

*Live the Language
Learn the Culture*

Foreign Language and Cultural Immersion Since 1968

NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTER FOR STUDY ABROAD



Costa Rica 2008-2009

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National Registration Center for Study Abroad (NRCSA)

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Learn the Culture  Live the Language  Since 1968

ESCUELA DE ESPAÑOL - MANUEL ANTONIO BEACH, COSTA RICA

ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND THE CITY

Escuela de Español offers a unique learning opportunity. Located near beautiful beaches on the Pacific coast, La Escuela is also adjacent to Manuel Antonio National Park, one of Central America's most spectacular rain forests. Students have the chance to improve their language skills and study one of the world's most fascinating ecosystems.

The school is located in the small town of Manuel Antonio which is part of the town of Quepos. These two towns are less than 100 miles from San José, on the central Pacific coast of Costa Rica. Quepos, to the north, is a former banana shipping port and the current sports fishing mecca of Costa Rica. Manuel Antonio, on the other hand, is famous for its national park, beautiful beaches, scenic drive and luxurious accommodations.

With the establishment of Manuel Antonio National Park in 1972, the people of Costa Rica decided to preserve for future generations one of the most beautiful and bio-diverse areas in the world. Although it is the country's smallest national park, the stunning beauty and diversity of wildlife in its 683 hectares is unequalled.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

When students arrive at La Escuela de Español, they are given an oral proficiency interview to determine their level. Based on this interview, they are placed tentatively in one of our six levels (Basic I and II, Intermediate I and II and Advanced I and II). Students can move up according to their progress. Classes are from 8:30 to 12:30 or 13.30 to 17.30 Monday-Friday

Once placed in a classes, students will experience the school's total immersion methodology. Classes are conducted completely in Spanish. Custom designed for La Escuela de Español, the curriculum and texts are patented instructional materials.

Language Program

Group 20 hours per week. During four hour sessions - in the morning or in the afternoon - students participate actively in small groups of no more than six students. Each student is assured attention to his individual academic needs. If total immersion becomes a difficulty, we offer supplemental instruction in English once a week in order to clarify any doubts.

One day a week, students participate in a field trip that focuses on a social or environmental issue in the Manuel Antonio area or the town of Quepos. Also free conversational classes are always offered for students to practice before and after class.

Curricula and Textbooks

All the textbooks have been designed by the school and are patented and copy written with the Library of Congress in the United States for their uniqueness. Each lesson in each one of

the textbooks consists of four parts: "Let's get to know the culture" is an introduction to the Costa Rican or Latin American culture and introduces some of the items to be studied in vocabulary and grammar; "Let's get to learn the vocabulary" focuses in the learning of vocabulary; "Let's get to learn to grammar" analyzes and reinforces some of the grammar; and "Let's get to practice what we learned" is a general oral and written practice of what was studied in the previous sections.

Since a good amount of the school's students are either doctors or medical students, D'Amore has also designed a textbook for Medical Spanish. In this textbook, medical students or professionals of the Medical field can learn vocabulary of the human body, illnesses, symptoms, etc.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Homestays

A homestay is recommended to give the student a total immersion experience. Local host families are carefully chosen and provide complete room and board with laundry services included. Other options include hotel lodging or youth hostels. The minimum homestay is two weeks. All homestays are in the town of Quepos.

Hotels

Alternatively, students can choose beach lodging at one of the many hotels and cabinas (youth hostels) which surround the school.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Cultural, Social & Fieldtrip Activities

One day a week, students participate in a field trip that focuses on a social or environmental issue in the Manuel Antonio area or the town of Quepos. Nature lovers enjoy Costa Rica's remarkable diversity of birds, orchids, trees, mammals, fish, butterflies, frogs and other wild things within the exemplary national park system and private protected areas.

TO REGISTER:

Complete the NRCSA Preregistration Form or contact the National Registration Center for Study Abroad at 207 E Buffalo Street, Suite 610 * 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.nrcsa.com> or
e-mail us at study@nrcsa.com

Program & Admission Information Manuel Antonio Beach, Costa Rica

Programs
The Language Program

Admissions &
Academic Credit

Activities
Special Activities

Comments

"I liked getting the opportunity to live with a family and getting to know a new culture and the friendly people. It was a great opportunity to study abroad and a definite eye opening experience that I will never forget."

University Student, Lanoka Harbor, NJ

"The thing that I enjoyed most about my foreign experience was the homestay. The family that I lived with was absolutely wonderful, the school did a good job of choosing families to host students. The family was helpful and always eager to aid me in my Spanish learning process. Living with the family gave me more opportunities to speak Spanish than I would otherwise have had and it taught me many things about the culture of the people and the way they live."

University Student, Kenai, AK

The Program



On the first day of class students are given an oral proficiency interview to determine their level. Based on this interview, they are placed tentatively in one of the six levels offered: Basic I and II, Intermediate I and II and Advanced I and II. Students can move up in level(s) according to their progress. Classes are from 8:30 to 12:30 or 13:30 to 17:30, Monday-Friday

Once placed in a classes, students will experience the a total immersion methodology. Classes are conducted completely in Spanish. Classes are custom designed for each student, and the curriculum and texts are patented instructional materials.

The Language Program

Group 20 hours per week. During four hour sessions, in the morning or in the afternoon, students participate actively in small groups of no more than 6 students. Each student is assured attention to their individual academic needs. If total immersion becomes too difficult for the student supplemental instruction, in English, is available once a week. These sessions are specifically geared to clarify any questions in the material. Also free conversational classes are always offered for students to practice before and after class.

Following the total immersion methodology not only are classes are conducted completely in Spanish, but the interaction with familie and the textbooks are also entirely in Spanish.

All the textbooks have been custom designed and are patented (with the Library of Congress in the United States) for their uniqueness. Each lesson in each textbook consists of four parts: "Let's get to know the culture" is an introduction to the Costa Rican or Latin American culture and introduces some of the items to be studied in vocabulary and grammar; "Let's get to learn the vocabulary" focuses in the learning of vocabulary; "Let's get to learn to grammar" analyzes and reinforces some of the grammar; and "Let's get to practice what we learned" is a general oral and written practice of what was studied in the previous sections.

Since a good number of students are either doctors or medical students, a textbook is also designed to accomodate students seeking Medical Spanish. In this textbook, medical students or professionals of the Medical field can learn vocabulary of the human body, illnesses, symptoms, etc.

Admissions & Academic Credit

Students desiring credit for their study program should contact their home school or request the NRCSA Credit Fact Sheet. 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](#).

Special Activities

Cultural, Social & Fieldtrip Activities



One day a week, students participate in a field trip that focuses on a social or environmental issue in the Manuel Antonio area or the town of Quepos. Nature lovers enjoy Costa Rica's remarkable diversity of birds, orchids, trees, mammals, fish, butterflies, frogs and other wild things within the exemplary national park system and private protected areas. The natural diversity is combined with a variety of outdoor diversions, which range from a horseback tour to a white water river run, from a hike through the forest to a deep water dive, from kicking back at the beach to learning Spanish and living with a Costa Rican family.

There are also cultural attractions to complement the natural ones, so a day in the rain forest can be topped off with a first class meal, or a night spent dancing merengue and salsa. And whatever part of the country you end up visiting, you'll be dealing with Costa Ricans; some of the most friendly and helpful people in the world.

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
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