

UCEAP Biological Field Research Programs

(no foreign language required)

Tropical Biology and Conservation, Monteverde, Costa Rica, fall, spring

<https://uceap.universityofcalifornia.edu/programs/tropical-biology-and-conservation>

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ABROAD

To successfully complete this program, take a full-time course of study:

- During the quarter: Five courses and a minimum of 16 quarter UC units. During the semester: Six courses and a minimum of 19 quarter/12.7 semester UC units.
- The optional Nature Filmmaking courses is an additional 1.5 quarter/1 semester UC units. You may select up to two courses for pass/no pass but the combined total units for those two courses may not exceed 4 units.
- The variable unit option is not available for this program. You may not reduce the number of units for any course.
- Courses involve swimming and snorkeling, for which you'll need basic swimming ability and reasonable confidence in the water. You'll need to complete a swimming proficiency test during the first week of the program. Basic swimming skills include:
 1. Floating on your back for 60 seconds
 2. Swimming one length of an 8-meter pool underwater

CURRENT PROGRAM COURSES

Quarter and Semester Courses:

- [Tropical Diversity](#): 4 UC quarter units, upper division (*listed under Biological Sciences*)
- [Tropical Community Ecology](#): 4 UC quarter units, upper division (*listed under Biological Sciences*)
- [Tropical Biology Research Practicum](#): 4 UC quarter units, upper division (*listed as Biological Sciences & Environmental Studies*)
- [Agro-ecology](#): 2 UC quarter units, upper division (*listed as Environmental Studies*)
- Spanish for Biologists: 2 UC quarter units, lower or upper division depending on level

Additional Semester Courses:

- Integrative Biology: 2 UC semester units, upper division (*listed under Biological Sciences*)
- Nature Filmmaking: 1.5 UC quarter units, lower division (*listed under Film and Media Studies*)

After conducting fieldwork, you'll analyze your results and write a report. Two instructors and a peer will review your first submission so that you can incorporate suggestions before submitting your final paper.

Final exams take place during the last week of the program in Monteverde.

Marine Biology & Terrestrial Ecology, University of Queensland, Australia, fall (possibly competitive)

<https://uceap.universityofcalifornia.edu/programs/marine-biology-terrestrial-ecology>

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ABROAD

To successfully complete this program:

Take a full-time course of study: Two courses for a total of 21 quarter/14 semester UC units.

Take all courses for a letter grade.

Courses involve long-distance walks over rough and remote terrain as well as swimming and snorkeling, for which you'll need basic swimming ability and reasonable confidence in the water.

CURRENT PROGRAM COURSES

Marine Biology (13 quarter/8.7 semester UC units)

- Obtain a comprehensive overview of marine biology in the context of the unique marine life that inhabits the seas surrounding Australia.
- Learn about "real world" science by being immersed in original research projects in marine biology.
- Be exposed to Australian marine biology through topics such as the evolution of fish diversity and the ecology of distinctive marine habitats.
- Examine current issues in marine conservation such as algal blooms, the sustainability of fisheries, aquaculture, climate change, coral bleaching, and the future of coral reefs.
- Undertake original marine biology research projects during extended field trips to the University of Queensland's marine biology research stations at North Stradbroke Island in Moreton bay, and Heron Island on the Great Barrier Reef.

Human and Terrestrial Ecology (8 quarter/5.3 semester UC units)

- Obtain a complete overview of Australian terrestrial ecology, beginning with the physical factors that define the landscape such as geology, climate, and fire.
- Explore Australia's biological heritage in terms of the ancient Gondwanan rainforests.
- Investigate how physical challenges have shaped the evolution of plants that now define quintessentially Australian habitats.
- Survey the continent's unique animal life.
- Examine the conservation of Australian biodiversity and learn to appreciate differences among terrestrial ecosystems in different parts of the globe.

Biodiversity Summer Singapore

<https://uceap.universityofcalifornia.edu/programs/biodiversity>

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ABROAD

To successfully complete this program:

- Take a full-time course of study: Two courses for a total of 12 quarter UC units. Courses include:
 - One biodiversity course worth 8 quarter UC units
 - One language course worth 4 quarter UC units
- You must take the biodiversity course for a letter grade but may take the language course pass/no pass or for a letter grade.
- Participate in all required field and travel activities, including physically active hiking, swimming, and transporting personal belongings in a tropical environment.
- Submit a final written report by the deadline after the program ends.

CURRENT PROGRAM COURSES

Field Studies in Biodiversity

With the help of experienced field biologists, you'll participate in field work, analysis, and discussions each day, followed by a debrief with the group each evening. In addition to field research, this course focuses on the study of multiple species-rich habitats through lectures and practical learning. To complete the course, you'll take a quiz, give a presentation, and write a required research paper that is due one week after the program term ends.

Beginning Chinese or Bahasa Indonesian Language

This beginning course covers speaking, listening, reading, and writing with various communicative tasks. To complement language learning, the class includes activities in the local culture.