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.

CAS BI/GE 438/638 Tropical Montane Ecology
CAS BI/GE 440/640 Tropical Coastal Ecology
CAS BI/GE 439/639 Tropical Rainforest Ecology
CAS BI/GE 441/641 Studies in Tropical Ecology (capstone course)
CAS QU 300 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 ten day project at Los Piqueros, near Machalilla National Park on the Pacific Coast.
• Tropical Rainforest: A four-week stay at the BU/USFQ Tiputini 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: min-August to mid-December
Spring Semester: early January to 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

2015/2016 PROGRAM COST
$31,145 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.