

Why study in Costa Rica?

Costa Rica offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the country's language and culture while surrounded by unparalleled natural beauty. With a population of over four million, Costa Rica boasts a high literacy rate and a commendable health care system. Costa Ricans are also dedicated to promoting harmony between nature, community development and economic growth.



Carrillos & Alajuela

The town of Carrillos and the ICLC offer a traditional "Tico" (Costa Rican) environment, a village full of friendly people who were born and raised in the village. The capital of the province, Alajuela, is located a 15 minute bus ride from Carrillos. San Jose the country's capital is about an hour by bus.



EXPLORING COSTA RICA

Visits to the following sites:

- Poás volcano
- La Paz waterfalls
- Doka coffee farm
- The village of Grecia
- The city of Alajuela
- The capital, San José
- Wood jewelry factory
- Manuel A. National Park

Minimum number of students: 10

Maximum number of students: 20

Estimated costs: TBA

Applications available: April 1, 2014

Early applications due: April 15, 2014

Last day to apply: July 31, 2014

Instructor: Mayra Taylor



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J-TERM 2015 SPA 125: INTENSIVE SPANISH



LEARN SPANISH IN
BEAUTIFUL

COSTA RICA

NO LANGUAGE
REQUIREMENT

THE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

The Instituto de Cultura y Lengua Costarricense (ICLC) is a private language institute founded in 1992 by two Costa Rican educators specializing in teaching Spanish to foreigners. Classes are held in outdoor classrooms surrounded by tropical flowers and fruit trees. Spanish language courses and workload at the institute are intense & rigorous with an emphasis on culture.



Gustavus student planting trees
at the ICLC

HOMESTAYS

To enrich the language learning experience and take full advantage of the culture you will be housed with a carefully selected host family. This gives you the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the Costa Rican way of life and typical traditions.



Gusties learning about medicinal plants

Is there a language Requirement?

NO! Only the desire to learn Spanish language and culture are required for this class. Students at all levels of Spanish are welcome and encouraged to apply.



COURSE PLAN

At the beginning of J-term, students will spend a number of hours together off-campus learning about the culture of Costa Rica and will then spend three weeks at a language institute in the town of Carrillos in Costa Rica. Small classes (4-5 students) meet from 8 – 12 M-F. Although the main academic focus will be Spanish language and culture, the classes will also explore the effects of globalization on Costa Rica through lectures at the institute and visits to sites including national parks, rainforests and businesses. The final grade is based on the grade at the institute, participation in activities and a final paper due upon return to Gustavus.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

SERVICE

During the last week of the program, students will participate in a service activity that consists of three 2-hous sessions teaching English to children from the local schools.