Dive into a unique educational experience with the people, culture, and natural environment of the beautiful, diverse nation of Costa Rica.

For more than 50 years, the Associated Colleges of the Midwest has built dynamic connections throughout Costa Rica to offer students distinctive off-campus study programs.

FOR BOTH PROGRAMS…

HOUSING
Homestay with Costa Rican host families.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
Second-year level college coursework in Spanish, taken the year prior to the start of the program, is recommended.

FIELD TRIPS
Students visit agricultural areas and fishing communities, clinics and schools, and businesses and cooperatives. A multi-day trip to neighboring country Nicaragua includes a boat tour, hiking through Montebello Private Natural Reserve, and a trip to Masaya Volcano National Park.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
March 15 — Fall program and early deadline for spring program
October 15 — Spring semester program
November 15 — Spring quarter/trimester program

Apply at ACM.edu/apply and check with your Off-Campus Study Office about your college’s application procedures and deadlines.

Beloit College - Carleton College - Coe College - Colorado College
Cornell College - Grinnell College - Knox College - Lake Forest College
Lawrence University - Luther College - Macalester College
Monmouth College - Buon College - St. Olaf College

Begin your adventure at ACM.edu/programs.
Explore Costa Rica through a comprehensive Spanish language program, coursework, field experiences, cultural activities, and a community practicum experience. You’ll be immersed in a Spanish-speaking environment for the entire semester, giving you an opportunity to significantly improve your language skills.

In the classroom, guest speakers will share their expertise in literature, politics, conservation, social issues, and other topics. During a month-long practicum, you’ll gain hands-on experience working in a rural community or in the capital city of San José. Choose from areas of academic focus in environmental studies, public health, social issues, and other topics. During a month-long practicum, giving you an opportunity to significantly improve your language skills.

Experience living and working as an independent field researcher. You’ll split your time between San José and a site in Costa Rica specifically selected for your field research topic. Spanish language instruction is tailored to your needs as a field researcher in the Costa Rican cultural context.

You’ll have flexibility in setting your own schedule and research goals, and you’ll work with prominent research specialists and scholars who are matched with you based on your specific research interests. These advisors will assist you in all aspects of the research process, from proposal preparation to field work to writing and presenting your paper. Many students have presented their research projects at conferences and published their papers in academic journals.

### COURSES

**Spanish Language and Culture**
- **Fall**: Recommended credit is 16 semester credits or the equivalent. All courses are taught in Spanish. Students with advanced language proficiency can also take advantage of a dual enrollment option at the University of Costa Rica, choosing one of three options: Intro to Costa Rica - Introduction to Costa Rica: An overview of current social and historical issues in Costa Rica, with readings, discussions, guest lecturers, and field trips. Spanish Language and Culture: Small Spanish tutorial classes taught by native-speaking instructors at a variety of levels. Community Engagement in Costa Rica: Includes a month-long practicum in which students engage with a local community organization. Elective Course: Choose one of three options: Impact of the Health System in Costa Rica; Impact of Education in Costa Rica; Impact of the Environment in Costa Rica. Recommended credit is 16 semester credits or the equivalent. Students can also take advantage of a dual enrollment option at the University of Costa Rica, choosing one of three options: Intro to Costa Rica - Introduction to Costa Rica: An overview of current social and historical issues in Costa Rica, with readings, discussions, guest lecturers, and field trips. Spanish Language and Culture: Small Spanish tutorial classes taught by native-speaking instructors at a variety of levels. Community Engagement in Costa Rica: Includes a month-long practicum in which students engage with a local community organization. Elective Course: Choose one of three options: Impact of the Health System in Costa Rica; Impact of Education in Costa Rica; Impact of the Environment in Costa Rica.

**Research Paper and Seminar Course**
- **Spring**: During the final weeks in San José, students complete their research papers in consultation with their advisors and present the results to the group.

### Dates

**Fall Semester**
- (Late August - Early December)
- (Late January - Mid-May)

**Spring Semester**
- (Late March - Mid-June)

### Spring Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks 1-4</th>
<th>Weeks 5-12</th>
<th>Weeks 13-16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field Research &amp; Design</td>
<td>Field Research at sites throughout Costa Rica</td>
<td>Research Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Language &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Spanish Language &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Honeymon San José</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Spring Quarter/Trimester**
- For students from colleges on quarter/trimester or block schedules.
- Recommended credit is equivalent to a quarter/trimester on the home campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 1-4</td>
<td>Weeks 5-8</td>
<td>Weeks 9-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Research &amp; Design</td>
<td>Field Research at sites throughout Costa Rica</td>
<td>Research Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Language &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Spanish Language &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Honeymon San José</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>