

*Live the Language
Learn the Culture*

Foreign Language and Cultural Immersion Since 1968
**NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTER
FOR STUDY ABROAD**



Costa Rica 2008-2009

For more information please visit: www.nrcca.com

NRCCA is a proud member of:



National Registration Center for Study Abroad
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National Registration Center for Study Abroad (NRCSA)

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Learn the Culture  Live the Language  Since 1968

CITY AND SCHOOL INFORMATION - SANTA ANA, COSTA RICA

ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND THE CITY

Centro Linguístico, founded in 1974, is dedicated to the teaching of Spanish and English as foreign languages. Over the years, the school have always adhered to three rules:

- * keep the instruction practical
- * keep the groups small
- * make sure the instructors are educated native speakers.

For the student who prefers to be in **San Jose**, the in-town school is comfortable and conveniently located. For the student wanting a more rural setting, Centro Linguístico has a lovely six-acre campus on a hillside near Santa Ana, just ten miles west of San Jose. Both locations have Internet Cafés nearby offering good service to their students.

At the San Jose campus, located on Calle 38, just off the busy Paseo Colón, The offers a wide range of Spanish courses. The Centro Colón building is one block from Conversa, and is also a major bus-stop. The complex boasts two movie theaters, a large Quality Hotel, several restaurants and a post office. Just two blocks away is the Sabana Park, a fifty-acre recreational area with sports facilities. Tennis, jogging and picnic areas are available.

In 1980, Centro Linguístico purchased a six-acre campus near San José and launched the High Intensity Spanish Program, designed along Peace Corps training lines. The **Santa Ana** campus is located on a hilltop about ten miles west of San José. It has a dining hall, a lounge, twenty classrooms (sixteen indoors and four outdoors), two lodges, a fifty-foot long swimming pool, a volleyball court, a basketball court, a tennis backboard, ping-pong tables, a bathhouse (solar heated showers), two meeting rooms (T.V. and VCR), and lots of hammocks.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Centro Linguístico's methodology is "Constant Contact". Students develop a wide range of personal contacts with native Spanish speakers as a result of their daily routine.

Language Programs

In San Jose, Conversa offers a 4 hour per day, 20 hours per week program model in the morning.

In Santa Ana, the school offers a choice of either 4 hours per day, 20 hours per week, or 5 1/2 hours per day, 28 hours per week.

Students are tested on day one, right after the orientation session. Small, homogeneous groups are formed, maximum four students per group. Students are exposed to a new instructor each week. The instruction is entirely in Spanish, and each week a specific grammatical sequence is presented. A portion of each day is dedicated to the correction of workbook exercises, and about one hour per day of homework is required.

Children Program

Children accompanying a parent have various daycare options as well as Spanish study. However, each arrangement is "tailor-made" and costs are adjusted accordingly. At least 8 weeks advance notice is required to arrange a children's program.

Volunteer Opportunities

Centro Linguístico can assist those students interested in volunteering in Costa Rica while they study by getting in contact with organizations in the area. Organizations such as Habitat for Humanity in Santa Ana, and retirement homes and rehabilitation centers in San Jose are some examples. Please Note that this is not a formal volunteer program. Conversa does not directly organize or offer support to these organizations or programs.

ACCOMMODATIONS

In San Jose, the school housing coordinator will place you with a Costa Rican family (one student per family) in a conveniently located neighborhood. Students should provide for their own lunches and bus transportation to and from school. Your hosts will provide you with a private room, breakfast, dinner and laundry service.

In Santa Ana, Centro Linguístico will place you with a Costa Rican family (one student or married couple per family) in the town of Santa Ana. Your hosts will provide you with a private room, breakfast, dinner and laundry service. The school will serve lunch at the campus on week days.

Centro Linguístico offers two alternatives to the host family program in Santa. The first is "La Casona", an attractive lodge with six bedrooms, each with a private bathroom. The second is "La Casita", a smaller lodge made up of two family suites, each with its own bathroom.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Cultural & Social Activities

Centro Linguístico offers a variety of student activities at both locations, such as Evening Cookouts, Latin Dance class in San Jose, and Fieldtrips to museums and markets.

TO REGISTER:

Complete the NRCSA Preregistration Form or contact the National Registration Center for Study Abroad at, P.O. Box 1393, Milwaukee, WI 53201 USA, or by calling (414) 278-0631; by Fax (414) 271-8884.

Check out our website at <http://www.nrcea.com> or e-mail us at study@nrcea.com

Program & Admission Information - Santa Ana, Costa Rica

Programs



The methodology used is that of "Constant Contact". Students develop a wide range of personal contacts with native Spanish speakers as a result of their daily routine, such as chatting with a staff member on the morning jeep ride out to the Santa Ana campus, asking the gardener about a particular variety of citrus fruit, sharing a recipe with the cooks, or punching out a homework exercise with a member of their Costa Rican host family.

The Language Programs

In Santa Ana, we offer a choice of either 4 hours per day, 20 hours per week, or 5 1/2 hours per day, 28 hours per week.

Students are tested on the first day of classes, right after the orientation session. Small, homogeneous groups are formed, maximum four students per group. Students are exposed to a new instructor for each week of the program. The instruction is entirely in Spanish, and each week a specific grammatical sequence is presented. The instructors are skilled in blending conversation with grammar to meet the individual needs of the group members. A portion of each day is dedicated to the correction of workbook exercises, and about one hour per day of homework is required. Students are frequently moved from one group to another during the program to maintain smooth functioning and to maximize individual progress. Students are frequently moved from one group to another during the program to maintain smooth functioning and to maximize individual progress.



Children Program

The Children's Program is limited to children 6 - 12 years old, whose parents are enrolled at the school. The program includes lodging with the parent(s) in a Costa Rican homestay. Each program is tailored to the child's age and language proficiency. Programs are taught by experienced instructors and include two hours per morning of formal classroom instruction and two hours of supervised recreational activities entirely in Spanish. These activities may include coloring, puzzles, games, videos or sports.

Child Care Program

The Child Care Program is available only to children whose parents are enrolled at the school, and includes lodging with the parent(s) in a Costa Rican homestay. The supervision is for children between the ages of 1 and 5, and takes place in the homestay or on-campus.

Volunteer Opportunities

We can assist those students interested in volunteering in Costa Rica while they study by getting in contact with organizations in the area. Organizations such as Habitat for Humanity in Santa Ana, and retirement homes and rehabilitation centers in San Jose are some examples.

*Please Note that this is not a formal volunteer program. We do not formally organize or offer support to these organizations or programs.

For A-Day-At-A-Glance view of the program.

08:15 Arrive at School by Jeep
08:30 - 10:30 Classes
10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break (fruit, snack)
11:00 - 13:00 Classes
13:00 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - Classes for Intensive Program Students (Group 28 hours per week)

* Day-At-A-Glance is a sample day and will vary depending on enrollment, time of year, lodging, etc. It is designed to show content rather than precise scheduling.

Admissions & Academic Credit

We welcome students age 15 years and older regardless of educational background, occupation or nationality. Students under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult. No previous knowledge of Spanish is required except where otherwise indicated.

Students desiring credit for their study programs should contact their home school or request the NRCSA Credit Fact Sheet. Conversa has arranged study programs for many U.S. colleges for which credit has been given. Generally, U.S. universities consider 15 hours of study to be equal to 1 semester credit.

For more information about academic credit in Spanish speaking countries, [please click here](#).
For general information on academic credit, [please click here](#).

Programs

Group Program
Children's Program
Volunteer
Opportunities

Admission &
Academic Credit

Activities

Cultural, Social &
Fieldtrip Activities

Comments

"I feel that the thing I enjoyed most was having the opportunity to meet people from all over the world. I don't know how you could improve this program, it was great! I feel that students who would like an intensive program should try this. I highly recommend it. I feel that my knowledge of Spanish greatly improved with this program ...this new skill will be of great help in the future."

Student, Valley Mills, TX.

"Living with a great family. Meeting the other students and traveling on the weekends. I also enjoyed my teacher who I had for private lessons."

University Student, Milford, CT

"Santa Anna campus is beautiful, and a terrific environment to learn in. Second best thing was chance to see Costa Rica a little. All together, the school is staffed by very nice, competent people, and the operation is well-run. I had very few complaints. I would gladly recommend this school."

Retired, Glen Rock, NJ

ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Foreign language immersion classes
- ✓ Small interactive group and/or one-on-one instruction
- ✓ Culture program integrated into conversation classes, activities
- ✓ Meet-the-People interaction at school, homestays, & community events
- ✓ Orientation covering attractions, how to, health, safety, entertainment
- ✓ Academic assessments, placement-exit tests, Achievement Certificate
- ✓ Lodging (reduced fee if no lodging needed)
- ✓ Meals and/or cooking facilities at most centres
- ✓ Insurance: medical and accident - see below
- ✓ Emergency Hotline staffed 24 hours/day - see below
- ✓ Housing Coordinator familiar with area homestays, apartments, hotels
- ✓ Activity Coordinator facilitates transfers, cultural/social activities, tours
- ✓ Program Director experienced working with foreign participants
- ✓ Qualified, experienced, and certified educators
- ✓ Weekly proficiency goals and progress assessments
- ✓ Planning and Orientation materials
- ✓ International Ambiance, participants from around-the-world welcome
- ✓ Telecom assistance, web/e-mail access, usually on-site
- ✓ Local taxes for included services
- ✓ 24:7 Culture Immersion w/ native speakers: class, homestay, community
- ✓ **ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE the following INSURANCE***

ACCIDENT INSURANCE up to \$10,000 SICKNESS INSURANCE up to \$10,000

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION up to \$25,000

EMERGENCY REUNION up to \$5,000

REPATRIATION up to \$7,500

LIFE INSURANCE \$5,000

plus

24 HOUR EMERGENCY WORLDWIDE MULTI-LINGUAL TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

MANY ALSO OFFER

- ✓ **Tours:** cultural visits, day and weekend fieldtrips
- ✓ **Art:** classes/workshops, craft, dance, theater, fashion, music, photo
- ✓ **Humanities:** culture, area studies, hist, lit, gov't, educ, comm, plus...
- ✓ **Health:** golf, swimming, tennis, diving, skiing, riding, plus...
- ✓ **Special:** vocabulary classes tailored to your professional needs
- ✓ **Lodging:** homestay, apartment, dorm, hotel, special diet
- ✓ **Food:** home cooking, cooking classes, dine-around, wine tasting
- ✓ **Family:** services, daycare, child classes, community services
- ✓ **Teacher:** training, workshops, practicums, practice teaching, ECH
- ✓ **Teen:** camps and youth programs (including experiential)
- ✓ **University:** credit, undergraduate and graduate
- ✓ **Professional:** development credit in many fields, licensure, CEU
- ✓ **Volunteer:** medical, social service, ecology, teach plus...
- ✓ **Internships:** business, media, arts, eco, tourism, computer, plus...
- ✓ **Business:** classes, visits, networking, executive support services
- ✓ **Peer-to-Peer:** share interests, network by profession or hobby
- ✓ **Current Events & Professional Workshops, Holiday Courses**
- ✓ **Distance** educ liaison service, independent studies, research assist
- ✓ **Free** books and course materials. Return at end of studies
- ✓ **Free** airport transfers and internet access
- ✓ **Assessment** reports for attendance, progress, acculturation if needed
- ✓ **Medical:** professional training, law, social work, sciences etc.

** If you have a problem while studying abroad, call the 24 hour hotline! Call Any Time from Anywhere! Medical or travel emergencies, legal or medical or embassy referrals, lost passport or luggage, emergency message relay, coordinating emergency prescription replacement or cash transfer, emergency translations, 24-hour medical monitoring. Problems seldom occur, but when they do, it is nice to know insurance and worldwide assistance are included in your cost for study dates prepaid through NRCSA as reflected on your NRCSA confirmation. Additional optional insurance available upon request. Refer to the certificate for specific terms, conditions and other details regarding benefits, limitations, eligibility and exclusions of this plan. Questions? Contact NRCSA: Tel: 414-278-0631 ... E-Mail: info@nrcca.com ... Web: <http://www.nrcca.com>*

For Questions, Concerns, or Registration, Contact NRCSA
National Registration Center for Study Abroad * Box 1393, Milwaukee WI 53201 USA
Tel 414-278-0631 * Fax 414-271-8884* www.nrcca.com * info@nrcca.com
Since 1968 * Language-Culture Immersion Worldwide * Start Weekly * All Ages * Credit, CEU or Enrichment

PREREGISTRATION FORM – NRCSA PROGRAMS

1. Complete & send to NRCSA, P.O. Box 1393, Milwaukee, WI 53201, USA • Tel. (414) 278-0631 • Fax (414) 271-8884 • Web: www.nrca.com
2. Enclose a non-refundable deposit/registration fee of \$140 per person, per program, payable to NRCSA (\$40 registration fee & \$100 program deposit applied towards the program costs).
3. Register early. Add \$40 per person late enrollment fee if paying in full within 40 days of departure. Within 20 days, payments by certified check.
4. Credit Cards may be used for deposits (see "H" below). NRCSA street address for overnight deliveries is 207 East Buffalo Street, Suite 610, Milwaukee, WI 53202 USA. You are welcome to photocopy this form. Please send separate form for each school if taking multiple programs.

A. Name(s) _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____ Citizenship _____
Please print
 _____ Employer _____ Occupation _____
If student, school attending and year

Street: _____ Tel. Home: _____
Street address (not P.O. Box) where someone can sign for documents sent to you.
 City/State/Zip: _____ Tel. Work: _____
 Fax: _____
 E-mail: _____

In Emergency, notify: _____
(Name, Address, Phone)

B. BACKGROUND: _____
Describe your background in the course you're taking abroad. Check your ability level: Beginner Post Beginner
 Intermediate Advanced

C. LODGING: _____
Schools will try (cannot guarantee) to meet them. Special Diet (may be available) at additional cost.

D. GOALS: _____

E. INSURANCE: Includes prepaid study dates. To extend coverage up to 30 days before/after study dates, add \$5/day or \$19/week and advise dates.

Check Preferences.

- Single Share Twin Other: _____
 Yes Smoking No Smoking Either
 Yes Pets No Pets Either
 Yes Children No Children Either

- PREFER:** Homestay Involvement Freedom to Come/Go
ARE YOU? Quiet Outgoing Frequent Traveler
OBJECTIVES: Enrichment Academic Credit Job Related
HOBBIES: Reading Music Cooking Jogging Sports

F. PROGRAM INFORMATION	School/Center
Program Name (use title from Dates & Fees)	City/Country
Date: Start Program	Date: Start Lodging (most start day before)
No. of hours day/week	No. of weeks attending
Disabilities/Allergies/Health Problems	2nd Choice Program
How did you learn about NRCSA?	Social Security Number
Options (see program for choices)	
Your Signature (if you are under age 18, both parents must also sign)	

INSURANCE INCLUDED for PRE-PAID STUDY DATES

ACCIDENT / MEDICAL INSURANCE UP TO \$10,000

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION UP TO \$25,000

EMERGENCY REUNION UP TO \$5,000

REPATRIATION UP TO \$7,500

LIFE INSURANCE \$5,000

24 HOUR EMERGENCY WORLDWIDE-MULTI-LINGUAL TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

For More Info: <http://www.nrca.com/INS24hrHotline.html>

H. CREDIT CARDS:

For program deposit only (**not final payment**) check:
 VISA Mastercard American Express Amount Charged \$ _____

_____ / _____
Card Number (13 or more numbers) Exp Date

SIGNATURE (as on card) PRINT name (as on card)

CHANGE FEES of at least \$35 apply for each change you make. Some "changes" may result in cancellation fees.

CANCELLATIONS are effective the day received in writing by NRCSA in Milwaukee. All payments less \$140 per program fully refundable up to 60 days prior to departure. For cancellations within 60 days of departure, \$250 per person is not refundable; within 40 days of departure, less 50% of program cost or \$300 per person (whichever is greater); within 14 days of departure, 100% of program cost is non refundable. Airline cancellation penalties, if any, are in addition to those outlined above. Cancellation penalties are per person, per program. Medical, baggage (above that included) and cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Attach a note if you have a medical condition or Rx which the school/center should know about.

CONDITIONS: Each institution listed herein is independent of the National Registration Center for Study Abroad (hereinafter referred to as NRCSA, controls, and will periodically make changes in the program. Classes may fill, be changed, or dropped by the sponsoring academic institutions. NRCSA is a division of Mibar Ltd. and is not responsible for these changes or other actions beyond its control such as strikes, postal delays or loss, mechanical breakdowns, weather, government actions, delay or acts/omissions of suppliers. NRCSA may make changes or substitutions or cancel any program. In the event of entire program cancellation by NRCSA, liability is limited to refunding all monies paid to NRCSA for said program. Passengers electing not to use portions of a program shall not be entitled to a refund. No agent or representative of NRCSA shall have the right to alter the provisions listed herein. Costs based on tariffs and exchange rates effective the date of printing of this material, and are subject to change. Additional costs resulting from such change will be paid by the participant. Registrations are valid when accepted by NRCSA in Milwaukee. The passage contract used by the airline, when issued, is the sole agreement between it and you. Photographs of or statements by participants may be used by NRCSA. NRCSA, group leaders or foreign coordinators, at their discretion, may get medical assistance for participants, or place them in a hospital, or fly them back to the U.S. for medical treatment. All costs related to medical treatment or evacuation will be paid by the participant. As visitors you are expected to adhere to foreign rules and customs. If the foreign staff feels you are not adhering to these rules and customs, your participation in the program shall terminate immediately without refund whatsoever. A "homestay" is defined as living with a local person(s) in the foreign country and may not be multi generational, multinational, etc. It is the responsibility of the participant to have required proof of citizenship and visa(s) if applicable - check with the consulate of the country(s) you will be visiting.

INFORMATION USE: Information provided to NRCSA will be shared with participating organizations to facilitate your registration.

NOTE: Classes canceled in honor of local holidays are not made up. Foreign Language schools use placement tests. If there is no group at your level, smaller group or tutor classes may be substituted with fewer hours per week. Classes are conducted entirely in the target language. See **Fast Facts Guide** for more information.