# Costa Rica

Advisor: Samuel Lipiec • sam@eap.ucsb.edu • 805-893-5735 • Drop-in Hours: Mon 10-12, Tues/Thurs 1:30-3:30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>Tropical Biology and Conservation</th>
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| ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS | • Level: Soph, Jr, Sr, Grad (by departure)  
• GPA: 2.50 cumulative GPA at the time of application and maintained through departure  
• Coursework: Completion of 3 biology-related courses by departure is required. Completion of at least one upper-division Biology course is highly recommended. Lab experience and a course in Statistics also recommended.  
• Language: none  
• 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: $15,050*  
Spring quarter: $16,100* |

| COURSEWORK | • Five courses:  
1. Tropical Diversity  
2. Tropical Community Ecology  
3. Tropical Biology Research Practicum  
4. Agro-Ecology  
5. Spanish for Biologists  
*Optional: Nature Filmmaking (1.5 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 DEADLINE | • Fall: First come, first serve through March 25, 2023 or until filled  
• Spring: May 9, 2023 |

## Cost Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Yearly 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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCSB Year:</td>
<td>$35,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 1</td>
<td>$38,750</td>
<td>Costa Rica Fall ($15,050/16 UC Quarter Units)*</td>
<td></td>
<td>UCSB Winter ($11,850) †</td>
<td>UCSB Spring ($11,850) †</td>
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<td>Option 2</td>
<td>$39,800</td>
<td>UCSB Fall ($11,850) †</td>
<td>UCSB Winter ($11,850) †</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Costa Rica Spring ($16,100/16 UC Quarter Units)*</td>
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†Based on the UCSB Financial Aid Office 2022-23 cost of attendance for undergraduate California residents living off-campus, rounded to the nearest $50.  
*Estimates based on UCEAP 2022-23 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; $338/quarter UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UCSHIP) if you have UCSHIP at UCSB. Fees listed are estimates and are subject to change.