
Friday, July 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive at TU and drop off luggage at Barton House in West Village • Attend TU New Student Orientation • Class: <i>Urban Planning and Infrastructure</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Group dinner in West Village Commons • Group activities on-campus • Overnight at TU in Barton House
Saturday, July 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast in West Village Commons • Check out of housing • Group bus to Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) • Depart U.S. on group flight • Arrive in Havana, Cuba • Meet guide at the airport and transfer to Viñales on the group bus • Boxed lunch during transport • Stop at natural swimming area • Check into <i>residencias</i> • Health and safety orientation, reflection, and conversation with guide • Group welcome dinner at a traditional Cuban restaurant • Overnight in Viñales, Cuba
Sunday, July 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Visit to Viñales National Park: <i>Riding in horse drawn carriages from a bygone era, visit an organic tobacco farm and learn from the farmer about the entire process of cultivation of tobacco. Engage with local farmers and learn about the influence of Cuba's tobacco industry on its past and present economy.</i> • Group lunch in Viñales National Park with a beautiful view of the valley • Enjoy free time in Viñales to shop for souvenirs or relax • Dinner on your own in small groups • Overnight in Viñales, Cuba
Monday, July 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Board group transportation for travel back to Havana (3 hours) • Lunch on your own • Meet guide for Walking tour of Old Havana: <i>Visit the Capitol Building to learn about local politics and later ride in a classic car.</i> • Enjoy dinner as a group • Visit the Fortress San Carlos de la Cabaña for a 9:00PM cannon firing ceremony • Overnight in Havana

Tuesday, July 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Class: <i>Urban Communities and Social Policies; Origins and development of suburbs; Urban Political Economy, the New Urban Sociology, and the Power of Place</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Visit to local museum: <i>Museum of the Revolution, Museum of Fine Arts, or Museum of Colonial Art</i> • Free time in Old Havana for lunch on your own • Meeting with leaders of a local NGO or social enterprise working in the environmental or sustainability space • Group dinner at private restaurant • Overnight in Havana
Wednesday, July 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • TU class: <i>City Imagery; The metropolis and its expansion; Urban Communities and Social Policies; Origins Development of Suburbs</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Catered lunch • Meet and greet with local Cuban urban design college students and professor for informal conversation and learning about city planning in Cuba • Visit to U.S. Embassy in Cuba: <i>Tour the grounds and attend a presentation by embassy staff on the volatile nature of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Cuba.</i> • Free time in the afternoon • Group dinner • Overnight in Havana
Thursday, August 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Class: <i>Families, Gender, and Singles in the City; The metropolis and social inequalities</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Catered lunch • Meet and greet with local Cuban high school students and their teacher for informal conversation and learning about the education system in Cuba • Cuban cooking class: Learn to make one of the iconic dishes in Cuba, like <i>Ropa Vieja!</i> • Group dinner at private restaurant • Overnight in Havana
Friday, August 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Class: <i>Global Suburbanization Patterns; Cities in the Global Economy; Urban Environments and Sustainability; The Remaking and Future of Cities</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Service learning activity and lunch with Akokán, a self-managed local economic, social and cultural development project rooted in the AfroCuban tradition. • Group lunch in Café Oddara: <i>Ingredients grown locally by project members and a gastronomic experience guided by Afro Cuban notions of healthy eating, including food offered to saints, and without mixing foods of animal origin with those of vegetable origin.</i> • Group reflection and dinner • Overnight in Havana

Saturday, August 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Group transportation to Playa Girón (3 hours), the site of the Bay of Pigs invasion • Lunch at a traditional Cuban restaurant • Visit to Bay of Pigs and museum (Playa Girón Beach Museum) • Continue on to Cienfuegos (1.5 hours) • Check into lodging at the Punta Gorda neighborhood at the tip of the peninsula with incredible views of the Bay of Cienfuegos • Group dinner in a private restaurant • Overnight in Cienfuegos
Sunday, August 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Meet for a city tour of Cienfuegos • Lunch on your own • Free evening for dinner on your own in small groups • Overnight in Cienfuegos
Monday, August 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Class: <i>Social Capital and the Resilience of Cities; Cities in the global economy; The Social Psychology of City Life</i> [Dr. Sillah] • Lunch on your own • Travel to Valley of the Sugar Mills: <i>The center for sugar production in 18th and 19th centuries with over fifty sugarcane mills in operation and over 30,000 enslaved people working in the mills at the peak of production. Many of the mills are preserved and the area is a world heritage site and an important point of reflection on the use of enslaved labor in the Americas.</i> • Group transportation to Trinidad • Dinner on your own in small groups • Overnight in Trinidad
Tuesday, August 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Walking tour of Trinidad: <i>Visit several important sites such as Plaza Mayor, Parque el Cubano, and the Trinidad History Museum.</i> • Group lunch in Trinidad • Group transportation back to Havana (4 hours) • Farewell dinner in a private restaurant • Overnight in Havana
Wednesday, August 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at lodging • Class [Dr. Sillah] • Catered lunch • Free time to buy last minute souvenirs • Group transportation to Havana airport • Depart U.S. on group flight • Arrive at Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) for individual pickup
Date TBD, online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class [Dr. Sillah]