

# COSTA RICA

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PROGRAM	<u>Tropical Biology and Conservation</u>
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Level:</b> Jr, Sr, Grad (by departure)</li> <li>• <b>GPA:</b> 2.50 cumulative GPA at the time of application and maintained through departure</li> <li>• Completion of 3 biology-related courses by departure is required. Completion of one upper-division Biology course is recommended.</li> <li>• <b>Language:</b> none</li> <li>• Lab experience and a course in statistics is recommended</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• A positive attitude, flexibility, and teamwork are essential, as students travel and live together as a group for a majority of the program.</li> </ul>
<b>WHEN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fall:</b> early October to mid-December</li> <li>• <b>Spring:</b> late March to early June</li> </ul>
<b>COST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fall quarter:</b> \$17,400*</li> <li>• <b>Spring quarter:</b> \$17,250**</li> </ul>
<b>COURSEWORK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Five courses:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tropical Diversity</li> <li>2. Tropical Community Ecology</li> <li>3. Tropical Biology Research Practicum</li> <li>4. Spanish for Biologists</li> <li>5. Agro-Ecology</li> </ol> <i>*Optional:</i> Nature Filmmaking (2 additional units)         </li> <li>• <b>Units:</b> 16 UC quarter units</li> <li>• <b>Independent research</b> 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>HOUSING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing changes according to program activities: homestays, residence at the dormitory-style Monteverde Biological Station, and stays at other rural field stations.</li> <li>• Students live with other UC students.</li> </ul>
<b>APPLICATION DUE DATE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fall:</b> February 16, 2021</li> <li>• <b>Spring:</b> May 4, 2021</li> </ul>

## COST COMPARISON

Estimated Totals	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
<b>UCSB Year: \$34,250</b>			UCSB Year (\$34,250) †								
<b>Option 1 \$40,200</b>			<b>Costa Rica Fall</b> (\$17,400/ 16 UC Quarter Units)*			UCSB Winter (\$11,400) †			UCSB Spring (\$11,400) †		
<b>Option 2 \$40,050</b>			UCSB Fall (\$11,400) †				UCSB Winter (\$11,400) †		<b>Costa Rica Spring</b> (\$17,250 / 16 UC Quarter Units)**		

†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.