

LEADERSHIP, INOVATION, AND RESEARCH IN THE AMERICAS (LIRA) PROGRAM SUMMER 2018

USFQ is launching an exciting new program that combines academic courses in the social and environmental sciences with service learning, internship, and research opportunities or WEVAR (work experience, volunteer abroad or research opportunity). Participants in the program will enroll in a 4- or 8-week program, fully taught in English, and it will incorporate a number of field excursions to Ecuador's various cultural and environmental ecosystems. The program would be open to both international and local USFQ students and will allow students to complete 6- to 9-credits over the summer, in addition to gaining valuable personal and professional experience.

From the environmental science perspective, the LIRA program will showcase Ecuador's mega-diversity, including visits to the Andes, the tropical rain and cloud forests, and the Galápagos Archipelago, offering students the opportunity to learn about data collection methods, experiment design, and conservation policy and management through immersive field work in world-renowned conservation & biodiversity sites. From the social science perspective, not coincidentally, the same locations and field work also represents an opportunity for students to explore questions in social & environmental justice, to learn about the narratives and identities of Ecuador's indigenous communities, and to ultimately connect Ecuador's local history & responses to these issues with global social & environmental problems and initiatives.

LIRA Program Fees:

Modality	Fees
Module 1	\$2,000usd
Module 2	\$2,700usd
Module 1 & 2	\$4,800usd
Optional Galápagos Capstone Project	Plus \$1,300usd

Includes:

- Academic fees
- Administrative fees
- Host Family accommodation, with breakfast & dinner
- All in-country travel and accommodation, including flights

LIRA PROGRAM STRUCTURE*

***Tentative Program Structure: themes, content, field visits, and learning outcomes may vary depending on the assigned instructor**

Module	Course	Excursions	WEVAR
Module 1 (4-weeks)	Social Sciences (3-credits)	-Mindó/Cloud Forrest -Salasaka Community -Peguiche Community	-Service Learning -Research -Internships (3-credits for either 4 or 8 weeks)
(1 week)	Galápagos Capstone (optional)	USFQ-UNC Chapel Hill Galápagos Science Center (GSC)	
Module 2 (4weeks)	Environmental Sciences (3-credits)	-Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS)/Rain Forrest - Paramo region/Andes	
(1 week)	Galápagos Capstone (optional)	USFQ-UNC Chapel Hill Galápagos Science Center (GSC)	