Margaux Collins Summer 2016 Fieldwork

This summer I spent six weeks on Isla Mujeres, an island off the coast of Cancun, Mexico. My project, titled Cultural versus Classroom Education, looked at how students and young adults learn English, how English impacts the economy, and how these factors influence the school dropout rate. While I was in Mexico, I spent time in classrooms observing various English classes and the school system in general, administered a survey within the middle school with school and program approval, and conducted various interviews in both English and Spanish. I was partnered with the Isla Mujeres Ethnographic Field School and this really helped me get connected with the schools and educational programs on the island. I am excited to begin sifting through the data as I prepare to write my Senior Thesis.