Contacts

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If you are just getting started, please take time to explore our website.

There you will find more valuable resources and information about the application process and our programs for you and your parents.

http://studyabroad.tamu.edu

Academic Information

Program Summary
When: January 2 - 12, 2013 (includes travel days)
Credits: All students must register for ENDS 101
ENDS 101: The Design Process
CARC 485: Directed Studies (by permission)

Eligibility Requirements:
Minimum 2.0 GPR
Good academic standing
Approval of the professor
Must attend all program-specific orientations

Description
The Design Process course introduces students to creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship, within the specific context of the Texas A&M Soltis Center in Costa Rica. Students are exposed to sites, materials, and methods ideal for the exploration of sustainable creations, innovations, and inventions appropriate to the local social, economic, environmental, and technological reality.

Winter Break, 2013
January 2 - 12

COSTA RICA
Environmental Design:
Program for All Majors
Texas A&M Soltis Center
San Isidro, Costa Rica
About the Program

Location
The Soltis Center lies on 250 acres of rainforest at an elevation of 1,500 feet with an average rainfall of 14 feet per year. The Soltis Center is located in San Juan de San Isidro de Penas Blanca, three hours northwest of San Jose, Costa Rica, and adjacent to the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve and the Children’s Eternal Rainforest. The local economy depends on eco-tourism and subsistence farming. The Soltis Center offers 8 bungalows that can accommodate 60 guests, a recreation field, and an academic building with laboratories, infirmary, cafeteria, and lounge.

Activities, in addition to coursework include:
- Guided rainforest hike to waterfall
- Guided night walk in rainforest
- Visit Arenal Volcano
- Relax in Hot Springs
- Visit town of La Fortuna
- Penas Blancas River Rafting
- Cloud Forest Zipline Tour

Program Fees

Cost
The following chart estimates the total out of pocket expenses a student may have participating in this program. Please refer to the notes below the chart for a description of each item. Costs are subject to change upon official approval of programs budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Program Fee** (subject to change)</th>
<th>$2100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billed to University Account</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Fee includes lodging and meals (hotels included), excursion and required field trips, transportation in Costa Rica, HTH Health Insurance & International SOS Emergency Assistance, Administration fees, faculty expenses & miscellaneous program expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Expenses (not included in the Program Fee)</th>
<th>$1425</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees (included with Spring Registration)</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Airfare</td>
<td>$830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents (passport - if you don’t have one already)</td>
<td>$135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Meals (not included in Program Fee)</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks &amp; Supplies</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Spending</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Activities</td>
<td>$130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Estimated Cost (excluding TAMU Tuition & Fees for Spring Semester) | $3525 |

** The Estimated Program Fee listed above is subject to change based on program participant enrollment and currency exchange rate.

Funding

Funding is available in many forms. For complete information on funding opportunities, please visit the Study Abroad Program Office, or select Financial Resources at: http://studyabroad.tamu.edu/

Scholarships
The Study Abroad Programs Office offers two scholarship programs: the International Education Fee Scholarship and the Study Abroad Fellowship. These awards are based on merit or financial need. Application deadlines are listed on the website. Applications will be available through Scholarships and Financial Aid at the following website: https://scholarships.tamu.edu/study_abroad.aspx

Financial Aid
Federal and state financial aid and some scholarships may often be used toward the cost of TAMU study abroad programs. Students can contact their program’s Study Abroad Advisor to obtain a copy of a Budget Request Form. Students can and should talk with a Financial Aid Counselor at 979.845.3236 for more information.

Sponsorships
Many students studying abroad raise money through their own personal connections and networking. The Study Abroad Programs Office has made arrangements with the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office to have such donations sent directly to Texas A&M in his/her name to be applied directly to tuition and fees.