

Mailing Address:

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In Person:

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Atlanta GA 30303

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Program Description for Faculty-Led Programs

Please provide the following Information about your program that student will submit with the Physician's Certificate during the required medical evaluation. This information will be posted on your program's webpage and students will print it out and take it to their medical evaluation.

Name of Program: Spanish Studies in San José, Costa Rica

Name of Program Director: Prof. Héctor Fernández L'Hoeste, Ph.D.

Location of Program: San José, Costa Rica

Dates of Program: May 10th – June 19th

This program will take place in San José, Costa Rica. The group will be in an urban setting during most of the program, with occasional weekend travel to rural settings. During our time of travel, San José has a temperate, ideal climate (low 80s during the day, 70s or 60s at night, with low humidity). However, by the end of our stay, the rainy season may have started; rain gear is recommended. Air conditioning is uncommon in Costa Rica (unless one travels to the coasts) and participants should not expect to have air-conditioned rooms at their homes (fans are more than appropriate for a pleasant night sleep). During the program, students will use public transportation (buses and taxis) on a regular basis to get to school. We will be visiting two volcanoes, some waterfalls, hot springs, and the country's most popular national park. Two weekends will be free so students may venture on their own to other locations in the country; students will be encouraged to travel to safe destinations. Program organized travel will involve bus rides that last up to four hours on well maintained country roads. The buses are air-conditioned and all of our destinations will enjoy moderate climates. The visit to the Poás volcano may be a bit chilly (so a jacket or sweater is recommended) as we will be at higher latitude. Nonetheless, the fact that we will spend most of our time in the San José metro area means that weather and health conditions will be more than adequate. Costa Rican tap water is safe for consumption, as the country enjoys some of the best health standards in Central America. It is important to note that Costa Rican beaches on both oceans are well known for their strong currents and choppy conditions. Costa Rican beaches are ideal for surfers but, generally speaking, tourists should exercise caution, as the waters in most settings are not calm or clear (as on the islands in the Caribbean). Riptides abound and the risk of drowning is tangible..

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