



UNIVERSIDAD DE  
COSTA RICA

OAICE

Oficina de  
Asuntos Internacionales  
y Cooperación Externa

# UCR Summer Program 2020

Session 1: February 3<sup>rd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Session 2: July 6<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Applications start in August!**

## Latin American Studies and Spanish as a Second Language Program



## Description

The course provides an approach to Latin American culture, from a journey through its language, history, economic, political and social processes, literature, linguistic diversity, myths, values, prejudices, problems and challenges to better understand its cultural manifestations, based on its diversity.

## Credits

6

## Duration

90 hours

## Objective

Allow students to thoughtfully approach the Latin American cultural horizon, from theoretical and practical exercises, so that they can demystify and humanize the experiences and representations of the region, while they gain knowledge of the Spanish language.

## Methodology

Students will be given with experiential opportunities of contact and discovery of Latin American cultural productions (literature, videos, plenary sessions, music, interviews, data collection, replies to questionnaires, inventory of regional vocabulary, among others) in order to distinguish, analyze, and discuss about it, according to the ideas and concerns of their own interaction with Latin American society.

## Activities

The classes will be complemented with special activities that students will do in preparation for the development of the topic in and out of class. During the course, students will be exposed to activities such as reading, analysis, family interviews, plenary sessions, documentaries, films, small group discussions, talks by specialists in various fields of knowledge, among others. With this variety of activities, the aim is to expose students to a series of cultural events that may stimulate their interest and motivate them to participate actively.

# Week 1

## Activities

- ★ Welcome session
- ★ City tour around San José
- ★ Sample of colonial literature
- ★ Visit to UCR Atlantic Regional campus
- ★ Visit to Guayabo National Monument
- ★ Guest speaker



## Topics

- ★ The other's problem
- ★ The heterogeneous self
- ★ The colonial cultural subject
- ★ The vindication of the Creole
- ★ Foundational myths
- ★ Spanish as a Foreign Language



# Week 2

## Activities

- ★ Visit to Museo Nacional
- ★ Latin American Dancing Lessons
- ★ Visit to Museo de Oro
- ★ Guest speaker

## Topics

- ★ Historical, social, political, and cultural situation of Latin America in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- ★ Vindication of the history of America
- ★ Civilization/ barbarism
- ★ Literature sample of diverse movements of the time: Neoclassicism and Romanticism
- ★ Belonging and difference, cultural identities, concept of culture, exploring national identities
- ★ Political commitment and the construction of a new society
- ★ Spanish as a Foreign Language





# Week 3



## Activities

- ★ Tour Nacientes de Palmichal
- ★ Costa Rican film
- ★ Guest speaker

## Topics

- ★ Transformation/ assimilation of cultural movements
- ★ Cultural modernity and American expression



- ★ The construction of a continental identity
- ★ Regionalism and its vindication of Barbarism
- ★ Spanish as a Foreign Language

# Week 4

## Activities

- ★ Visit to Poás National Park
- ★ Visit to Zarcero and Sarchí towns
- ★ Sample of Latin American and, Contemporary Costa Rican literatures
- ★ Guest speaker



## Topics

- ★ Latin American contexts: *Caudillos*, Tyrants, *Guerrillas*, and the processes of democratization
- ★ Costa Rica in the regional and continental context
- ★ Food as an manifestation of identity
- ★ Spanish as a Foreign Language
- ★ The city and urban culture: appropriation of space, social questions, transgression of traditions, appropriation and distancing of physical spaces
- ★ Social and linguistic behaviors: the *choteo*, the joke, and the compliment

# Program Fees

USD \$2,500

## What is included?

- ★Tuition fees
- ★Homestays with Costa Rican families: breakfast and dinner included on week days, and two meals on weekends. Laundry service included.
- ★4 guided tours (lunch included)
- ★2 optional activities on Friday afternoons

## What is not included?

- ★Meals other than specified
- ★Mandatory health insurance
- ★Plane tickets
- ★Transportation from and to the airport



# Contact Information

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## Credits

**Edition**      Sofía Solera

**Photography**    Sebastián Morales, Andrea Rivera