TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Highlights of the program are provided below. The university reserves the right to alter travel and other arrangements if required by circumstances.

June 15  Arrival and transport to Immersion Abroad Costa Rica Center in Atenas. Meet and stay with host families.

June 16  Scavenger hunt in Atenas with local INA students. Spanish survival class. Costa Rica overview and faculty-led group meeting.

June 17  Visit Health clinic in Atenas, Cen Cinai, a government funded early childhood health program (like WIC) and the Red Cross public ambulance service. Visit local pain clinic. Universal Healthcare lecture with health care provider.

June 18  Community Service in capital city of San Jose and work with kids ages 4 to 10 years old on dental hygiene.

June 19  Tour San Vicente de Paul in Heredia-Public Hospital. Presentation from a physician at CIMA Hospital in San Jose.

June 20  Work with INA Language Exchange students. Round table discussion with a local community Public Healthcare Representative.


June 22  Hike to the southern part of Braulio Carillo National Park. Primary Forest guided by the organization for Tropical Studies in Costa Rica www.ots.ac.cr.


June 24  Meet and participate in Georgia State Student-led activities with Central American nursing students. Midwife presentation on alternative pregnancy and delivery medical care.

June 25  Visit the San Jose, Metropolitan Cathedral and National Museum of culture. Shop at traditional artisans market.

June 26  Meet at the plaza Fresh Market. Leave to National Park Volcano Poas. Hike to Botos lagoon and observe hummingbirds and flora that have adapted to acid rain exposure.

June 27  Present final projects with INA students.

June 28  Leave for Pacific Beach Optional zip-line canopy tour($40 extra) and go to Herradura Beach. View native crocodiles on the Tarcoles River bridge. Final celebration certificates and closing discussion.

June 29  Departure from San Jose airport.
THE PROGRAM

The Cross Cultural Perspectives on Health and Health Policy is designed to increase students’ appreciation of cultural influences within the framework of intercultural communication and an awareness of policies and practices affecting environmental and health issues in Costa Rica and the United States. Topics to be addressed include the Costa Rican universal health care system and medical tourism; environmental policy and ecotourism in Costa Rica and Latin America and the role of health governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Activities will include presentations by national and international experts, tours of health programs and facilities, roundtable discussions on health and health policy issues, student-led presentations and service learning projects.

The first week (June 9 – June 13) of the program will be in Atlanta. During this time, the program director will conduct lectures providing the participants with a general overview of Costa Rican history, basic conversational Spanish, intercultural communication skills and pre-departure orientation. The next two weeks (June 15 - June 29) will be spent in Atenas, Costa Rica and surrounding cities, including San Jose. The last three weeks (July 1 - July 21) will be in Atlanta wrapping up the course and working on final project.

ELIGIBILITY

The program is open to undergraduate, graduate and transient students who meet all academic requirements of Georgia State and the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the program director.

CREDITS AND COURSES

Accepted participants will register for Selected Topics in the School of Nursing & Health Professions (SNHP): SNHP8050 (graduate course) or SNHP3000, SNHP3050 (undergraduate course). Students from other institutions should follow their school’s regulations concerning transfer credit.

COST

Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. The program cost is tentatively set at: $2,360, PLUS regular Georgia State tuition and fees, and round trip airfare to and from Costa Rica. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a $250 fee in addition to the program cost.

Price Includes

• Ground transportation, stated excursions and entrance fees
• Hotel accommodations (double or triple occupancy)
• Two meals per day (breakfast and lunch)
• Wireless Internet service at the Spanish Immersion Costa Rica Cultural Center and at Internet cafes in the town of Atenas
• Final celebration activity and certificates
• Health/Evacuation/Repatriation insurance

Price Does Not Include

• Georgia State tuition and fees
• Round-trip airfare
• Public transportation in Atenas or San José
• Passport
• Personal expenses and excess baggage charges
• Optional excursions outside the itinerary and additional meals
• Tips and gratuities
• Exit fee ($29)

FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Students interested in applying should find this program’s listing at www.gsu.edu/studyabroad and begin an online application.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Students have the option of purchasing an “International Student ID Card” from STA Travel for travel discounts in participating countries. For more information, visit the STA Travel website at www.sta-travel.com.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 14, 2014

Because program size is limited, early application is strongly advised. Individual interviews may be scheduled with students upon receipt of application.

Transient Students: Please see Transient Student page at www.gsu.edu/studyabroad.

International students at Georgia State who hold F-1 visas must contact the Office of International Students and Scholar Services at 404-413-2070 to discuss possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

$500 deposit due immediately upon acceptance.
February 21, 2014 – $930 first payment
April 21, 2014 – $930 final payment
(All payments are non-refundable upon receipt.)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 14, 2014

Please pay your program deposit by finding the program listing at www.gsu.edu/studyabroad and following the payment instructions. See your program director for more information. Refer to the Academic/Registration calendar for the tuition and fees deadline.