

Education Abroad Advisement Guide: San Ramón, Costa Rica

How to Use this Guide

Be proactive and start planning early. This guide contains preapproved course listings for the USAC program in San Ramón, Costa Rica. **What type of people choose this program? Students who are passionate about Biology, Ecology, Spanish, and Cultural Studies.** Visit the USAC website for pictures and more detailed descriptions of the program, or stop by the International Learning Opportunities Office today to get more information. This guide, along with your BSU Academic Advisement Report and the USAC catalog, provides the tools you need to plan and apply for a program. Involve your major/minor advisor as you choose a program and prepare for you time abroad so that you do not prolong graduation. Course descriptions are available at: <http://usac.unr.edu>.

Studying Abroad in San Ramón, Costa Rica: *Life Sciences, Spanish, and Cultural Studies*

Extracurricular Opportunities

Volunteering

USAC students are encouraged to actively participate and give back to their communities through volunteering.

Field Trips

You are encouraged to participate in the included program field trips to further explore the culture of Costa Rica.

Fall trips: INBIO Parque and La Paz Waterfall Gardens, Monteverde Cloud Forest

Spring trips: Rain/Cloud Forest, Café Britt and Poás Volcano.

The University

The University of Costa Rica was founded in 1941 and is the oldest and most prestigious university in

the country. The Sede de Occidente campus is located in San Ramón, Alajuela, with an enrollment of over 8,000 students. All USAC San Ramón classes are held at this campus.

City Life

Overview

Set against a dramatic backdrop of mountains, San Ramón (pop 30,000) is truly the heart of Costa Rica, where you will encounter friendly people and a relaxed and peaceful lifestyle. Known as "the city of presidents and poets," San Ramón has been home to many of Costa Rica's great political and literary figures.

A Few Famous Places

Catarata Las Musas, Los Angeles Cloud Forest Reserve, San Ramon Museum.

Registration Information

Specialty programs are designed and operated by USAC. Students who participate in a Specialty program will be enrolled at Boise State University while abroad and will not need to transfer credits after returning. Most USACE Specialty courses have a Boise State equivalent course. Work with your academic advisor when deciding on courses to satisfy major requirements, and with a staff member at the International Learning Opportunities office for course registration and syllabi inquiries.

Course descriptions are available at <http://usac.unr.edu>.

Use the USAC program search to see what other programs may also be of interest to you!

<http://usac.unr.edu/programs/search>.

USAC Course Title		BSU Equivalent
Advanced Spanish I	3	SPANISH 439 or 412
Advanced Spanish II	3	SPANISH 439 or 412
Biological Diversity	3	
Biological Diversity Field Study	1	
Dances of Latin America	1	
Ecology and Population Biology	3	
Elementary Spanish I	4	SPANISH 101
Elementary Spanish II	4	SPANISH 102
Environmental Policy	3	POLS 439
Global Health	3	
Global Issues in Environmental Sciences	3	
Government and Politics in Latin America	3	POLS 325
Intermediate Spanish I	3	SPANISH 201
Intermediate Spanish II	3	SPANISH 202
International Political Economy: North-South Relations	3	FORLNG 439
Internship	1	
Latin America and its Cultures	3	ANTH 239
Latin American Cuisine	1	
Natural History of Mesoamerica	3	
Natural History of Mesoamerica Field Study	1	
Plant Taxonomy	3	
Plant Taxonomy Field Study	1	
Society and Environment	3	SOC 444
Spanish Composition I	3	SPANISH 303
Spanish Composition II	3	SPANISH 439
Spanish Conversation and Oral Skills	2	SPANISH 239
Spanish for Health Care Professionals	3	
Survey of Latin American Literature I	3	
Survey of Latin American Literature II	3	
Tropical Conservation Biology	3	

Tropical Ecology	3	
Tropical Ecology Field Study	1	
Tropical Marine Biology	3	
Tropical Marine Biology Field Study	1	
Women's Health: Global Health and Human Rights	3	SOC 497

What Will I Gain from Studying Abroad?

Personal Benefits

- experience with different cultures
- a better grip on foreign affairs
- friends from around the world
- a new understanding of your own culture
- tales of adventure to last a lifetime

Career Enhancement

- experience with cross cultural communication
- possible fluency in a foreign language
- understanding of cultural differences
- openness to new ideas/unfamiliar situations
- increased interest in academic study/career path

What's the Next Step?

1. Meet with a study abroad advisor in the International Learning Opportunities office.
2. Meet with your major/minor advisor to go over your long-term plans and goals for studying abroad.
3. Consult the USAC catalog or website as you complete your study abroad planning sheet.
4. Complete your application by the deadline.
5. Apply for or renew your passport.
6. Attend information sessions and workshops on topics such as financial aid, visas, and other useful information (ask the ILO office for more information).
7. Start packing!

International Learning Opportunities

Simplot/Micron building, room 101 (west of the old Business Building)

Telephone: (208) 426-2630

Email: studyabroad@boisestate.edu