



Accommodations

Students will reside in individual homestays where they will be provided with all meals. During excursions housing will be provided in field stations or basic hotels.

Excursions

As part of the program students will participate in a variety of excursions. The program will begin with a multi-day orientation in San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica. Excursions to conservation projects throughout Costa Rica and in neighboring Nicaragua are included, as are visits to national parks and eco-tourism sites. The program incorporates extensive field experiences to complement classroom work.



Rincón de la Vieja Volcano

Going Abroad With the CGE

Students will be charged standard HWS tuition and fees, room and board fees and a \$550 administrative fee. This will cover credit for a four-course semester, housing, all meals and all course-related expenses, including excursions. Additional expenses not covered include airfare, books, visa, immunizations and personal expenses (laundry, entertainment, ground transportation and independent travel). We estimate airfare for this program at \$700-\$850 from the East Coast and books at \$200, while visas and immunizations are another \$200. It is difficult to give an accurate estimate of

personal expenses because student spending habits differ considerably. We would suggest a minimum of \$1,200. However, students on a tight budget should be able to manage with less. If you are concerned about finances, we strongly encourage you to talk to the CGE staff who can offer information and advice based on your specific situation.

Application Deadline

- This program is offered in Spring 2016 only.
- Applications are available at the Center for Global Education.
- Applications are due at the CGE office on a selected date in March.

NOTE: The information above is subject to change. Please see the CGE for more information.

The Center for Global Education

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COSTA RICA

About Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a country of natural beauty, political stability and a temperate climate. Since dismantling its army in 1948, it has been known around the world as one of the most stable countries in Latin America, and has often been a mediator in other Central American conflicts. The International Community acknowledged this contribution in 1987 by presenting President Oscar Arias with the Nobel Peace Prize. Costa Rica has devoted itself to environmental conservation and educational achievement. This forward-thinking country took formal measures to protect its natural assets in 1955. Today, Costa Rica's National Conservation Areas System (SINAC) covers more than 134 areas - national parks, reserves, and refuges - comprising roughly 27 percent of the national territory.



Waterfall, Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve

This commitment provides an abundance of natural wonders, biodiversity and a wealth of wildlife. The relatively small size of the country allows one to explore the beach, jungle and mountains all in one day.

About Monteverde

Monteverde is a small community of 4,000 that attracts up to 200,000 tourists each year, drawn by the incredible natural setting and unparalleled biodiversity. Its forest is located in the largest private reserve in Central America and reflects a long heritage of grassroots conservation. The reserve encompasses not only cloud forest but everything from dry forest to rain forest habitats. Monteverde's forests house over 2,500 species of plants, including over 500 species of orchids. In addition, Monteverde has over 60 species of amphibians, 100 species of mammals and over 450 bird species, including the famed Resplendent Quetzal.

The Program

HWS has an established partnership with CIEE, who will deliver the academic program and will oversee all logistical arrangements, including orientation, excursions, accommodations and cultural programming. The CIEE Study Center in Monteverde is located at the edge of the forest in a small, bilingual community surrounded by a cloud forest. Monteverde's cloud forest has been studied for more than 25 years by both Costa Rican and visiting researchers. This widens the research opportunities available and acquaints students with practical issues associated with agricultural development eco-tourism, and grassroots conservation efforts in developing countries.

Courses

All students will enroll in one Spanish language course at their appropriate level. In addition, students will take in English:

Tropical Conservation and Biology
Sustainability: Environment, Economy and Society
Costa Rican Natural History
Conservation and Sustainability Internship

For detailed course descriptions consult the CIEE website at: <http://www.ciee.org/study-abroad/costa-rica/monteverde/sustainability-environment/academics/#>

Academic Focus

This program is geared towards students in biology and environmental studies interested in tropical conservation and sustainable development. The program requires a minimum of 3 college-level courses in environmental studies.

Eligibility

Open to all sophomores, juniors and seniors in good academic and social standing with a minimum GPA of 2.75 who have completed at least 3 courses in environmental studies (with some science background). At least one semester of college-level Spanish is also required pre or post admission. Due to the challenging nature of study abroad, student academic and disciplinary records will be carefully screened.