

STUDY ABROAD IN SANTA ANA,

COSTA RICA

AQ **ADVANTAGE** 

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Aquinas College Costa Rica Program is located in Santa Ana, Costa Rica (approx. 20 minutes from San Jose). The program coincides roughly with the dates of the Aquinas College Spring Semester.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be full-time students of at least sophomore status who have completed WL301 with a grade of C or better or its test equivalent. Participants should be open to the cross-cultural experience and living with Costa Rican families, have an interest in service learning, and be in good academic and disciplinary standing. Students must be eligible to take SH 302 at the time of participation.



ACADEMICS

REQUIRED:

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| • WL302 Advanced Spanish Conversation | 3 credits |
| • WL260 Tropical Ecology | 3 credits |
| • WL 364 Culture and History of Costa Rica | 4 credits |
| • WL371 Service Learning: Reforestation | 3 credits |

ELECTIVES:

- | | |
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| • WL499 Latin American Dance | 1 credit |
| • WL 328 Costa Rican Literature (prerequisite of SH301) | 3 credits |



HOUSING

Students stay in homes with Costa Rican families in Santa Ana.



SERVICE-LEARNING:

In accordance with the program's focus on the Costa Rican culture and ecology, the primary service-learning opportunity is the Reforestation Project under the guidance of Costa Rican National Ministries and the Santa Ana Municipality.

"Before this trip, I had never been out of the country before. I was nervous but extremely excited, and I was ready to get out there and explore a new place and culture. My host parents and sisters invited me in and treated me as a family member, and the program director, Don Jorge and his wife, Dona Ana were absolutely amazing! They taught us so much about life in Costa Rica, and every weekend we took excursions to a different part of the country. Being totally immersed in a new culture, away from home and family, where I had to speak a foreign language and I was not around anything familiar, really helped me grow as a person. My time in Costa Rica and learning everything about it expanded my horizons, and now it's made me want to travel to other places as well. By the end of the trip, I could definitely call Costa Rica my second home, and I'm still in contact with my host family. I highly encourage everyone to study abroad; there are so many new and wonderful opportunities out there, and you will make friends and memories that will last a long, long time!"

–Emily Hillman
Costa Rica Alumnus 2013

"Leaving Costa Rica at the end of my semester abroad was one of the hardest things I have done in my life. I know that, since the semester has ended, I will never have an experience like this past semester again. The Costa Rica study abroad is a unique experience, simultaneously challenging and extremely rewarding.

The entire semester was a rewarding one, but one quality about which I continue to think since the semester has ended is how inspirational the experience was. Regardless of the student's field of study (besides Spanish, of course), I was continually amazed by the ability of the program's faculty, and particularly of the program director, don Jorge, to use the culture and ecology of Costa Rica to engage with everyone's specialties"

–Alyssa Willson
Costa Rica Alumnus 2017

COST 2019-2020

Aquinas Spring semester full-time tuition + estimated program fee of \$7600 (program fees will be confirmed in acceptance letters).

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:

- Flight
- Course Instruction
- Room & Board for duration of program
- Group excursions

OTHER COSTS:

Passport; textbooks; personal spending on gifts, food, travel, etc.; postage; immunizations.

MORE INFORMATION:

To watch videos about Aquinas College International Programs or for more information about this program, visit our website:
www.aquinas.edu/study-away

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