

CAMPUS LIFE

Summer Adventures with Study Abroad

Liz Yaros of International Programs

Wonder what your friends and favorite faculty members will be up to this summer? Meredith is offering five exciting summer programs in addition to the many independent trips that students and faculty members will be taking to study and do research. Rising junior Kristen Gallagher will be traveling to Cambodia on a trip organized by CIEE. She says: "I wanted to study in a place that seemed unconventional, unique and completely new to me. I don't want to take my preconceived ideas. I want to take an open mind." Rising senior Jennifer Prince will be traveling to India, she says of her upcoming experience: "After reading this year's summer reading book, "Half the Sky," I knew that I wanted to study abroad in a non-western country and be in a program that focused on service learning, social justice, and women's issues. In a meeting with Liz Yaros in the Office of International Programs, I was introduced to the program in Pondicherry, India that had all that I wanted in a study abroad program. The thing that sealed the deal was that HIS 312:

India: Past and Present was being offered this semester, giving me an opportunity to learn about the history and culture of India before embarking on my program. I couldn't be more excited and can't wait to arrive in India on July 3rd!"

Other students will be joining Meredith faculty members on the trips detailed below. With course on topics ranging from warfare in western history to Icelandic literature, from French fashion to Italian design, and from Tropical Ecosystems to advanced Spanish, participating Meredith students are sure to have exciting experiences this summer. Look at the programs below and the trip websites, and start thinking about possible study abroad journeys in your future! If you're a student going on one of these trips, enjoy!

Italy/Switzerland/UK

<http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/summer-italy.htm>

Dr. Greg Vitarbo & Dr. Jim Waddelow (Italy/Switz)

Dr. Betty Webb, Professor John Rose & Catherine Rodgers (UK)

Iceland

<http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/iceland.htm>
Dr. Michael Novak & Dr. Eloise Grathwohl

Paris, France

<http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/summer-france.htm>
Dr. Diane Ellis

Eat, Play, Design (in Sansepolcro, Italy)

http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/italy_digital_imaging.htm
Dr. Kathryn Clark & Dr. Ellen Goode

Costa Rica: Tropical Ecosystems and Costa Rica: Language and Culture

<http://www.meredith.edu/abroad/CostaRica.htm>
Dr. Erin Lindquist & Professor Callie DeBellis

A Journey Comes to Meredith

Emery Lai, Staff Writer

Enrique's Journey by Sonia Nazario has been chosen for the 2011 Meredith College Summer Reading Program. Enrique's Journey was selected for the program to tie into the campus's theme for the upcoming year, "Uncommon Choices." In fact, it is now the required reading book for incoming freshman not only at Meredith College but at many other colleges and high schools across the United States as well.

"We are thrilled to have another interesting and thought provoking summer reading book for the Meredith community to read together," says Meredith College Summer Reading Program committee member Christina Bumgardner.

"His epic journey is one that many immigrant children make each year in order to find their mothers in the United States."

Enrique's Journey is the story of a boy named Enrique who lives with his mother, Lourdes, and his siblings in Honduras. When she finds herself unable to feed her children, Lourdes leaves Honduras and goes to the United States where she finds work and sends what little money she makes back to her family so that they can eat properly and attend school. Over the next eleven years, Enrique hears from his mother by telephone and begs her to come back home. He is lonely and scared, but she tells him he must be patient. Thinking he may never see his mother again, he decides to go searching for her himself with little more than a slip of paper with her phone number on it. Enrique's journey consists of trying to get through Mexico to the United States; he succeeds by clutching the sides and tops of freight trains. Enrique has many obstacles to overcome, however, as he has to get past bandits, gangsters and even corrupt cops. His epic journey is one that many immigrant children make each year in order to find their mothers in the United States.

The author of Enrique's Journey, Sonia Nazario, is an award-winning journalist and has written about many problems the United States faces today, such as immigration, hunger, and drug addiction. When Enrique's Journey was first written in 2003, it was an article that won more than a dozen awards, most notably the Pulitzer Prize. Once the story had been expanded into a book, it won two book awards as well. As for Nazario, according to Hispanic Business Magazine, she is one of the most influential Latinos today. Hispanic Magazine calls her a "trendsetter."

"Sonia Nazario will be on campus to meet with students and serve as the first speaker in NCBCBS Presidential Lecture Series on Monday, August 29," says Bumgardner. "We encourage all members of the campus community to read this year's book and take advantage of the related activities and events."

For more information regarding Enrique's Journey and/or Sonia Nazario, please visit <http://www.enriquesjourney.com/index.html>.

ENRIQUE'S JOURNEY

THE STORY OF A BOY'S DANGEROUS ODYSSEY TO REUNITE WITH HIS MOTHER

by Sonia Nazario

"This is a twenty-first-century Odyssey. Nazario's powerful writing illuminates one of the darkest stories in our country. This is outstanding journalism. If you are going to read only one non-fiction book this year, it has to be this one, because you know these young heroes. They live next door."

—Isabel Allende

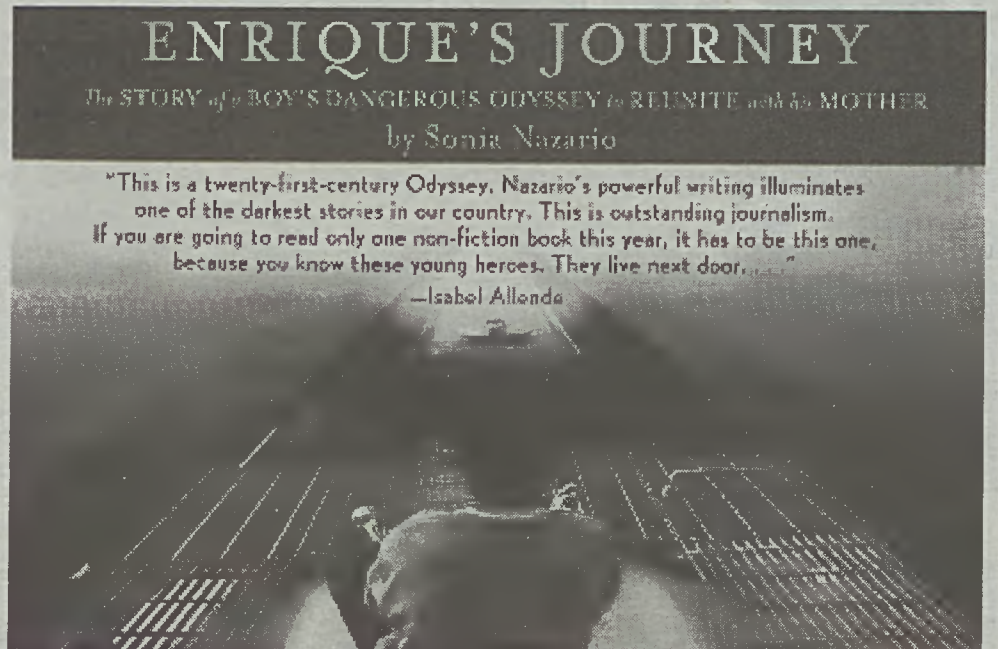


image via www.enriquesjourney.com