### Costa Rica

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#### PROGRAM
- **Tropical Biology and Conservation, Monteverde Institute**

#### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- **Level**: Jr, Sr, Grad (by departure)
- **GPA**: 2.85 cumulative GPA at the time of application and maintained through departure
- **Completion of four biology-related courses**, which includes at least one upper-division Biology course by departure
- **Language**: none
- **Lab experience and a course in statistics is highly recommended**
- A very unique and hands-on experience, this program is best for students who love the outdoors and could manage a nontraditional academic environment and schedule.
- **A positive attitude, flexibility, and teamwork are essential**, as students travel and live together as a group for a majority of the program.

#### WHEN
- **Fall**: early October to mid-December
- **Spring**: late March to early June

#### COST
- **Fall quarter**: $14,350*
- **Spring quarter**: $13,300**

#### COURSEWORK
- **Five courses**:
  1. Tropical Diversity
  2. Tropical Community Ecology
  3. Tropical Biology Research Practicum
  4. Spanish for Biologists
  5. Agro-Ecology
- **Units**: 16 UC quarter units
- **Independent research** is an integral part of the Monteverde program. Students will develop a research proposal on a particular aspect of tropical ecology designed around direct field experience. After conducting the fieldwork, they analyze their results, produce a written report and share findings in an oral presentation during the biology symposium at the end of the term.
- Past research topics have included the effects of forest fragmentation on species richness, bioluminescence of beetles, and detection of anti-fungal agents by leafcutter ants.

#### HOUSING
- Housing changes according to program activities: homestays, residence at the dormitory-style Monteverde Biological Station, and stays at other rural field stations.
- Students live with other UC students.

#### APPLICATION DUE DATE
- **Fall**: February 20, 2019
- **Spring**: May 2019

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### Cost Comparison

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<tr>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCSB Year</td>
<td>$33,850</td>
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<td>UCSB Year ($33,850)†</td>
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<td>EAP Fall + UCSB W/S</td>
<td>$36,950</td>
<td>Costa Rica Fall ($14,350/16 UC Quarter Units)*</td>
<td>UCSB Winter ($11,300)†</td>
<td>UCSB Spring ($11,300)‡</td>
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<td>UCSB F/W + EAP Spring</td>
<td>$35,900</td>
<td>UCSB Fall ($11,300)†</td>
<td>UCSB Winter ($11,300)†</td>
<td>Costa Rica Spring ($13,300 / 16 UC Quarter Units)**</td>
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†Based on the UCSB Financial Aid Office 2018-19 cost of attendance for undergraduate California residents living off-campus, rounded to the nearest $50.
*Estimates based on UCEAP 2018-19 costs include: UC tuition, program fees, pre-departure expenses (visa, etc.), UCEAP Travel Insurance, round trip airfare, room & board, books, and other incidental expenses. Not included: Non-Resident Fees; $240/quarter UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UCSHIP) if you have UCSHIP at UCSB.
**Estimates based on 2017-18 Spring program costs.

9/11/18