



The Place

The capital city of Costa Rica, San José, lies at an elevation of 3,809 ft above sea level, and enjoys a mild climate throughout the year, with an average temperature of 77°F.

San José is a modern city with bustling commerce, brisk expressions of art and architecture, and vibrant cultural venues. Costa Rica ranks among the top 5 countries in environmental performance worldwide and it has been declared one of the most visited international destinations for its rich biodiversity and exquisite natural beauty. Tropical rain forests, active volcanoes and beautiful white sand beaches are among the major attractions.



The Program

The VSU in Costa Rica program was established to provide students with an opportunity to earn credits in Spanish in a summer study program. Classes are offered at ILISA Language Institute in San José, Costa Rica, in very small groups, facilitating better opportunities for conversation. The program encourages integration into Costa Rican life with daily interaction with local families and university students.



Payment schedule:

October 30, 2016 – submit application and deposit: \$300

February 10, 2017 – first payment due: \$1,500

April 1, 2017 – second payment: \$2,150

Refunds policy:

\$300 deposit is non refundable

Before Feb 10 all but \$300 will be refunded

Between Feb 10 and March 15 all but \$1000 will be

refunded. After March 15, no money will be refunded.

Housing

Room and board with a host family is included in the program price as well as weekly laundry service.

Each family has been carefully selected by the resident staff of the hosting institution, ILISA, in order to accommodate students' specific needs and ensure a comfortable living situation.

The home stay provides the opportunity for students to experience aspects of the Costa Rican lifestyle that are inaccessible to the average visitor to Costa Rica, not to mention the fabulous opportunity to practice the Spanish language.



Special activities

To acquire a better understanding of the local culture, students are invited to take cooking, dancing and painting classes. Guided visits will be provided to museums, markets and nature parks.



Sign up early to take advantage of several special scholarships for this program
– up to \$1,000!! (conditions apply)

Eligibility for the Program:

VSU students in good academic standing and financially cleared. Min. GPA: 3.0.

Academic Credits

As a VSU program, credits taken can satisfy major, minor, and university requirements with prior approval.



Deadline for applications and the deposit of \$300 for this program is: February 10, 2017. Seats not guaranteed until deposit is made. First come, first serve.

Applications submitted by Oct 30 will be considered for **scholarships** funded exclusively for this program. Restrictions apply. Check with Program Director.

2017 Program fee: \$3,950

plus VSU tuition and fees*
(*Financial Aid available to qualifying student)

Fee includes:

- Round Trip International Airfare Atlanta/San José
- Twenty hours of Spanish instruction per week
- Cultural activities including cooking, music concerts, dancing classes, and special lectures
- Weekend excursions
- Books and other materials
- Housing with host family
- Three meals per day
- Weekly laundry service
- Health insurance
- Airport Transfers

Contact Information:

Program Director – Grażyna Walczak
ghwalczak@valdosta.edu – (229) 249-2639

Center for Int'l Programs – Irina McClellan
ibmcclel@valdosta.edu – (229) 333-7410

Financial Aid:

Contact the Office of Financial Aid for more information:
229-333-5935

Scholarships:

Scholarship opportunities are available through Gilman Scholarship Program: gilman@iie.org, and other organizations.

There are also several special scholarships for this program
– up to \$1,000!! – Apply by Oct 30.



VSU in

Costa Rica 2017

Spanish Study Abroad Program

July 02 – July 29, 2017



Early Bird discount of \$200!!
– Sign up by October 30

Highlights:

- Up to 9 credit hrs in Spanish
- Room and board with host family
- Small class sizes
- Excursions: 1-day trip to active volcano, 2-nights weekend in an exclusive **beach resort**, 1-day trip to waterfall gardens, and more.
- Variety of additional cultural excursions and activities.

Course Offerings:

Students may take two 3 credit classes from the following: SPAN 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002, 2010, 2011, 3010, 3012, 3014, 3160, 3200, 3260, 3270, 4010, 4110, 4020, 4950, 4900, plus 1 credit in SPAN 4970 + 4980 + select major's Directed Studies.