

Costa Rica Language and Culture

Summer 2022

Visit <http://meredith.edu/oip> for Study Abroad 101, Study Abroad Advising, and Funding Workshops.

Application Deadline

Program applications accepted until **February 15, 2022**. Click "[Apply to Study Abroad](#)" to begin your online application.

Dates

May 15 – June 11, 2022

Location

Based in the province of Heredia, where you will live with a host family if health and safety conditions allow. Accommodations will be confirmed in spring 2022. This program also includes group excursions to both small and large towns and plans currently include an option of two independent travel weekends.

Student Voices

"I have learned how to be flexible and use other resources to navigate the language barrier. I now have applicable skills to navigate Spanish and the confidence to use my Spanish more." – Jada Alicea-Rochelle, Summer 2019

Journey Highlights

Have you heard that Costa Rica has been ranked the world's happiest country a number of times in recent years? It is known for its hospitality and natural beauty, so whether you are a major, a minor, or just looking to improve your Spanish skills, this program will help you to learn the language in an engaging way that promises new experiences and adventure.

The program is based in the province of Heredia, which is part of Costa Rica's central valley. You will live with a host family, if health and safety conditions allow. The Office of International Programs, in collaboration with our local partners, will make a decision about housing arrangements in spring 2022.

You will embark on a variety of *aventuras*, including a group weekend excursion to a rural mountain town, a visit to waterfalls, a hike on a volcano, and hummingbirds just inches from your eyes. The excitement awaits you!

There will be multiple required orientation meetings between spring break and our departure date.

Note: While this brochure describes what we plan to offer in summer 2022, Meredith College Office of International Programs reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary, program capacity limits, schedule, cost, academic program, etc., as necessary.

Faculty

Director: Professor Callie DeBellis, Assistant Professor of Spanish, debellis@meredith.edu

Teaching Faculty: Dr. Kevin Hunt, Associate Professor of Spanish, kevinh@meredith.edu

Courses – 7 credits

SPA 302: Culture in Context in Costa Rica: Globalization (3 credits, required)

Fulfills SPA major/minor, Cultural Elective

The course will focus on globalization with a close look at the impact of this phenomenon on the culture of Costa Rica. Students will be required to complete in-depth readings, reflections, excursions, and projects.

SPA 300: Life and Study Abroad (1 credit, required)

Fulfills Global Perspectives

All students will earn one credit for four weeks of intensive study and home stay with a Costa Rican family.

*Note: If the program is not able to offer homestays in summer 2022, SPA 300 will not be available.

Choose one:

SPA 206: Intermediate Spanish II (3 credits)

Fulfills SPA minor/major

Spanish 206 focuses on building upon the speaking, listening, reading, writing and culture skills learned in beginning level classes. The course will cover language topics covered at Meredith while taking advantage of the local environment.

SPA 207: Spanish Beyond the Classroom (3 credits)

Fulfills SPA minor/major

Spanish 207 is a class that focuses on building conversational skills at the intermediate level, while gaining confidence in navigating a new country. The course will enhance students' understanding of Costa Rican culture while growing their vocabulary and preparing them for 300-level courses.

SPA 307: Spanish in the Community (3 credits)

Fulfills SPA minor/major, Oral Communication, Cultural Elective

This course is designed to help students improve oral communication in Spanish. Discussion will include a variety of topics with a focus on the US and Latin America.

Cost

\$4,450 includes:

- \$100 non-refundable application deposit
- Tuition for 7 credits
- Room & board
- Weekend excursion – Tuccurique
- Academic excursions & program activities

Additional expenses include:

- Round-trip airfare estimate – \$1,000
- Passport (if needed) – \$130
- International health insurance – \$92
- International cell phone plan – \$80
- Personal spending money and independent travel – \$500-\$700

Note: Estimates are based on previous student reports. Your spending habits may differ.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Additional study abroad funding is available. Register for a Funding Workshop and access the scholarship application at <http://meredith.edu/oip>. **Scholarship deadline: February 15, 2022.**

COVID-19 Health and Safety Considerations

The Office of International Programs, in partnership with Meredith's Health Center, will continue monitoring daily the following resources regarding coronavirus and international travel:

- CDC
- U.S. State Department
- Overseas Security Advisory Council
- World Health Organization
- American College Health Association
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators professional listserv and the Forum on Education Abroad (peer institution responses)
- Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) updates
- Email announcements and communications from affiliate study abroad providers
- Multiple news outlets

All study abroad participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes recommendations by the CDC and host countries at the time of program departure, including but not limited to boosters, vaccine timelines, etc.