

# COSTA RICA

## EARTH University



0820

Photo by Valeria A. Morales

### ► ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Available spring, summer, and fall
- Semester program offers sustainability coursework in Spanish
- Easy transfer of credits
- Direct enrollment (you pay tuition to EARTH)

### ► WHY GUÁCIMO?

The rural town of Guácimo is located on the east coast of Costa Rica in an area known for its banana and pineapple plantations and simple lifestyle. Its name is taken from the fast-growing malva family tree, guácimo, native to Central America. The town is a short bus ride away from the zesty flavors of Caribbean beach life, the protected sea turtles of Tortuguero National Park, the natural majesty of the Arenal and Poas volcanoes, the vast wisdom of local indigenous peoples, the colorful arts culture of San José, and the comforting aromas of a caffeine fix at thriving coffee plantations. As a global leader in green economics and sustainable development, unique ecological and social conditions make Costa Rica a wonderful open-air laboratory for the study of urban and rural sustainability.

### ► STUDY AT EARTH UNIVERSITY

Since 1990, EARTH University's innovative educational approach has been preparing young people from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and other regions to contribute to the sustainable development of their home communities while constructing a prosperous and just global society. Located on a safe, sustainable, 8,340-acre campus in the heart of the tropical Costa Rican rainforest, the campus includes an integrated organic farm, butterfly garden, experimental peri-urban farm, and medicinal garden. At EARTH University, you can learn or improve your Spanish while

### ► ELIGIBILITY

- Undergraduate student
- Good academic standing (2.5 GPA)
- Must have studied at Chatham for one year prior to study abroad.

### ► APPLICATION DEADLINES AND PROGRAM DATES

#### SPRING 2021

Application Deadline	October 30, 2020
Entry Date	January 13, 2021

#### SUMMER 2021

Application Deadline	March 30, 2021
Entry Date	Varies: May-July 2021

#### FALL 2021

Application Deadline	March 30, 2021
Entry Date	August 31, 2021

also figuring out how to advance the sustainability of our world. EARTH focuses on active, hands-on, experiential learning to strengthen your education and propel social change.

## ► ACADEMICS

Semester programs at EARTH University are conducted in Spanish; they are best suited for students with an intermediate-to-advanced command of the Spanish language and a love of sustainability. Courses in environmental science, organic agriculture, sustainability, community development and Latin American studies, among others are available.

During the summer, five intensive courses are offered, each exploring a unique approach to sustainability. Students can gain access to projects and practices employed on EARTH University’s campus, as well as numerous notable sites throughout Costa Rica. During these 14-day courses, students join international peers, research partners and renowned professors to learn about critical global sustainability issues. Courses involve lectures, participatory activities and field visits. Interested students are encouraged to register for multiple course sessions.

The internship program at EARTH University offers the opportunity to learn through hands-on, career-focused work experiences in four distinct focus areas: Tropical Crops, Organic Agriculture, Integrated Livestock Management and Peri-Urban Agriculture. Internships are for a minimum of four weeks.

EARTH University also offers intensive language-learning courses as either a standalone study or as a supplement to any of semester, summer or internship programs. For more information on academics, see [www.earth.ac.cr/en/study-at-earth/short-term-international-programs](http://www.earth.ac.cr/en/study-at-earth/short-term-international-programs).

## ► STUDENT SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

EARTH programs include on-site orientation and access to all campus facilities. The student center offers TV rooms and board games, along with pool, Ping-Pong and foosball tables. At La Jama, the on-campus convenience store, students can buy snacks, late-night hot foods, toiletries and other essentials. EARTH’s campus features many fitness facilities – soccer fields, an outdoor swimming pool, basketball court, tennis and badminton courts, and a weight room. In addition, there are paved roads and dirt trails that offer many opportunities for biking, hiking, walking and running. There are plenty of organized evening clubs and courses meeting weekly: basketball, dancing, swimming, badminton, weight training, athletic conditioning, soccer, Frisbee, volleyball, singing, Zumba, yoga and meditation. Students can join a team and participate in soccer and/or volleyball tournaments.

## ► ACCOMMODATIONS

Students share a dorm room in one of the 13 gender-specific student residence halls. Some housing facilities feature energy-efficient lighting, solar-powered water heaters, and a rainwater collection system for toilets. Within each room, students have their own bed, a closet and a study desk with drawers. Each residence includes shared bathrooms and gathering spaces for informal conversations and relaxation time. Cleaning is divided among all residents; students take turns with classmates to maintain their residence halls. The dorms are conveniently located within a very close walking distance of the cafeteria, classrooms, library and laundry facilities. Three meals a day at the on-campus cafeteria are included. Homestays are available for students who wish to fully immerse themselves in Spanish language and local culture.

## ► ESTIMATED COSTS

	SPRING 2021	SUMMER 2021	FALL 2021
<b>Tuition &amp; Fees</b>	\$9,500	\$2,250-12,750*	\$9,500
<b>Housing</b>	Included	Included	Included
<b>Additional Expenses</b>	\$1,500-2,000	\$1,000-2,000	\$1,500-2,000
<b>Approximate Total</b>	\$11,050-11,550	\$3,550-14,750	\$11,050-11,550

\*Summer tuition is based on the number of courses a student takes.

Tuition and fees are an estimate and are subject to change. All tuition and housing fees and dates should be confirmed with the program. Tuition and housing shall be paid directly to EARTH University. Summer tuition is based on the number of courses a student takes. “Additional Expenses” is an estimate for airfare, personal allowance, exit tax, books, insurance and transportation. Students are responsible for all expenses.

Chatham is committed to being as transparent as possible with respect to our study abroad financial arrangements. Financial transactions and business dealings are fully disclosed. Foreign currencies can be converted at [www.xe.com/currencyconverter/](http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/).



## ► TO APPLY

Apply at [www.earth.ac.cr/en/study-at-earth/short-term-international-programs/rai-program-application](http://www.earth.ac.cr/en/study-at-earth/short-term-international-programs/rai-program-application).



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