



QUITO, ECUADOR > STUDY ABROAD



The Ecuador Tropical Ecology Program offers students of Biology and Environmental Science an intensive, field-based scientific investigation of Ecuador's vast and diverse ecosystems, from the Galápagos Islands, to the Andean highlands, to the Amazon basin.

Upon successful completion of the program, students earn 18 Boston University credits.

Ecuador Tropical Ecology Program

HOST INSTITUTION

Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ), a modern private, nondenominational liberal arts university located in a lush valley 20 minutes from downtown Quito, is the home base for the program. It houses classrooms, laboratories, a library, offices, and recreational facilities.

COURSES

Ecology courses are taught in English by faculty from the Universidad San Francisco de Quito and Boston University; however, many of the local naturalists and guides who work for the program speak only Spanish. All courses carry four credits unless otherwise noted.

- Tropical Montane Ecology
- Tropical Coastal Ecology
- Tropical Rainforest Ecology
- Studies in Tropical Ecology (capstone course)
- Intensive Spanish (2 cr.)

FIELD WORK LOCATIONS

- Montane: Day and overnight trips from Quito into the central cordillera of the Andes.
- Coastal: A guided, ship-based scientific expedition to the Galápagos Islands, plus a two-week project at Los Piqueros, near Machalilla National Park on the Pacific Coast.
- Tropical Rainforest: A four-week stay at the BU/USFQ Tiptutini Biodiversity Research Station in the Amazon rain forest.

HOUSING

Students live with Ecuadorian families in Quito (meals seven days a week and laundry services included in housing cost). In the Galápagos Islands, they live on a fully equipped cruise vessel. Safe, rustic housing is provided at other sites. Meals are provided to the students at all locations.

PROGRAM DATES

Fall Semester: late August-late December
Spring Semester: early January-mid-May

ADMISSIONS

- Students must have completed one full year of introductory biology, one course in ecology (BI 303 or BI 306 for BU students; non-BU students should contact Study Abroad to determine their prerequisites)
- One year of college-level Spanish language or the equivalent
- Students admitted to the program must be able to engage in intensive fieldwork for significant periods of time
- Refer to our policy on eligibility/admissions at www.bu.edu/abroad/admissions

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall Semester: March 15
Spring Semester: October 1

2014/2015 PROGRAM COST

\$29,858 per semester. Cost includes tuition, housing, board, all travel and field trips, including the Galápagos Islands and the Amazon rain forest, textbooks, round-trip airfare from a designated US city, emergency evacuation insurance, reimbursement for selected cultural activities, emergency travel assistance coverage, and overseas medical insurance. Financial Aid is available.