

ECUADOR

A GVSU FACULTY-LED PROGRAM

Ecuador: Biology Photo



Ecuador: Biology Open to: All majors

TELL ME ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

Quito & the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador — ¡Bienvenidos a Ecuador! Students will explore and experience the ecology and biodiversity of the cloud forest ecosystem of the equatorial Andes Mountains as well as spend 5 days on a research boat traversing the Galapagos archipelago, surveying, snorkeling, and hiking the islands, all the while being immersed in the South American, Incan and Amazonian indigenous cultures. Students will conduct research in 3 river systems at Reserva Las Gralarias, a tropical bird sanctuary located literally on the equator, in the Parish of Mindo along the Western front of the Andes mountain range. We will have the opportunity to assist with ongoing forest re-vegetation efforts.

During the second week, we travel to the Galápagos Islands; a tropical paradise that is home to some of the most unique and undisturbed wildlife in the world. For five days, our class has exclusive access to a small research vessel that will travel to several of the islands. The Galapagos has generated almost 200 years of revolutionary thought on where we come from, how species arise, and the power of natural and sexual selection to drive these changes.

During the last third of the program we will explore the world-famous Indian markets of Otavalo and a condor rehabilitation center, hike around a local caldera and lake, and spend two days at a working ranch in the high-elevation Paramo ecoregion at Antisana.

WHEN CAN I GO?

June 5 - June 20, 2018

(16 days)

WHERE WILL I LIVE?

Students will stay in hotels and hostels and boat berth.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

It is recommend but not required that students take BIO 215 (general ecology) before departure. 2.5 GPA required.

Non-GVSU students are eligible.

HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply for this program, log on to www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad to begin your online application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE (2018 Program): February 1, 2018

Non-GVSU Students are welcome to apply. Please view [Non-GVSU](#)

Student Information

WHAT CREDITS WILL I RECEIVE?

Students will register for a total of 6 credits:

BIO 417: International Field Biology (3 credits) **AND**

NRM 407: Natural Resources and Society (3 credits)

Independent study credits available

Accepted students will meet 3 hours per week during the second half of winter semester

HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

The approximate fee for this program is Program Fee: \$5,920.

Includes

- Round-trip airfare
- Accommodation
- Some meals
- All excursions and field trips
- All ground transportation

Other Expenses

- Tuition (\$3,150)
- Personal expenses (\$300)
- Passport (\$140)
- Additional Meals (\$100)
- ISIC optional (\$28)

Total Estimated Cost: TOTAL PROJECTED COST: (Program Fee + Other Expenses): \$9,638

FINANCIAL AID

To contact the Financial Aid office, email finaid@gvsu.edu with "Study Abroad" in the Subject line. Include your G Number and Total Projected Cost of the program in the e-mail.

Non-GVSU Students: Non-GVSU students admitted for study abroad are not eligible for Financial Aid from GVSU. Check with your home school's study abroad and financial aid offices for details on applying for financial aid from your home school toward study abroad program costs.

[Financial Aid FAQs](#)

GRANTS

Students may fund study abroad by using financial aid, scholarships, grants and personal funds. A study abroad adviser can help you create a funding plan.

Faculty-led Program Grant (Up to \$1,500): Students who apply to a faculty-led program by the priority deadline are automatically considered for a grant from the Padnos International Center. Students must have a FAFSA on file.

James F. and Virginia L. Goode Global Programs Scholarship: The purpose of the scholarship is to reduce the financial pressure on students and their families and make a Grand Valley education accessible to students from all backgrounds. This need-based scholarship will ensure that financial need does not become a barrier to intellectual and personal growth for students planning to study abroad.

MyScholarships: <https://gvsu.academicworks.com/opportunities/10186>

View more information on [Scholarship/Grants](#)

WHO CAN TELL ME MORE?

Program Director:

Eric Snyder

Biology Department

3390e Kindschi Hall of Science

616-331-2417

snydeeri@gvsu.edu