

# ICDS' "Spanish and Health in Latin America"

Summer 2021

## The Program

The International Center for Development Studies (ICDS), in partnership with Hospital Clínica Bíblica, offers this six-week program for nursing and health care students during the Freshman summer vacation. This program gives students the opportunity to explore health care in a developing country while furthering their Spanish language skills and gaining an understanding of the life and culture of Costa Rica. It provides the necessary language proficiency to enable students to work and interact with Spanish speaking patients and their families, as well as with colleagues in a Spanish-speaking environment.



## Academics

Students take the following two courses on the "Spanish and Health in Latin America" program:

HSAD 480: Health Care in Latin America (3.0 credits – can fulfill a sociology and health elective, social science course, or free elective)

This course covers the most relevant aspects of the health system in Costa Rica and Latin America and will be conducted through weekly sessions of conferences, exercises, site visits to clinics, hospitals, and

other related sites, and a workshop on the topic of the week. This part of the program is facilitated by Hospital Clínica Bíblica, Costa Rica's largest and most prestigious private hospital.

*LANG 180: Spanish for Health Sciences* (6.0 credits – can fulfill a humanities course or free elective, offered at any Spanish level)

This course consists of 10 hours per week of intensive Spanish with the objectives of training students to speak in Spanish, preparing them to interview patients, complete patients' files, elaborate medical reports, and read texts of medical relevance effectively. Program activities, such as critiquing medical newspaper articles, interviewing native speakers in medical role-playing situations, debating on medical topics, and other activities all aim to teach language by immersion in real life situations.

### **Grading**

Similar to an Independent Study Abroad, students will earn transfer credits. Grades earned during the program are not factored into GPA. Students will be billed directly by ICDS. Please refer to payment section for details on program costs.

### **Program Calendar**

\*In order to participate in this program, students must be scheduled for summer vacation during that term. The program will begin in early July and end in mid August.

### **The Experience**

San José is a cosmopolitan city with many cultural and recreational activities. It is located in Costa Rica's Central Plateau, surrounded by beautiful mountains and volcanoes, and within driving distance to the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. The urban transportation system is quite efficient, and you can take a bus to just about anywhere in the country.

Upon arrival, students receive an orientation, which provides students with insights and strategies to better manage the process of integration to a new cultural context, while allowing group interaction and integration.



### **Housing**

Drexel students will be housed with a local host family in Costa Rica. ICDS's experienced home stay coordinator is in charge of the selection of host families and the placement of students with an appropriate one, as well as of the follow-up on the studentfamily relationship to solve any problems that may arise.

Visa for Entry: All students are required to obtain a visa to attend this program. Please refer to the Costa Rican Embassy website for instructions.

**Program Fee for Summer 2021: \$TBD**

***This summer option is not considered a Drexel-sponsored program. Therefore, students will be billed directly by ICDS for the program fee.*** Since students must be scheduled for summer vacation term in order to participate, financial aid does not apply for the term. Students should speak with the Financial Aid office to explore other funding options, such as loans, to cover the program cost.

**Included in the Program Fee**

- Tuition for the 2 courses taken in Costa Rica (9 credits)
- 6 week home stay
- 2 meals per day provided by host family
- Airport pick-up upon arrival
- Orientation
- Group activities and excursions

**Not Included in Program Fee**

- Class materials
- Additional meals
- Public transportation
- Airfare
- Spending money
- Emergency medical insurance

*\*All photos taken by Drexel ICDS program Alumni*