**Cost Comparison**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>Tropical Biology and Conservation</th>
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| ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS | • **Level:** Jr, Sr, Grad (by departure)  
• **GPA:** 2.50 cumulative GPA at the time of application and maintained through departure  
• Completion of 3 biology-related courses by departure is required. Completion of one upper-division Biology course is recommended.  
• **Language:** none  
• Lab experience and a course in statistics is 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:** $17,400*  
• **Spring quarter:** $17,250** |
| COURSEWORK | • **Five courses:**  
1. Tropical Diversity  
2. Tropical Community Ecology  
3. Tropical Biology Research Practicum  
4. Spanish for Biologists  
5. Agro-Ecology  
*Optional: Nature Filmmaking (2 additional units)  
• **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 16, 2021  
• **Spring:** May 4, 2021 |

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**UCSB Year: $34,250**

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<tr>
<th>Estimated Totals</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
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<td>UCSB Year: $34,250</td>
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**Option 1 $40,200**

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<tr>
<th>Costa Rica Fall ($17,400/16 UC Quarter Units)*</th>
<th>UCSB Winter ($11,400)†</th>
<th>UCSB Spring ($11,400)†</th>
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**Option 2 $40,050**

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<tr>
<th>UCSB Fall ($11,400)†</th>
<th>UCSB Winter ($11,400)†</th>
<th>Costa Rica Spring ($17,250/16 UC Quarter Units)**</th>
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*Based on the UCSB Financial Aid Office 2020-21 cost of attendance for undergraduate California residents living off-campus, rounded to the nearest $50.  
*Estimates based on UCEAP 2020-21 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; $350/quarter UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UCSHIP) if you have UCSHIP at UCSB.  
**Estimates based on 2019-20 Spring program costs.

Last edited 9/30/20