

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM



Study Abroad: Barro Negro Jewelry in San Bartolo Coyotepec

February 10 – February 17, 2019

Dramatically dark and richly lustrous, *barro negro* or “black clay” pottery is a distinctive traditional craft of Oaxaca. Produced since ancient times, *barro negro* has been used to create a wide variety of both functional and sculptural objects. The *barro negro* boom began in the 1950s when Oaxaca potter Doña Rosa discovered that burnishing the surface of the clay before firing would transform its natural matte grey finish to a dark, metallic black. This opened up a new range of decorative possibilities, with potters using stamped or incised designs to create dynamic patterns of light and dark.

Our instructor Luis Manuel Ortíz-Simón learned from his mother and is an innovator of *barro negro* jewelry. The workshop will focus on the creation of elements such as cabochons, medallions, drops, or beads for future use in jewelry. After firing, some pieces will be wearable as-is, while others will require findings or settings; Jewelry/Metals studio manager Julia Harrison will be on hand for technical advice. Following the trip, students will have the option of attending an open workshop day in Pratt's jewelry/metals studio (at no extra charge) in order to complete any metalwork needed for their *barro negro* projects.

Our home base for the week is a charming courtyard hotel in Oaxaca's historic colonial district. Tuesday and Thursday are our days “off,” during which students can enjoy sightseeing or an organized tour. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday we'll travel to the nearby village of San Bartolo Coyotepec for three full days of instruction and lunches prepared on site. On Saturday students will be able to see their work being fired. On Tuesday and Thursday, students can enjoy sightseeing or an organized tour. You'll return home with a small collection of unique “gems” that blend your personal aesthetic with the tradition of *barro negro* pottery,

Prerequisite: None. This workshop is open to students of all levels.

CLASS FEE: \$1380

INCLUDED

7 nights hotel in a private room

3 full days of instruction and limited workshop materials*

1 field trip

2 group dinners

3 lunches

1 day to work on barro negro projects in Pratt's jewelry studio*

AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED

*Clay and related workshop supplies provided. Students will need to provide their own precious metals and any related consumables.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

If the trip has not reached minimum enrollment by December 7, it will be canceled. Should the trip be cancelled due to under-enrollment, any registration fees will be refunded in full. We will notify students when the class reaches minimum enrollment and suggest making no non-refundable travel plans until that time, or until notified that the class has filled.

PAYMENT DATES

\$690 deposit due upon registration

\$690 final payment due by November 16

REFUND POLICY

25% of the trip fee is non-refundable for withdrawal until January 15, 2019

50% is non-refundable for withdrawal between January 16, 2019 – February 8, 2019

100% is non-refundable for withdrawal after February 8, 2019