

COSTA RICA

Interim Advisor: Emily Tom-Atzberger • emily@eap.ucsb.edu • 805-893-5661 • eap.ucsb.edu • Drop-in Hours: See [Website](#)

PROGRAM	<u>Tropical Biology and Conservation</u>
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall: early October to mid-December Spring: late March to early June
COST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall quarter: \$16,100* Spring quarter: \$15,400**
COURSEWORK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five courses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tropical Diversity Tropical Community Ecology Tropical Biology Research Practicum Agro-Ecology Spanish for Biologists <i>*Optional: Nature Filmmaking (1.5 additional units)</i> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing changes according to program activities: homestays, residence at the dormitory-style Monteverde Biological Station, stays at other rural field stations, and camping. Students live with other UC students.
APPLICATION WINDOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall: Nov 20, 2024 - Mar 19, 2025 or until filled Program typically fills before deadline! Spring: April 15, 2025 - July 30, 2025 or until filled Program typically fills before deadline! <p>Applications open at 9am on the open date, and close at 11:59pm on the deadline (unless filled earlier).</p>

COST COMPARISON

Estimated Yearly Totals	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
UCSB Year: \$40,700			UCSB Year (\$40,700) †								
Option 1 \$43,200			Costa Rica Fall (\$16,100/ 16 UC Quarter Units)*			UCSB Winter (\$13,550) †			UCSB Spring (\$13,550) †		
Option 2 \$42,500			UCSB Fall (\$13,550) †				UCSB Winter (\$13,550) †			Costa Rica Spring (\$15,400/ 16 UC Quarter Units)*	

Fees listed are estimates, rounded to nearest \$50, and subject to change. See the UCEAP program page's Cost tab for customized cost estimates.

†UCSB 2024-25 undergrad cost of attendance for 2023-cohort CA residents living off-campus.

*UCEAP 2024-25 (**2023-24) undergrad cost includes: UC tuition for 2023-cohort CA residents, fees, housing, meals, predeparture expenses, airfare, travel insurance, and incidentals. Not included in fall/winter/spring/year costs (if applicable): UC Student Health Insurance \$450/qtr.

Non-Residents: add supplemental tuition to costs above: \$32,550/yr, \$16,300/sem, \$10,850/qtr (2023-cohort).