

# Costa Rica: Language and Culture

## Summer 2024

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

### Application Deadline

Early Decision program applications accepted until **December 1, 2023**. Apply early decision for study abroad or study abroad *and* scholarships and receive a decision by mid-January 2024. Regular Decision program applications accepted until **February 15, 2024**. Click "[Apply to Study Abroad](#)" to begin your application.

### Dates

May 12 – June 8, 2024

### Location

Based in San Joaquín de Flores, this program includes group excursions to both small and large towns. Housing will be with host families.

### Student Voices

*"Since I've been back, I have become a different person. More mature, more independent, and striving for bigger goals. I have become more passionate about becoming a teacher and working with future students to express themselves. Studying abroad is a wonderful chance for you to not only grow in your academic skills but for you to also grow as a person."* - Hannah Cox, Summer 2022

### Courses – 8 credits required

**SPA 300: Life and Study Abroad** (2 credits, required)

Fulfills Global Perspectives, Spanish major/minor requirement

This course is designed to prepare you for and assess your learning in Costa Rica. We will focus on understanding cultures, both your own and that of your host country, in order to develop your intercultural sensitivities.

#### ***Choose one pairing:***

**SPA 206: Intermediate Spanish II + SPA 302: Topics in Language and Culture** (6 credits total)

Fulfills SPA major/minor, Cultural Elective

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 to practice the skills you learn.

**SPA 207: Spanish Beyond the Classroom + SPA 302: Topics in Language and Culture** (6 credits total)

Fulfills SPA minor/major, Cultural Elective

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 your understanding of Costa Rican culture while growing your vocabulary and preparing you for 300-level courses.

**SPA 307: Spanish in the Community + SPA 302: Topics in Language and Culture (6 credits total)**

Fulfills SPA minor/major, Global Perspectives

Spanish 307 is designed to help you improve oral communication in Spanish at the advanced level. Discussion will include a variety of topics with a focus on cultures in Costa Rica.

## Faculty

**Director: Professor Callie DeBellis**, Professor of Practice of Spanish and Director of Meredith in Italy, debellis@meredith.edu

**Faculty: Dr. Kevin Hunt**, Assistant Professor of Spanish, kevinh@meredith.edu

## Program Overview

Have you heard that Costa Rica is one of the world's happiest countries? It is known for its hospitality and natural beauty, so whether you are a major or 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 colonial town of San Joaquín de Flores, where you will live with a host family and study at a local language school.

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 a tour of a coffee farm. The excitement awaits you!

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

## Cost

**\$4,650 includes:**

- \$100 non-refundable application deposit
- Tuition for 8 credits
- Room & board
- Weekend excursion – Tuccurique
- Academic excursions & program activities
- Pre-departure orientation and resources

Additional expenses include:

- Round-trip airfare estimate – \$1,700
- Passport (if needed) – \$165
- International health insurance – \$55
- International cell phone plan – \$100
- 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>. **Early Decision scholarship deadline: December 1, 2023 (with study abroad application).** **Regular Decision scholarship deadline: February 15, 2024.**

## COVID-19 Protocols

The Office of International Programs strongly recommends all program participants arrive vaccinated against COVID-19 and up to date with all recommended boosters. The OIP will continue to implement ongoing COVID-19 mitigation and response measures in faculty-led study abroad programs.

*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.*