

## Explore Race & Identity in the New Cuba



The African American Student Success Task Force is in the initial planning stages for a faculty-led winter session study abroad educational trip to Havana, Cuba.

The goal of the 15-day trip **(tentatively scheduled from January 8 to January 22, 2016)** is to examine the role Africans played in the development of the island nation, and assess the next generation's perception of their future role in the world.

We invite African American students (Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) with a minimum GPA of 2.5 to consider this opportunity. With the globalization of our world, the number of African American students studying abroad is on the rise.

On December 17, 2014, the Obama administration announced a thaw in the tumultuous U.S. Cuba relationship. U.S. students attending accredited graduate and undergraduate degree-granting academic institutions may now travel, study and engage openly with the Cuban people.

Let's take advantage of this exciting moment in history to meet Cuban students, scholars, writers, activists, artists, musicians, athletes and others. We can learn a lot from each other. I've been studying the Cuban culture for 31 years.

The estimated cost per student is \$3,800. This includes round trip air, hotel (two per room) and two meals per day.

If you are interested, please send an **“I want to learn more about the Cuba trip”** email to Dr. Michael Cheers ([Duane.Cheers@sjsu.edu](mailto:Duane.Cheers@sjsu.edu)).

A detailed trip-planning meeting and Q&A session will be held with interested students shortly after spring break.

Michelle Randle, Director of the CASA Success Center, and I are the trip coordinators.

Regards,  
Michael Cheers, Ph.D.,  
Co-Chair African American Student Success Task Force