

CISabroad Semester/Summer in Costa Rica Programs: Elective Courses

Please note that Universidad Veritas reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient enrollment (less than 4 students).

ARCH 3112: HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE AND ART

3 credits (48 hours)

This course is a chronological overview of main inventions and influences that contributed to the making of past and present architecture in Latin America analyzing the artistic manifestations.

ARCH 3200: TROPICAL ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

4 credits (60 hours)

The objective is to learn about climatic design in the tropics and develop the skills to analyze a particular geographical situation. Students will become familiarized with restricted resource usage; the knowledge of land and climate and the rural tradition where domestic construction is passed on from one generation to another.

ART 1301: BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DRAWING

3 credits (48 hours)

This studio art course introduces basic principles of drawing. The course includes model drawings, landscape drawings and experimental (abstract) drawings. The focus of this course is on the development of expression and observational drawing from still life, a model and landscapes.

ART 2100: ART FUNDAMENTALS: THEORY AND PRACTICE

3 credits (48 hours)

This course is designed for the beginner to help the student find personal meaning in works of art and develop a better understanding of the nature and validity of art as visual and space language (line, shape, volume, light, space, time, motion, color, and texture). This means that you will learn about the essentials of art through experience and experimentation. Through determination and an open mind, you will increase your creativity and discover more interesting ways to understand and judge the visual arts. Emphasis is on the diversity of form and content in artwork. With willingness to work and an open mind, your experiences in this class will be memorable in a positive way. Upon completion, students should understand the basics of art materials used and have a basic overview of the history of art and how art represents its society, especially, Latin American culture.

ART 2130: MURAL PAINTING AND PUBLIC ART

4 credits (60 hours)

This studio art course introduces theoretical and practical aspects of large-scale painting, murals and public art. The course includes an actual practicum in large-scale media and experimentation of early and contemporary techniques including drawing, fresco, painting, aerosol and various industrial materials. The objective of this course is for students to develop understanding about some of the social roles of art and the impact of murals in communities, based upon its historical and contemporary applications. The course will enable student to control scale, color, specific techniques and safety measures aimed at public spaces. Students will incorporate a Service Learning component by either conducting a collective workshop with children from a rural location or actually painting a collective mural as a donation to a community. The Students fine arts background will help with the complexity of the final collective project but the course does not require previous painting knowledge.

ART 3200: NATIONAL IDENTITY AND ART IN COSTA RICA

3 credits (48 hours)

The course's objectives are designed to supply the basics in Costa Rican cultural history and its links with different processes such as nation building and politics during the first century after its independence from the Spanish empire. Furthermore, it will allow the student to learn about the contextual framework needed for a better understanding of the social representations and ideologies in Costa Rican art history. Therefore, this course is designed to understand art as a social and political practice and as part of a web of symbolical and cultural phenomena.

CHEM 1050 Introduction to the physical and chemical basis of everyday life

This course is designed for students of non-scientific fields that strive to understand the chemical and physical (PChem) basis of everyday life. The goal is to deliver information and promote their own interest in scientific and technical issues through a question/answer approach.

Class demonstrations and field trips are included to illustrate specific subjects. The course concentrates on simple but important aspects of modern day societies, such as X rays and CAT scans, the production and utilization of gasoline and polymers, the chemical fate and impact of chemicals on the environment and a variety of technical and scientific aspects related to human life concerns.

COMM 3070: CREATIVE CONFLICT RESOLUTION

4 credits (60 hours)

A multicultural, gender sensitive course is designed for students who wish to learn strategies and techniques in thought and behavior transformations for conflict resolution. The course focuses on techniques to bring about positive focused changes through continuous experiences in community building and self-improvement. The course is based on the Alternatives to Violence Project; a program started in NY State in the seventies. Fundacion CEPPA, Center for Peace Studies, has implemented this program in Costa Rica, Switzerland and other Latin American countries since 1990. Using a participatory and interactive methodology, emphasis is made on the following themes: Self-esteem and self-care, communication skills, cooperation, community building and conflict resolution, including mediation, bias awareness and cultural diversity. Mandatory fieldwork sessions will be conducted at a school, a communal group or a penal institution.

COMM 3200: INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

3 credits (48 hours)

This course addresses issues of diversity and commonalities amongst human beings, implications and applications according to each situation and professional context. Students will develop skills for intercultural competence.

CTV 3400: DOCUMENTARY APPRECIATION

4 credits (60 contact hours)

The class will focus on the logistical and creative responsibilities of producing a short documentary. Students will work closely with each other, assuming the roles of producers, writers, directors and editors in the process of development and execution of documentaries. Students will learn the primary elements to creating a short documentary and exploit the cultural and environmental elements that filming locations can offer. The final project involves working collaboratively on producing an engaging documentary that may not exceed 6 minutes screentime.

DNCE 2500: THEORY OF LATIN AMERICAN TROPICAL DANCE

3 credits (48 hours)

An introduction to technique, rhythm and movement style of Latin American Tropical Dance, History, anthropology, folklore and songs are part of this experiential course.

ECON 3403: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS IN LATIN AMERICA

3 credits (48 hours) *Pre- Requisite ECON 1000, or ECON 2010 and 2020.*

Examines Latin American policies that affect the international economy, with attention to trade barriers, economic nationalism and regionalism, international political economy, exchange market intervention and international transmission of economic perturbations.

ENV 2500: INTRODUCTION TO GENETICS: CURRENT APPLICATIONS

4 credits (60 hours)

Intro to Genetics focuses on the applications for current issues related to diagnosis of human diseases, paternity, taxonomy, ecology, conservation, agronomy and the environment. After students gain a foundational understanding of genetics and concepts related to genetics, students will perform research projects in Costa Rica. These projects will then be presented and discussed in order to learn what types of questions science can answer using genetics as a tool. Field trips and laboratory practice will provide an opportunity for students to study how samples are collected, processed and analyzed.

ENV 3005: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is an introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Students will examine ecosystems, population patterns and dynamics; use and misuse of resources; population and environmental quality; environmental citizenship and economic incentives and Costa Rican initiatives in eco- tourism.

ENV 3044: TROPICAL ECOLOGY

4 credits (60 hours)

Students will learn about the interactions between earth and land and how these interactions or processes affect our life and the stability of the planet. Emphasis will be given to the study of the most relevant tropical ecosystems such as: tropical rain forest, cloud forests, coral reefs and mangroves. Field trips to selected environments will provide onsite examples of some of the issues learned through class work and readings. All field trips are mandatory.

ENV 3100: NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGY: BIRDS OF COSTA RICA

4 credits (60 hours)

This course serves as an introduction to the main topics of ornithology, with an emphasis on neotropical avifauna. Students will learn about evolutionary relationships, the high species diversity of the neotropics, and the natural history of Costa Rican birds. This course also includes two field trips, where students will be introduced to the main bird groups of Costa Rica, their behavior, and the skills needed to identify them.

ENV 3120: LAND VERTEBRATES OF COSTA RICA

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is an introduction to the zoology of terrestrial vertebrates in Costa Rica. Students will gain insight about various biological characteristics of the groups of land chordates in the country. Costa Rica has an immensely rich animal biodiversity, with an influence of both North American and South American fauna and is a world-renowned hot spot for animal research and conservation.

Emphasis will be given to the study of Costa Rican species, but others will be discussed as well.

ENV 3150: USES IN TROPICAL BOTANY

4 credits (60 hours)

This lecture/field course will provide students with a general overview of tropical plants. Students will gain insight about basic botanical concepts and be able to explore a variety of ecosystems, their plants and the multiple and complex ecological interactions that can be found in these areas. Costa Rica is a tropical country with an immensely rich biodiversity and for this reason a very representative area to these studies. Emphasis will be given to the most common plant families in Costa Rica, but others will be discussed as well.

ENV 3160: CONSERVATION BIOLOGY OF ENDANGERED MARINE SPECIES

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is aimed to highlight the importance of conservation biology in managing endangered marine species by emphasizing recent conservation efforts of umbrella species such as sea turtles and sharks in the Pacific of Costa Rica. Marine ecosystems of the eastern tropical Pacific provide a baseline source for species of high commercial interest in satisfying human demand for food worldwide. However, numerous marine species are threatened by unsustainable human activities such as overfishing and habitat destruction. We will develop a critical understanding of conservation biology, by emphasizing the general concept of biodiversity and in current case studies that focus on scientific investigations to answer critical life history aspects, recovery programs, species management, community conservation actions and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

ENV 3170: FRESHWATER ECOLOGY

4 credits (60 contact hours)

This course will help students understand the physical, chemical, and biological properties of inland aquatic environments, such as wetlands, lakes, rivers, mangroves, and reservoirs. It will emphasize problems and conservation efforts for water resources and will include field trips and lab work to teach you how to monitor aquatic environments.

ENV 3190: TROPICAL MARINE BIOLOGY

4 credits (60 hours)

The course studies the balance between ecosystems and human stress and demands on the constant changing Marine environment. All field trips are mandatory. Certified Divers may pay a \$100 fee in order to complete 2 immersions in each field trip (4 immersions total).

ENV 3740: CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATIONS

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is an introduction to understand climate change, its causes, consequences and the effects it is having on natural populations of plants and animals across the planet, including humans. Mankind is facing several problems due to climate change, and these effects may likely increase in the near future. As temperatures keep increasing, producing major effects on all habitat types, how can animals and plants adapt to such rapid changes? And what are we as humans responsible for global warming are dealing with it? Can we actually answer these questions? Do we have the knowledge to reverse the ongoing conditions, and if so, what is being done worldwide? Finally how is the "political weather" addressing the climate change?

ENV 4030: AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

4 credits (60 hours)

This course will examine agricultural and food systems from an ecological systems perspective. After establishing a foundation of basic ecological concepts (relationships and interactions between abiotic/non-living and biotic/living components of an ecosystem), different applications of these concepts to agricultural systems will be investigated. Consumption and production issues related to food system sustainability will be analyzed, and students will explore their own role in the food system. Field trips will provide opportunities for direct observation of (and interaction with) different approaches to food production and distribution in Costa Rica.

ENV 4040: ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is an introduction to the actual world problems in natural resources management and conservation, and its effects on sustainable development efforts in tropical countries. Current issues that condition the possibility for development such as poverty, global warming, deforestation and potable water will be analyzed.

ETH 3100: SELECTED TOPICS IN AFRO-CARIBBEAN STUDIES**3 credits (48 hours) (Can also count for ETHN 3100 Selected Topics in Ethnic Studies)**

This course examines a particular topic, theme, issue, or problem concerning the Black presence in Costa Rica and Central America. Sample offerings could include Central America and ethnic politics, history and Culture, Blacks in Central American governments, Contemporary Black literature, History of the Black experience in Costa Rica.

GEB 3120: INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**3 credits (48 hours)**

This course seeks to understand the impact of innovation and entrepreneurship on global and local economies as well as patterns of innovation and their impact on cultures and business environments. The content will also include discussions and investigations about important elements of entrepreneurship such as stages of a business, sources of funding, exit strategies and key skills for entrepreneurs.

GEB 3350: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**3 credits (48 hours)**

An overview of cultural environment of international business and the institutions, which affect business today. The Latin American perspective with regard to the U.S., Asia and Europe is examined: NAFTA, Merco Sur, the EC and other common market areas and agreements.

GEB 3500: ECOTOURISM: THE COSTA RICA CASE**4 credits (60 hours)**

The course will offer the chance to analyze this dynamic process from different socio-economic perspectives. It will discuss the economic importance of ecotourism for the Costa Rican national economy, the stimulation of grassroots, community ecotourism projects, and the role of ecotourism in securing environmental protection. The advances and limitations of ecotourism will be explored.

HDD 1020: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHICAL THERAPY**3 credits (48 hours)**

This course will introduce basic concepts of human anatomy, an overview of the most common injuries and illnesses that require physical therapy, and an introduction to the different tools and methods used to treat them. The course will consist of lectures about the theoretical concepts, and also laboratory practice, which will allow the student a hands-on experience of the different techniques given during the lectures. At the end of the course the student will have general knowledge on various areas of expertise, and on techniques such as massage therapy, electrotherapy, and therapeutic exercises, among others.

HDD 1050: ALTERNATIVE HEALTH APPROACHES**4 credits (60 hours)**

This course will introduce basic concepts of alternative medicine. Also this course will explore, and evaluate alternative approaches and philosophies to personal health and wellness. Some of the topics included are: Homeopathy, TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) Acupuncture, Herbal and Nutritional Therapies, Massage, Chiropractic Therapy, Electromagnetic Therapy, Breathing Exercise and others.

HHD 1100 Principles of Medical Entomology in the Tropics

This course focuses on knowing and recognizing the basic biology, identification, classification, impact, and management, of insects that represent hazards to human health. To date, mosquitoes are the most dangerous animals around the world, with more deaths caused by mosquito-vectored diseases than from the attack of any wild animal. In the past several methods have been used to control the outbreaks of these insects, specially pesticide-based which in turn just aggravated the problem because of insecticide resistance. The tropics have been particularly affected by insects with human health impacts. For this reason, several private and public initiatives focus on developing ways to palliate these insects. This course will cover basic and applied aspects of Medical Entomology, with an especial focus on the ecological and socio-economic conditions of the tropics. This course will be based on field trips, talks, the study of multimedia, literature, visits and practical contact with people working on these subjects. Therefore, this course is aimed at any student with an interest in human health, biology, economics, sustainability, and anthropology.

HDD 3070: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND HEALTH CARE

4 credits (60 hours)

This course will introduce basic concepts of alternative medicine.

Health service delivery today encounters frequent conflicts, disputes, and other difficult situations, many of them derived from larger changes occurring in the health systems of the world. These conflicts include differences due to multiculturalism; the appropriateness and quality of care; gender issues; power disputes and providers and recipients over institutional and funding policies. Violence, its effects and costs will be part of this course, particularly under the WHO definition and perspectives. Costa Rican health care systems will be part of the course. This interactive, hands-on course offers a framework to integrate professional experience with functional communication and mediation skills. Students are encouraged to explore and develop their leadership into progress on matters of public health importance. Mandatory fieldwork sessions will be conducted at a medical facility, community or school.

HIS 2302: CONTEMPORARY LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY

3 credits (48 hours)

This course is a survey of the main events in Latin American History after its independence. Topics include the historical causes and effects of the independence, some of the main issues on social, economic and political problems and the main historical leaders in modern Latin America.

HIS3200: History of Land Use and Natural Resources in Ancient Civilizations

3 credits (48 hours)

Students will learn about the relationship ancient civilizations like Egypt, China, Mesopotamia, India, Greece, Rome, the Celts, and the Pre-Columbian Americans had with their environment. Students will explore how these cultures interacted with nature and its resources, as land, forests, water and minerals. In addition, they will be able to identify the main characteristics that allow civilizations to create a sustainable relationship with their surroundings and habitat, if this is the case. This historic overview will allow students to liken and contrast our present day societies with the Ancient World.

HIS 3290: COSTA RICAN ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

3 credits (48 hours)

This course introduces the outstanding socio-economic and political features that have shaped and defined the history and development path of Costa Rica.

HIS 3293: COSTA RICAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

4 credits (60 hours)

Costa Rica's health care system is unique due to the fact that it's socialized and has achieved excellent health indicators. The course focuses on the history and development of the public health care system within the context of the Costa Rican socio political and economic situation. It also gives a strong emphasis on how the

system actually works and points out not only the strongholds of the systems, but also its weak points. A third objective, of fundamental importance in order to understand this system, is the study of Costa Rica as a tropical country. Students will learn about the prevention and transmission of relevant tropical diseases.

HUM 3513: COSTA RICA COLLOQUIUM: HISTORY & CULTURE

3 credits (48 hours)

A general survey of the complex heritage and social evolution of Costa Rica, examined through a comprehensive and multidisciplinary view focusing on the historical development and present day dynamics of economy, society, polity, natural resources and culture. Emphases will be placed upon different topics during the course, according to students' backgrounds and expectations.

MGMT 3030: CREATIVE LEADERSHIP SKILLS

3 credits (48 hours)

Provides the opportunity to learn about and practice the skills required for managerial excellence. These skills include leadership, negotiation, conducting performance appraisals, delegation, effective communication, interviewing and making hiring decisions and effective human resource management.

MKTG 3010: INTERNATIONAL MARKETING MANAGEMENT

3 credits (48 hours)

This course is designed to give the student an understanding of international marketing in terms of both the challenges and opportunities. The course assumes that students are familiar with basic marketing terms and have a basic to mid understanding of marketing concepts. The course will examine the concepts related to international marketing, while students analyze case studies and propose ideas through assignments to attain the objectives of the course.

MKTG 3150: SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

3 credits (48 hours)

This course aims to give students knowledge, capacity, and values to help minimize negative environmental impacts from consumption and production systems while gaining awareness of responsible consumption. The focus will be on a holistic examination of value systems, life-cycle assessment of selected consumer production and their economic, environmental and social impacts. Product responsibility, labor practices, human rights, and societal perspectives are also considered for critical reflection at different levels.

****NEW COURSE** PFA-3000 Performing Arts Production Workshop**

6 credits (96 contact hours)

The Performing Arts Production Workshop is a studio class in which participants explore—and practice—the distinctive components of the production, mounting and staging of an acted/choreographed/musicalized production. The Performing Arts Production Workshop gives participants a rare opportunity to develop their competencies for the performing arts. Our goal is to explore artistic risk-taking in an uplifting environment. The heart of the program is teaching young aspiring performers—and participants in general—how to deliver a performance that connects deeply and authentically with themselves and their audience.

PHIL 3100: COMPARATIVE CLASSICAL PHILOSOPHY

3 credits (48 hours)

An overview of the history and selected concepts in major eastern and western philosophical movements and systems from ancient to the middle age periods. Students will reflect on certain topics such as mind- body, Concept of God, knowledge of self and others, predestination and free will, cause and effect and other fundamental ideas in classical knowledge.

PHOT2100: ECOLOGICAL PHOTOGRAPHY

4 credits (60 hours)

A general knowledge in the reaches and the stages of digital photography. By applying these principles in photographing wildlife, students will develop skills to create clearer images on a given subject.

Students will undertake the task of observing and photographing flora and fauna in its natural environment. The course also studies how to manipulate and arrange images digitally in order to create an effective visual presentation

PHOT 2130:CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY

3 credits (48 hours)

Practical exercises and field trips students will apply the theoretical information provided in lectures to consciously explore Costa Rican culture. The focus of the projects is the creation of photographic images in black and white.

PHOT 2600:DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

3 credits (48 hours)

The course offers a general knowledge in the reaches and the stages of digital photography. Through practice exercises aiming to apply the information provided through lectures, students will be able to consciously create and manipulate digital photographic images.

POL 2500: HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA

3 credits (48 hours)

A particular emphasis will be given to the case of Costa Rica, giving the students an opportunity to explore the development of human rights in the following areas: women's rights, children's rights, HIV/AIDS, the CAFTA agreement and labor rights, indigenous groups and human rights, disability and age issues, and the prison environment.

POL 3100: COSTA RICAN TRADITION: PEACE AND DEMOCRACY

3 credits (48 hours)

The general objective of this course is to discuss, with students, the social, economic and political issues of the process of construction of peace and democracy in Costa Rica and Central America (1948-2005).

POL 3220: MIGRATION, GLOBALIZATION, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

3 credits (48 hours)

The course introduces participants to theories and practices of international human migrations as a phenomena that has been present throughout history, but that has taken on special emphasis in today's world, with human ramifications, and strong effects being produced on societies on both ends of the problem: nations from which peoples are leaving and those that are targeted by the migrants. The course will cover the theoretical foundations for analysis and understanding of emerging issues brought about by intense migration movements across the globe, and the consequent effects that these have on the host societies, the incoming groups and societies left behind by migratory groups. Participants will take part in the analysis of new identities and cultural manifestations that emerge from these occurrences, and the some of the main problems of misunderstandings and adaptations that are necessary in order to reach accommodations that allow for the valuable and peaceful coexistence that eventually leads to an enrichment of the life experience of all groups of peoples involved.

POL 3420: COSTA RICAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY: A HISTORY OF POLICY, POLITICS, AND ACTION

4 credits (60 hours)

In this course, students explore the holistic approaches to environmental management, history, policy, politics and action in Costa Rica and elsewhere. We will examine environmental history and policy at a regional and national level, and explore the emergence of Costa Rica's progressive environmental politics and government commitments (the greening of the public sector, carbon neutrality and others). We will identify people and organizations taking major action in environmental protection, and will take a close look at how government policy translates into practice by reviewing case studies of community and grassroots action in forestry, organic farming, recycling, cooperatives and women's environmental groups. Lastly, we will concentrate on central issues and challenges facing these activities and the resulting environmental conflicts.

POL 3450: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

3 credits (48 hours)

The course will analyze the aspects of the Economic Integration, globalization and conditions for a successful integration between economies and the effects of free trade in the region as well as the effects of protectionism. There will be a special treatment on foreign investments and joint ventures in the Latin America.

PSY 2200: HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

3 credits (48 hours)

The World Health Organization defines health as being “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. Based on this definition, the concepts of health and illness have changed. Nowadays, health care professionals have to tackle the health from a bio-psycho-social concept. For this reason, it is extremely important for health care professionals (doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, just to mention some) to have general information about Health Psychology, which studies how biology, behavior, and social context influence health and illness. In this way, health care professionals can have an integral approach to the patients under their treatment. This will discuss some of the most common topics related with Health Psychology and pertinent to practice in the health care professions.

PSY 3050: CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

3 credits (48 hours)

This course introduces students to the field of psychology that examines the influence of culture upon human behavior and cognitive processes. “Culture” is defined as the shared norms, values, and behaviors of groups and of the individuals in those groups. We will focus on such topics as cultural factors in self-concept, gender roles, motivation, cognition, emotions, relationships, and social values. Our exploration will be based on psychological theories, research, guest lecturers, and field experiences.

SOCY 3050: LGBTQ+ LATIN AMERICA

3 credits (48 hours)

This course will study the LGBTQ+ community and related social issues in the Latin American context. Special attention will be given to the Costa Rican case study where sexuality, identity, expression, health, community, family, and other social, political and lifestyle issues will be discussed. This course offers students one of the only opportunities to study LGBTQ+ Latin American dynamics and issues. It is one of the first of its kind in the region and a pioneering offer for study abroad students in the Costa Rican setting. This is a young, but growing field of study in Latin America and defiantly one that deserves much attention. This course has three main objectives: 1) students will be invited to explore LGBTQ+ Latin American community issues, 2) to appreciate how particular countries are advancing in relation to equality before the law while studying the social groups pushing for change, and 3) to critically assess present day contexts that are struggling with recently developed anti-discriminatory frameworks.

SPN 3010: LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

3 credits (48 hours)

This course introduces students to the richness, variety and ideology of Latin American literature. It will be taught in a chronological format, beginning with older texts and then moving toward contemporary authors, and will also link the readings to additional art forms, particularly film.

SUSD- 2500: BIOMIMICRY LEARNING FROM NATURE'S STRATEGIES

4 credits (60 hours)

This course is designed to introduce students from different backgrounds, interests and career the basic fundamentals of Biomimicry, its methodology and its application as a design tool in creative processes. Participants have the opportunity, through dedicated time and access to sources of interest, to explore the application of these basic foundations in their own field, or area of interest. The course offers the opportunity to connect, see, feel and touch local biodiversity, and to experience the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary nature of Biomimicry, learning how to access and communicate with people from diverse perspectives and experiences.

SUSD 3100: GENDER AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4 credits (60 contact hours)

This course will focus on the intersection between gender, socio-economic discrimination, and sustainable development. Students will explore a number of themes centered around women, the environment, and sustainable innovations with a focus on Costa Rica where possible. While there will be an emphasis on Latin American and Caribbean women, the issue of gender will also be thoroughly introduced, as this course aims to be inclusive and recognizes that there are many gender identities.

TECH 2100: Introduction to programming and coding: Java

This course is an Introduction to programming and coding, focused on teaching the basics in programming to develop projects. The programming language that will be used is Java because of its ease to use and powerful applications in online applets. After understanding the general concepts of programming, at least one project will be developed by the students in order to demonstrate the knowledge gained in an assisted manner with the professor and fellow students.

THEO 3000: THEO-PRAXIS: THEOLOGY FOR LIFE

3 credits (46 hours)

This is a course designed to provide a strong biblical and theological foundation, which is invaluable for the student's personal faith and leadership journey. In it, we will explore a biblical worldview, a survey of Old and New Testament, understanding the Bible as one story, exploring important theological questions in our post-modern era and a brief understanding of world religions. Theopraxis is designed specifically to help students integrate a theological framework with their lives, leadership, and communities.

THEO 3001: HABITUDES: HABITS AND ATTITUDES FOR EMERGING CHRISTIAN LEADERS

3 credits (46 hours)

This course is designed to be used by an instructor who will be leading a group discussion on the four book series called, Habitudes: Images That Form Leadership Habits & Attitudes. In our culture today, students cannot simply survive college life. If life on the university campus is going to prepare them for the uncertain future, they must learn to "lead." They must first lead themselves and then think like a leader as they enter into their chosen field of interest.

THEO 3120: REVOLUTION, SPIRITUALITY, & RELIGION IN LATIN AMERICA

3 credits (48 hours)

This course will provide students with a panoramic view of the influence that spirituality and religion have had in Latin America. The Latin American region represents some of the most diverse spiritual expression in the world, ranging from Budu in Brazil to the more recent expressions of Islam, Judaism and Christianity throughout the entire continent.

The region has also had a tremendous influence on sustainability and ecological thinking. We will review the region's most influential thinkers who have successfully combined religion with sustainability, such as Leonardo Boff. The course will include a historical analysis of various tendencies, and how they have affected the culture, society and politics of the region.

THEO 3150: MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS

3 credits (48 hours)

In this course we will learn about the major world religions: Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and others. We will explore questions such as: What are the core beliefs? Is there an afterlife? What is expected of a follower?

Each religion represents a population of God's sons and daughters, and understanding their worldview will help us to better know how to respect and love them.

Elective Courses Taught in Spanish:

****Please note: Upper-level Spanish electives are offered exclusively to students placed in Advanced I or higher****

COMM 3150: DERECHOS HUMANOS DESDE UNA COMUNICACIÓN CON PERSPECTIVA DE GÉNERO
3 credits (48 hours) Este curso es un estudio de la comunicación e interrelaciones sociales abarcando el concepto de Ecología Humana que se refiere a pensar la vida desde la economía emocional del desarrollo humano. Una vertiente que compone un eje transversal en el conocimiento es la equidad de género hacia la consecución, desde la comunicación, del respeto y la interacción del crecimiento de las personas para que se entablen mejores relaciones humanas y comprender los hechos relevantes de la vida es de una visión del mundo más integradora.

SPN 1002: COMUNICACIÓN ORAL BÁSICA
3 credits (48 hours) Este curso está diseñado para estudiantes de español como segunda lengua que cuentan con un dominio elemental del idioma en los aspectos morfosintácticos, léxico-semántico y fonético-fonológicos, por lo que deben haber aprobado el nivel básico 1. A lo largo del curso, desarrollará su competencia comunicativa oral, que le permitirá desenvolverse de manera efectiva y eficaz en situaciones cotidianas.

SPN 3000: INTRODUCCIÓN AL ANÁLISIS LITERARIO
3 credits (48 hours) El curso ofrece una introducción por parte de los estudiantes al estudio de la literatura en español y presenta los recursos básicos para la elaboración de un comentario o análisis literario. El estudiante adquirirá la terminología necesaria así como métodos críticos que le permitan generar comentarios y explicación de textos informados.

SPN 3020: LECTURAS SELECTAS DE LA LITERATURA LATINOAMERICANA
3 credits (48 hours) Estudio panorámico de autores, corrientes literarias o particularidades de género en la literatura Latinoamericana.

SPN 3050: FONÉTICA Y FONOLOGÍA
3 credits (48 hours) En este curso se aprenden métodos y herramientas de la lingüística descriptiva aplicada a la fonética y articulación.

SPN 3070: INTRODUCCIÓN A LA TRADUCCIÓN
3 credits (48 hours) Una introducción a las herramientas teóricas y prácticas para el proceso de traducción del inglés al español. Los estudiantes aprenderán a hacer traducciones de textos sencillos de complejidad intermedia y avanzada tratando de mantener la mayor fidelidad posible con la intención y estilo del autor.

SPN 3520: DIALECTOLOGÍA LATINOAMERICANA
3 credits (48 hours) Este curso explora una perspectiva socio-histórica de la lengua como un aspecto de estudio importante, para comprender el mecanismo lingüístico actual dentro de diferentes contextos sociales de habla. El enfoque de este curso analizar la variedad dialectal que se refleja en los diferentes países latinoamericanos mediante rasgos: fonológicos, morfológicos y léxicos que toman en cuenta elementos culturales. Además, el curso pretende como objetivo primordial conocer y poner en práctica estrategias dialectales para fomentar elementos comunicativos auténticos que enriquezcan el uso del idioma español.

SPN 4110: ESCRITORAS CONTEMPORÁNEAS COSTARRICENSES
3 credits (48 hours) El curso aborda la principal producción literaria femenina en Costa Rica. Se enfoca en el análisis de temáticas presentes en los diferentes textos y su relación con la realidad nacional. Prereq. SPN 301

SPN 4330: TÓPICOS SELECTOS EN LA LITERATURA ESPAÑOLA

3 credits (48 hours) Estudio de autores, corrientes literarias o particularidades de género en la literatura española.

SPN 4390: EL CINE Y LA LITERATURA LATINOAMERICANA

3 credits (48 hours) Este curso es un estudio de algunas producciones cinematográficas basadas en textos literarios de reconocidos escritores latinoamericanos.