

COSTA RICA

Biodesign and Sustainability



chatham
ABROAD

The world is calling.

Summer 2022



LOCATION


Costa Rica is a country located in Central America, known for its beautiful beaches, mountains, and bio-diversity. It is home to 5% of the world's bio-diversity while occupying only 0.03% of the earth's surface. The country has adopted a plan to achieve a Net Zero Emissions economy by 2050 in accord with the Paris Climate Change Agreement. This field experience will take place on the campus of Veritas University in San José, the capital city, and surrounding natural and sustainable sites. The university design spaces, and state of the art biology and fabrication labs will be used for indoor classes.

COURSE WORK AND HIGHLIGHTS

In the first week students will be introduced to Biomimicry strategies and techniques while traveling to private and government sustainable sites throughout Costa Rica, ending at the Monteverde Reserve. Biomimicry, or looking to nature or natural systems to solve complex problems, will form a central theme of the course. The next two weeks will be spent exploring and examining Costa Rica's diversity, using Biomimetic design principles, and prototyping solutions. Throughout the course students will be working with architects, designers, and social and business entrepreneurs to get a broader understanding of Costa Rica's sustainability initiatives and how to apply biomimicry principles to decarbonization and other sustainability issues. Weekends provide the opportunity for students to travel on their own to various beach destinations or on guided expeditions to mountain, rainforest, or volcano locations.

HOUSING

Students will stay within a mile of campus, with families who are part of the University's Homestay Program. A university shuttle is available for transportation if desired. Each family has been vetted and interviewed to assure quality standards. Students will have private rooms that include laundry service, cleaning, breakfast, and most dinners.



ELIGIBILITY

Chatham undergraduate students must have good academic standing and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher at the time of application and at the commencement of spring 2022 term. Students must have completed at least 30 undergraduate credits at the time of travel, including at least 15 credits completed at Chatham at the time of travel.

Students must have good judicial standing (to be verified by Office of Student Affairs) and good financial standing at Chatham (to be verified by Student Accounts).

Students must be current Chatham students at the time of the field experience to participate.



COSTA RICA: SUMMER 2022

TENTATIVE DATES May 22-June 11, 2022

PROGRAM FEE \$4,015

The fee includes roundtrip air transportation, daily breakfast and dinner with host family, travel insurance, tuition and registration fees, course materials for prototyping, homestay housing with half-pension, local transportation, double occupancy accommodation on field trips, and city tour.

TUITION AND COLLEGE FEES 6 credits tuition included (will transfer from Universidad Veritas)

Chatham undergraduate students may be eligible for a \$1,200 study abroad voucher and a \$1,800 International Studies Certificate voucher. Students must meet eligibility requirements. See application at chatham.abroadoffice.net for details.

APPLICATION DEADLINE December 3, 2021

MINIMUM ENROLLMENT 12 students. Each field experience is self-supporting and must meet its minimum enrollment number or it will be cancelled.

This field experience is conditionally approved and will only run if health and safety conditions, including Costa Rica visa and entry restrictions, US Dept of State Travel Warning and CDC Travel Health Notice, permit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Saglinda Roberts
s.roberts@chatham.edu

Office of International Affairs
Falk Hall, lower level
412-365-1388
internationalaffairs@chatham.edu
chatham.edu/academics/international