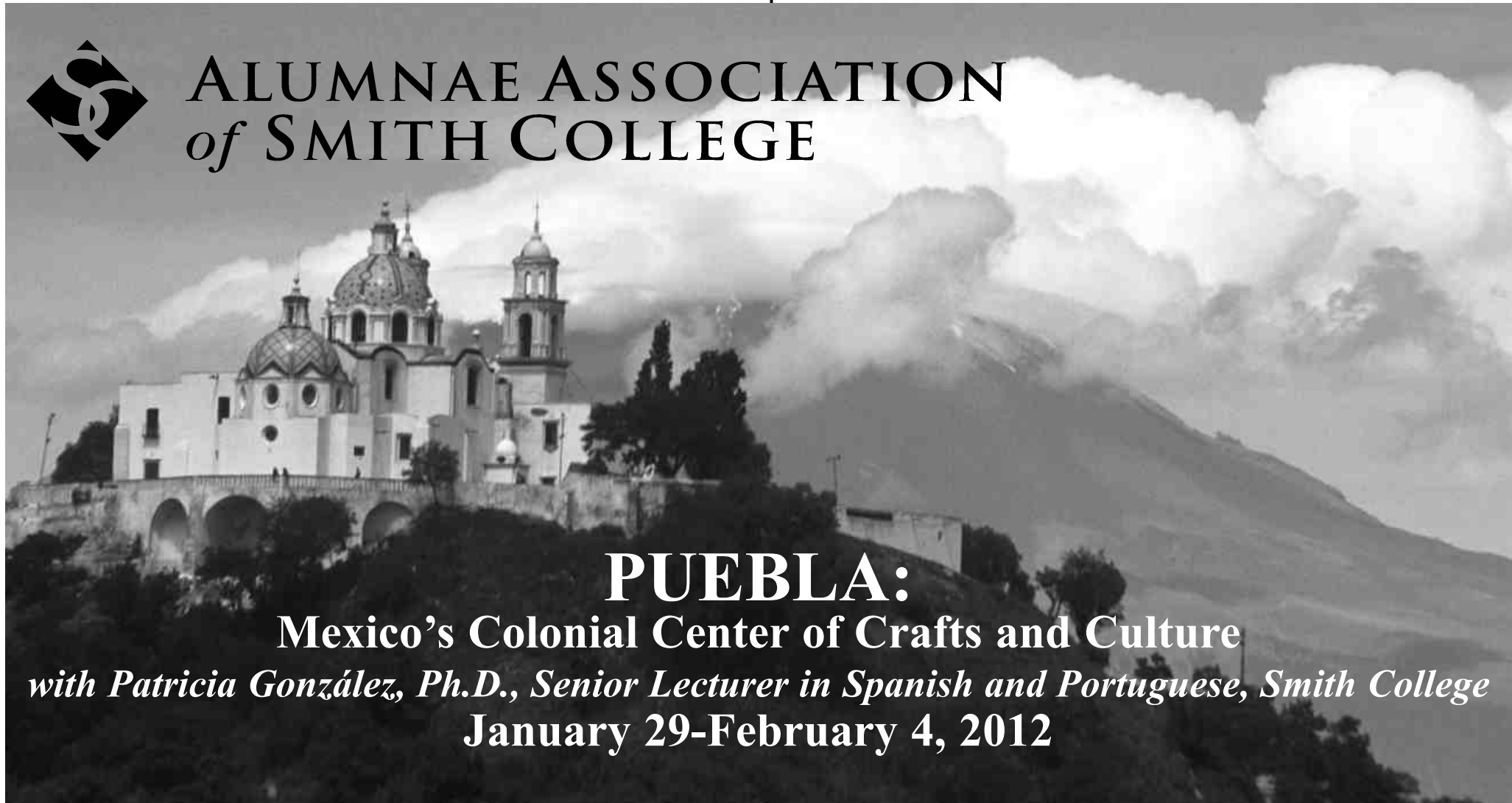




ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE



PUEBLA:

Mexico's Colonial Center of Crafts and Culture

with Patricia González, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer in Spanish and Portuguese, Smith College

January 29-February 4, 2012



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of SMITH COLLEGE

Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends,

Join Patricia González, Smith senior lecturer in Spanish and Portuguese, for a journey into the rich cultural legacy of Puebla, Mexico. In the fall of 2005, Ms. González moved to Puebla and was the Resident Director of Smith's consortium Program for Mexican Culture and Society in Puebla for three years.

Puebla, renowned for its distinct Spanish flavor, rich culinary traditions, and magnificent colonial architecture, was founded in 1531. It is the home to an unrivaled legacy of colonial art and architecture and has been declared a UNESCO world heritage site. Its vibrant tree-filled zócalo is lined by Spanish arcades, as well as a magnificent, 17th-century cathedral. Brightly tiled facades vie for your attention as organ grinders and marimba players compete with the calls of street vendors.

Venture into the surrounding countryside to meet artists and artisans in their native villages, and experience the context within folk expression that elevates it beyond the rules of the academy. Also visit private and public art collections that will further define the influence of folk art traditions in Mexican high art. Excursions to Tlaxcala and to the archaeological ruins of Cacaxtla and Cholula will enhance this educational voyage. In Tlaxcala, Hernán Cortés established an alliance with the native lords to conquer the Aztecs, an alliance that had a profound impact upon the future of Mexico. The archaeological site of Cacaxtla boasts many original colorful wall decorations that are beautifully preserved and can be appreciated in situ, and the Cholula pyramid is the largest pyramid in the Americas.

Enjoy six nights in the luxurious Camino Real, housed in a 16th-century Spanish convent in the heart of the old city. Don't miss this opportunity to explore one of Mexico's most graceful and historical cities!

Sincerely,

Carrie Brown, Ed. M. '82
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Smith College

Smith College Guest Lecturer: Patricia González, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer in Spanish and Portuguese



Patricia González Gómez Casseres came to Smith in 1981 after receiving a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin, taught courses in Latin American theater and literature for five years and went back to her home in Colombia. In 1998 Prof. González rejoined the Spanish and Portuguese Department at Smith and since then she has been teaching courses in Spanish language and Caribbean literature and culture courses. In fall 2005 Prof. González traveled to Puebla, México to become the Resident Director of our consortium Program for Mexican Culture and Society in Puebla for three years until spring 2008.

Publications include two books, *La sartén por el mango*, Huracán, Puerto Rico, 1982, and *Confluencias en México. Palabra y Género*, BUAP, Fomento Editorial, Puebla, Mexico, 2007. Current research centers on Cuban Ritual Theater and Latin American women writers. She participated in the year long Kahn seminar "Why educate women?" and the topic of her research was: education of women in New Spain and convents in Mexico.



DEPARTURES

Sunday, January 29 ❖ Depart the U.S. on independent flights to Puebla. (*In order to take advantage of the group airport transfer, you should book flights, arriving in Puebla by 8:45 pm. Please note that there is a non-stop flight from Houston to Puebla on Continental Airlines, arriving in Puebla at 8:34 pm.*) Drive to the five-star Camino Real Puebla, housed in a tranquil colonial complex that was once a colonial convent. After checking into the hotel, retire for the evening. *Camino Real Puebla (Meals Aloft)*

CHOLULA

Monday, January 30 ❖ Drive to the nearby town of Cholula and visit the Center of Human Studies to view many of the original frescos and to learn about the center's efforts to catalogue its library, which includes rare 17th and 18th-century books. Next enter the impressive Capilla Real, dating from 1540, unique in Mexico with 49 domes. Following lunch in an historic house, see Cholula's impressive pyramid, the largest in the Americas. Drive to San Francisco Acatepec to view its remarkable talavera tile facade and the world famous church of Santa Maria Tonantzintla, with perhaps the most celebrated architectural folk interior in all of Mexico. Before returning to Puebla, enjoy a reception in a private home. (*B, L, REC*)

PUEBLA

Tuesday, January 31 ❖ Today is dedicated to the discovery of the finest testimonies of Puebla's rich colonial past, all within walking distance of your hotel. Begin at Puebla's Cathedral, and view this astonishing building as well as important colonial paintings and sculpture. Continue to the Casa del Dean to marvel at restored colonial frescos, based on Ovid's Metamorphosis. Next visit the Palafox Library, the oldest library in the Americas. Stop at the 17th-century Church of Santo Domingo, famous for its magnificent Chapel of the Rosary, one of the most impressive Baroque monuments in the country. Following a lunch of regional specialties, enjoy a special tour of the remarkable Amparo Museum with its outstanding pre-Columbian collection. The evening is at leisure. (*B, L*)

CUERNAVACA

Wednesday, February 1 ❖ This morning drive 2.5 hours to Cuernavaca. At the Los Muros Museum, view the formerly private collection of Jacques and Natasha Gelman, which provides an excellent cross section of important Mexican art, including pieces by Diego Rivera, Carlos Orozco Romero, David A. Siqueiros, Frida Kahlo, and Rufino Tamayo, among others. Continue to Cuernavaca's historic



POBLANO VILLAGES

center for lunch. Next meet the director of the Robert Brady Museum who will introduce this extraordinary house museum with an outstanding collection of modern art, Mexican colonial furniture and statuary, prehispanic objects as well as art from Africa, the Americas, Oceania, India and the Far East displayed in the fourteen rooms open to the public. At the Regional Museum, once the palace of Hernán Cortés, view the remarkable mural by Diego Rivera and collection highlights. Return to Puebla in the early evening. (B, L)

TLAXCALA

Thursday, February 2 ❖ Drive an hour to the tranquil small city of Tlaxcala. In the remarkable 16th-century church of San Francisco, one of the oldest in Mexico, marvel at its exquisite Moorish-style wooden ceiling. Stroll through the town's picturesque zócalo to the Palacio de Gobierno, and view interesting murals that depict Tlaxcala's history. Following lunch in a local restaurant, continue to the archaeological site of Cacaxtla to examine its many original colorful wall decorations that are beautifully preserved and can be appreciated *in situ*. Return to Puebla for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Friday, February 3 ❖ Enjoy a scenic drive along the slopes of the Popocatepetl volcano to the town of San Andrés Calpan, and view the well-preserved 16th-century processional chapels, inspired by European woodcuts and interpreted by native craftsmen. Continue to San Miguel Huejotzingo for a brief visit to one of the earliest and most complete of the Franciscan missions built in the 16th century. En route back to Puebla, stop at a talavera workshop and watch master artisans demonstrate their craft. At the ex-convent of Santa Rosa, view its collection of traditional costumes and folk art and admire its preserved talavera-tiled kitchen, the benchmark of all Mexican kitchens. The afternoon is at leisure for lunch and independent explorations. Bid adiós to Mexico during a memorable farewell dinner in one of Puebla's finest restaurants. (B, D)

ADIÓS PUEBLA

Saturday, February 4 ❖ Take the morning transfer to Puebla's international airport to meet return flights to the United States. (*In order to be part of the group airport transfer, you should book flights that depart Puebla no earlier than 7:00 am. Please note that there is a non-stop flight from Puebla to Houston on Continental Airlines, departing Puebla at 7:00 am.*)



Tour Cost

Puebla, Mexico: January 29-February 4, 2012

Land Only Package.....\$2,995
Single Supplement.....\$495

Tour pricing is based on double occupancy with a minimum of 20 paying participants. Land prices are based on quotes of July 2011 and are subject to change. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their air arrangements. Final balance must be paid by check to ISDI. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on October 3, 2011. Registrants will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis.

Included in the Tour Cost

- ❖ Six nights accommodations as outlined
- ❖ Breakfast daily, 5 lunches, 2 dinners, and 1 reception
- ❖ Sightseeing and admission charges
- ❖ Services of an ISDI Tour Manager
- ❖ Land transportation by private coach
- ❖ Gratuities to local guides and drivers, taxes, services and hotel portage

NOT INCLUDED:

International or domestic airline tickets, taxes and fuel surcharges; gratuities for chamber maids; transfers to and from airport and hotel for individuals not taking the group transfer; personal items such as wines, liquors, and mineral water except where noted in the itinerary; personal services; airport tax, fuel surcharges, and travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage, and tour cancellation; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) and The Alumnae Association of Smith College reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason, including insufficient number of participants, and to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. All cancellations must be received in writing (letter or fax) by ISDI, and charges are calculated as of the day notification is received in writing by ISDI. If a tour member cancels, the following scale of charges is incurred: There is a nonrefundable administrative fee of \$500 per person. The costs of any tickets purchased for events in the itinerary are nonrefundable. Written cancellation received by ISDI before October 3, 2011: full refund minus \$500 per person administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between October 4 and November 15, 2011: full refund of any recoverable land costs, less \$1,000 per person cancellation charge (includes administrative fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI between November 14, 2011 and December 29, 2011, results in forfeit of majority of funds, including a \$1,500 per person cancellation charge (includes administrative fee). Cancellation during this period could result in a loss of as much as 100% of land costs per person. Cancellations received on or after December 30, 2011: no refund. After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds can be issued for missed meals or sightseeing tours. No refunds for any unused portion of the tour. Costs for promotion, staff, and other group expenses are not refundable. If due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors you are required to spend an additional night, you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. **Tour cancellation-interruption insurance is strongly recommended. A confirmation letter and travel insurance application will be mailed upon receipt of your deposit.** © 2011 International International Seminar Design, Inc. CST 2072963-40



**ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE**

Puebla, Mexico

January 29 - February 4, 2012

Enclosed is my credit card information or deposit check
(\$750 per person) payable to International Seminar Design

NAME(S) CLASS YEAR

NAME(S) CLASS YEAR

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME) (OFFICE)

E-MAIL

NUMBER OF PERSONS AMOUNT ENCLOSED

VISA MASTERCARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

Double Occupancy Single Supplement

I will be sharing a room with _____

I would like a roommate but am willing to pay the
single space if one cannot be found.

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless the Alumnae Association of Smith College, and International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN.

SIGNATURE: DATE

SIGNATURE: DATE

Complete and return to: Smith Travel
Alumnae Association of Smith College
33 Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01063

For additional information please contact:
Liz Bigwood in the Travel Office (800)225-2029
Email: ebigwood@smith.edu; Fax: (413)585-2015

ISDI Toll Free (866) 900-ISDI or (202) 244-1448

PUEBLA: MEXICO'S COLONIAL CENTER OF CRAFTS AND CULTURE

JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 4, 2012

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Stay six nights in the luxurious Camino Real, ideally situated in the colonial heart of Puebla.
- ❖ Share the knowledge and insights of Professor Patricia González during two lectures and informal on-site discussions.
- ❖ Meet artists and artisans in their native villages, and visit private and public art collections.
- ❖ At the archaeological site of Cacaxtla, view vibrantly colored Mayan murals in situ.
- ❖ Experience the Cholula pyramid, considered the largest pyramid in the Americas.
- ❖ Discover Puebla's rich colonial past with visits to several of its historic landmarks and collections.
- ❖ Enjoy a reception in a private home.
- ❖ In Cuernavaca, view the remarkable Gelman collection, with pieces by Rivera, Orozco, Siqueiros, Kahlo, among others.
- ❖ Enjoy spectacular views of Popocatepetl volcano en route to San Andrés Calpan's spectacular 16th-century processional chapels.
- ❖ In San Miguel Huejotzingo, visit one of the most complete 16th century Franciscan missions,
- ❖ Learn about talavera production during a demonstration at Puebla's finest talavera workshop.
- ❖ Savor exquisite regional cuisine in Puebla's finest restaurants.
- ❖ Visit the Amparo Museum, showcasing one of Mexico's finest archaeological collections.
- ❖ Interact with Smith students studying in Puebla.



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