



Study Abroad



Costa Rica

Miami Dade College Office of International Education

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROGRAM BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	3
CENTRO LINGUISTICO CONVERSA.....	4
Course Descriptions.....	5
Housing Options.....	5
Extracurricular Activities.....	6
UNIVERSIDAD VERITAS.....	6
Course Descriptions.....	7
Housing Options.....	11
Extracurricular Activities.....	11
Volunteer Program.....	11
CONVERSA program costs, dates, application deadlines, and contact information.....	12
UNIVERSIDAD VERITAS program costs, dates, application deadlines, and contact information.....	13

College Consortium for International Studies (CCIS)

The College Consortium for International Studies, a consortium of approximately 140 U.S. colleges and universities offers academic programs in nearly 30 countries around the world that extend into virtually all regions of the globe—Europe, North Africa, Asia, North and South America, and Australia and New Zealand. By participating in CCIS study abroad programs, students have the opportunity to earn U.S. college credits while living and studying abroad, an experience that will forever shape them as global citizens in the classroom, at home, and in the workplace.

Miami Dade College

Miami Dade College is the largest higher education institution in the US, enrolling more than 160,000 students each year. As a CCIS sponsoring member institution, the College sends students from MDC and other colleges and universities throughout the US to Costa Rica and France on semester- and summer-long programs. The College also offers MDC faculty-led study abroad programs in a variety of disciplines.

Admission Criteria

The Costa Rica study abroad program is open to all college-level students. Program requirements and application procedure are as follows:

2.5 GPA on a scale of 4.0
2-page CCIS application
(<http://www.mdc.edu/mdcglobal/studyabroad/apply.asp>)
2 letters of recommendation or reference forms
Official university/college transcripts
Personal statement/essay (min. 1 page)
\$ 130 application fee

Students who belong to a CCIS member institution will submit the entire application packet to their respective CCIS representatives/study abroad advisors.

Non-MDC students who DO NOT belong to a CCIS member institution must send all application material directly to:

Cindy Cordova
Study Abroad Assistant
Office of International Education
300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Room 1403
Miami, FL 33132
Phone (305) 237-3580 - Fax (305) 237-7439
ccordova@mdc.edu

All Miami Dade College students must submit their application materials directly to:

Eva Fernandez
Programs Manager
Office of International Education
300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Room 1403-1
Miami, FL 33132
Phone (305) 237-3580 - Fax (305) 237-7439
efernan1@mdc.edu

Students intending to take courses at the 300/3000 level are advised to apply and enroll in the Costa Rica—CCIS programs through our co-sponsors at Truman State University.

Financial Aid

All students must apply for financial aid through their home institutions. Students are advised to meet with their financial aid counselors and study abroad advisors as early as possible so that they can learn about different funding options that may be available for study abroad. The Office of International Education at Miami Dade College can provide details on program fees to the Financial Aid office, per the student's request.

Miami Dade College students must meet with financial aid advisors at their respective campuses to discuss financial aid options.

Scholarships and Grants

There is a wealth of information on resources available for students who are interested in participating in study abroad programs. Students are advised to speak to their study abroad advisors and scholarship specialists in the Financial Aid office to find out about upcoming competitions. Faculty and academic advisors can also provide great leads on grants and scholarships in your particular field that can be used towards a study abroad program. The sooner you begin to plan, the better. With some research and enough planning, you will definitely find options to successfully fund your study abroad experience.

CENTRO LINGUISTICO CONVERSA

CONVERSA is one of Costa Rica's first and most prestigious Spanish language schools. Founded in 1975, CONVERSA has been dedicated to teaching Spanish as a foreign language for over thirty years.

CONVERSA's mission is to provide each student with a rewarding Spanish language learning experience,

achieved through great teachers, an efficient support staff and a congenial atmosphere.

The Santa Ana campus is located on a hilltop about ten miles west of San José. It has a dining hall, a lounge, twenty-five classrooms (twenty indoors and five outdoors), two lodges, a fifty-foot long swimming pool, a volleyball court, a basketball court, a tennis backboard, ping-pong tables, a bathhouse (solar heated showers), two meeting rooms (T.V. and VCR), and lots of hammocks. The views from the campus are spectacular. Tropical fruits are available in abundance and the air is fresh and pure.

CONVERSA has highly experienced professors who have graduated from universities in Costa Rica and who have extensive training in education and in teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language at all levels.

The teaching methodology at CONVERSA is “Constant Contact.” Students develop a wide range of personal contacts with native Spanish speakers as a result of their daily routine. The goal here is to encourage students to enjoy Spanish, not as a dry academic exercise, but as a tool for facilitating communication with others.

Students are tested on day one, right after the orientation session. The maximum number of students in a class is normally about four.

Students are exposed to a new instructor for each week of the program. The instruction is entirely in Spanish, and each week a specific grammatical sequence is presented. The instructors are skilled in blending conversation with grammar to meet the individual needs of the group members.

A portion of each day is dedicated to the correction of workbook exercises, and about one hour per day of homework is required. Students are frequently moved from one group to another during the program to maintain smooth functioning and to maximize individual progress.

Classes meet for 5 1/2 hours a day and students normally earn 6 credits for every 4-week cycle. Students are enrolled in the “Super Intensive” courses, which consist in 55 contact hours per course. As the students successfully complete their course assignments at each level, they will have the opportunity to subsequently move up to the following level every two weeks.

All CONVERSA cycles are 4 weeks long, which means that students can choose to enter the program at any

time of the year. Exact cycle dates are listed at the end of this document.

Course Descriptions:

Elementary Spanish I (SPN 1120): Spanish for beginners emphasizing broad competence in such basic skills as understanding, reading, writing, and cross-cultural perspectives. Not open to native speakers of the language. 4 credits.

Elementary Spanish II (SPN 1121): A continuation of SPN 1120. Not open to native speakers of the language. 4 credits.

Basic Spanish Conversation I (SPN 1000): A course emphasizing conversational Spanish. Extensive use is made of structural oral exercises and “on-site” use of the language. Corrective phonetics and aural comprehension. This course is a complement to SPN 1120 or SPN 1121. Not open to native speakers of the language. 3 credits.

Basic Spanish Conversation II (SPN 1001): A continuation of SPN 1000, emphasizing grammatical structures complementary to SPN 1121. 3 credits.

Intermediate Spanish I (SPN 2200): A sequential continuation of SPN 1120-1121. Emphasis on oral and written presentations, stressing more complex grammatical structures. Focuses on Costa Rican and other Hispanic cultures through a systematic approach to the development of reading, writing and conversational skills. Not open to native speakers of the language. 4 credits.

Intermediate Spanish II (SPN 2201): Vocabulary building and emphasis on review and practice of complex grammatical structures through oral and written exercises. Contrast of common universal idiomatic expressions with Costa Rican usage. Costa Rican themes and daily life are studied through graded readings. 3 credits.

Intermediate Conversation & Composition I (SPN 2240): Promotes facility in understanding, speaking and writing the language. Emphasis on situational, everyday conversation. Structured speech to provide a firm base in patterns of spoken Spanish with progression towards free conversation. 3 credits.

Intermediate Conversation & Composition II (SPN 2241): A continuation of 2210, with an additional emphasis on more complex situational, everyday conversation, including free conversation. Offered upon demand only. 3 credits.

Advanced Spanish Grammar 1 (SPN 2300/3300): An approach to grammatical analysis and a synopsis of fundamental usages. Emphasis on subtleties, exceptions and current idiomatic use of the language. Offered upon demand only. 4 credits.

Advanced Spanish Conversation 1 (SPN 2400/3400): A continuation of 2240 and 2241. Conversational course with emphasis on cultural differences and traditional roles developed through readings and discussions. Offered upon demand only. 4 credits.

Housing Options

Students participating in the CONVERSA program are matched with their ideal residence/family once they have provided CONVERSA with the completed housing questionnaire.

Home stay/Host Family: Upon arrival in Costa Rica, CONVERSA will provide airport pick-up and the housing coordinator will place the students with a Costa Rican family (one student per family) in a conveniently located neighborhood. The object of this plan is to provide students with a window on the culture. Students will find that their hosts are interested in learning about the students and their culture too.

Students are responsible for their own lunches and bus transportation to and from school. Host families will provide students with a private room, breakfast, dinner, and laundry service. On weekends, students may eat meals with their family if they wish.

For students attending the San José campus, host families are only a 15-minute walk or a short bus ride away from the institute. Students attending the Santa Ana campus will have daily transportation provided for them to and from the campus.

Other options: While almost all students choose to live with a host family, on occasion a student will request lodging that is more independent. In San José, students may have the option to stay in a hotel, at an additional cost to them. In Santa Ana, there are two additional lodging options that provide a more tranquil, relaxed atmosphere with a bit more privacy, while still allowing the student ample contact with Spanish and with Costa Rican culture—La Casita and La Casona. Students who are interested in attending CONVERSA with their families and children normally opt for this type of lodging.

Extracurricular Activities

Conversa offers a number of optional afternoon activities to help keep students engaged and entertained. Some of these activities include Latin

dance classes, cooking classes, movie viewing (with discussion), yoga classes and community service. In addition, we organize volleyball, paddle tennis and ping-pong matches on a regular basis.

UNIVERSIDAD VERITAS

Universidad Veritas, founded in 1991, is a private Art, Design and Architecture University, located in San Jose, Costa Rica. The university enrolls approximately 1100 students year-round, specializing in Advertising, Architecture, Digital Animation, Film and Television, Interior Design, and Photography.

The campus is located only minutes away from downtown and the city's museums and restaurants.

Faculty from Universidad Veritas hold advanced US or Costa Rican degrees, and a great number of years of teaching in their respective fields.

All elective courses carry three semester credit hours, and students are normally required to enroll in 15-18 credits per term. All full-time students take at least two or three Spanish language courses and one or two electives in English. These are offered in a variety of disciplines, depending on the student's academic interests.

Students participating in the summer programs typically take one elective in English and one Spanish language course for a total of 6 credits during the 5-week period.

Spanish language courses are taught in 4-week modules, during the mornings. English courses are taught in the afternoons.

Veritas Course Offerings & Descriptions:

Course listings for any given term are provided to the student upon acceptance. However, the following courses are typically offered year-round, so this listing can serve as a starting point for course selections. Universidad Veritas reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient enrollment.

SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES

Elementary Spanish I (SPN 101): Spanish for beginners emphasizing broad competence in such basic skills as understanding, reading, writing, and cross-cultural perspectives. Not open to native speakers of the language.

Elementary Spanish II (SPN 102): A continuation of SPN 101. Not open to native speakers of the language.

Intermediate Spanish I (SPN 201): A sequential continuation of SPN 101-102. Emphasis on oral and written presentations, stressing more complex grammatical structures. Focuses on Costa Rican and other Hispanic cultures through a systematic approach to the development of reading, writing and conversational skills. Not open to native speakers of the language.

Intermediate Spanish II (SPN 202): Vocabulary building and emphasis on review and practice of complex grammatical structures through oral and written exercises. Contrast of common universal idiomatic expressions with Costa Rican usage. Costa Rican themes and daily life are studied through graded readings.

Intermediate Conversation (SPN 210): Promotes facility in understanding, speaking and writing the language. Emphasis on situational, everyday conversation. Structured speech to provide a firm base in patterns of spoken Spanish with progression towards free conversation. This course is a complement to SPN 202.

Advanced Spanish Grammar I (SPN 301): Intended for students who already possess strong Spanish language skills. Grammatical analysis, expansion of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions through readings, and student compositions, at a complex level. This course includes attendance for two complementary class hours weekly in literature, ecology, and history courses as a thematic basis for compositions. Offered according to demand.

Advanced Spanish Grammar II (SPN 302): A continuation of SPN 301, stylistics, syntax and vocabulary, intended to improve oral and written expression. Levels of diction, study of idiomatic language and the varieties of Spanish spoken in different Spanish-speaking nations. Includes attendance for two complementary class hours weekly in literature, ecology, and history courses. Offered according to demand.

Advanced Conversation I (SPN 310): For advanced students wishing to attain greater proficiency in the spoken language. Strongly recommended for majors. Conversation based on themes. Offered according to demand.

Oral Expression Techniques (SPN 340): For advanced level students who wish to learn and practice oral techniques used in conversation in order to increase fluency. A practical and theoretical methodology will be developed by both the professor and the students. *Pre-requisites: SPN 301*

Spanish for International Business (SPN 304): Development of basic technical vocabulary, commercial correspondence and memos in Spanish in preparation for careers in international business. Offered according to demand. *Pre-requisites: SPN 301*

Introduction to Cultural Heritage of Latin America (SPN 320): This course studies relevant topics and issues in the development of cultural heritage in Latin American with emphasis on Costa Rica. *Pre-requisites: SPN 301*

Rhetoric and Advanced Composition (SPN 410): a study of complex and difficult syntax and points of grammar. Special attention is given to composition and explanation of text in research.

Spanish for Health Professionals

SPN 141 Basic Spanish for Health Professionals (4 credits)

This course was designed for the purpose of giving health personnel, who do not have any previous Spanish experience, the tools necessary for interacting with and interviewing simulated Spanish speaking patients. During the four weeks of the course the students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level with simulated Spanish speaking patients.

SPN 241 Intermediate Spanish for Health Professionals (4 credits)

This course was designed for health personnel that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of medical related Spanish vocabulary and structures and to increase the competency of communications in specifically simulated situations with Spanish speaking patients. *Pre-requisites: minimum 2 semesters of College level Spanish*

SPN 341 Advanced Spanish for Health Professionals (4 credits)

This course is designed for health personnel that have an advanced background in Spanish and who need to improve their linguistic competency in order to interact with their Spanish speaking patients and their families. *Pre-requisites: minimum of 4 semesters of college level Spanish*

Spanish for Law Enforcement and Border Patrol

SPN 151 Basic Spanish for Law Enforcement and Border Patrol

This course is designed for the purpose of giving general law enforcement professionals, who do not have any previous Spanish experience, the tools

necessary for interacting with and interviewing simulated Spanish native speakers. During the four weeks of the course the students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level in simulated situations with Spanish native speakers.

SPN 251 Intermediate Spanish for Law Enforcement and Border Patrol

This course is designed for law enforcement professionals that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of law related Spanish and increase the competency of communications in specifically simulated situations with Spanish native speakers.

SPN 351 Advanced Spanish for Law Enforcement and Border Patrol

This course is designed for law enforcement professionals that have an advanced background in Spanish and who need to improve their linguistic and communicative competency in order to interact with Spanish native speakers and their families. The goal at the end of this course is to have the student capable of communicating in an effective form with Spanish native speakers.

ELECTIVES COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH *(12 week semesters & summer 5 & 8 week sessions)*

Universidad Veritas reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient enrolment

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

ENV 3005 Environmental Impact and Social Development 4 credits (60 hrs)

An introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Students will examine Ecosystems, population patterns and dynamics; use and misuse of resources; population and environmental quality; environmental citizenship and economic incentives and Costa Rican initiatives in eco-tourism.

ENV 3044 Tropical Ecology 4 credits (60 hrs)

Students will learn about the interactions between earth and land and how this interactions or processes affect our life and the stability of the planet. Emphasis will be given to the study of the most relevant tropical ecosystems such as: tropical rain forest, cloud forests, coral reefs and mangroves.

Field trips to selected environments will provide on site examples of some of the issues learned through class work and readings. All field trips are mandatory.

ENV 3120 Land Vertebrates of Costa Rica

4 credits (60 hrs)

An introduction to the zoology of terrestrial vertebrates in Costa Rica. Students will gain insight about various biological characteristics of the groups of land chordates in the country. Emphasis will be given to the study of Costa Rican species, but others will be discussed as well.

ENV 3190 Tropical Marine Biology

4 credits (60 hours)

The course studies the balance between ecosystems and human' stress and demands on the constant changing marine environment. All field trips are mandatory. Certified Divers may pay a \$100 fee in order to complete 2 immersions in each field trip (4 tanks).

ENV 3740 Climate Change and Renewable Energies in Costa Rica 4 credits (60 hours)

An introduction to renewable energies and their impact on development and future needs of planet Earth. There is a general concern and interest of societies to change gradually toward the implementation of renewable energies to meet human needs in the future. This course will be focused on Costa Rica's potential for renewable energies.

ENV 4040 Environmental Awareness and Sustainable Development 4 credits (60 hours)

An introduction to world problems in regards to natural resources management and conservation, and their effects on sustainable development efforts in tropical countries. Current issues that condition the possibility for development such as poverty, global warming, deforestation and potable water will be analyzed.

ART AND HUMANITIES

ARCH 3112 History of Latin American Architecture and Art 3 credits (48 hours)

A chronological overview of main invents and influences that contributed to the making of past and present architecture in Latin America analyzing the artistic manifestations.

ARCH 3200 Tropical Architecture and Design

4 credits (60 hours)

The objective is to learn about climatic design in the tropics and develop the skills to analyze a particular geographical situation. Students will become familiarized with restricted resource usage; the knowledge of land and climate and the rural tradition

where domestic construction is passed on from one generation to another.

ART 2100 Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice 3 credits (48 hours)

This course is designed for the beginner to help the student find personal meaning in works of art and develop a better understanding of the nature and validity of art as visual and space language (line, shape, volume, light, space, time, motion, color, and texture). This means that you will learn about the essentials of art through experience and experimentation. Through determination and an open mind, you will increase your creativity and discover more interesting ways to understand and judge the visual arts. Emphasis is on the diversity of form and content in artwork. With willingness to work and an open mind, your experiences in this class will be memorable in a positive way. Upon completion, students should understand the basics of art materials used and have a basic overview of the history of art and how art represents its society, especially, Latin American culture.

ART 1301 Basic Principles of Drawing 3 credits (48 hours)

This studio art course introduces basic principles of drawing. The course includes model drawings, landscape drawings and experimental (abstract) drawings. The focus of this course is on the development of expression and observational drawing from still life, a model and landscapes.

CTV-3200 Audiovisual Industry in Latin America 4 credits (60 contact hours)

This course studies the development of the audiovisual industry in Latin America. It analyzes where Latin America stands today in the global audiovisual industry and the political, social and economic forces that shaped it. Students will participate in field trips to visit local production office and will view relevant films and television programs that illustrate the crafting of images and audio to local audiences.

CTV-3400 Documentary Production Process 4 credits (60 contact hours)

The class will focus on the logistical and creative responsibilities of producing a short documentary. Students will work closely with each other, assuming the roles of producers, writers, directors and editors in the process of development and execution of documentaries. Students will learn the primary elements to creating a short documentary and exploit the cultural and environmental elements that filming locations can offer. The final project involves working collaboratively on producing an engaging

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documentary that may not exceed 6 minutes screen time.

DNCE 2500 Introduction to Latin American Tropical Dance 3 credits (48 hours)

An introduction to technique, rhythm and movement style of Latin American Tropical Dance. History, anthropology, folklore and songs are part of this experiential course.

HUM 3500 Latin American Art 3 credits (48 hours)

A survey of Latin American visual arts covering twenty centuries of aesthetic and cultural production: Pre-Columbian, Conquest, Colonial, Baroque, Independence, Modern and Contemporary. We will examine the ways sculpture, painting, and architecture has functioned across a broad spectrum of art history, region, and culture in what are now the Latin American countries.

HUM 3513 Costa Rica Colloquium: History & Culture 3 credits (48 hours)

A general survey of the complex heritage and social evolution of Costa Rica, examined through a comprehensive and multidisciplinary view focusing on the historical development and present day dynamics of economy, society, polity, natural resources and culture. Emphases will be placed upon different topics during the course, according to students' backgrounds and expectations.

ETH 3100 Selected Topics in Afro-Caribbean Studies 3 credits (48 hrs)

This course examines a particular topic, theme, issue, or problem concerning the Black presence in Costa Rica and Central America. Sample offerings could include Central America and ethnic politics, history and Culture, Blacks in Central American governments, Contemporary Black literature, History of the Black experience in Costa Rica.

PHIL 3100 Comparative Classical Philosophy 3 credits (48 hours)

An overview of the history and selected concepts in major eastern and western philosophical movements and systems from ancient to the middle age periods. Students will reflect on certain topics such as mind-body, Concept of God, knowledge of self and others, predestination and free will, cause and effect and other fundamental ideas in classical knowledge.

PHOT 2100 Ecological Photography 4 credits (60 hours)

A general knowledge in the reaches and the stages of digital photography. By applying these principles in photographing wildlife, students will develop skills to create clearer images on a given subject. Students will undertake the task of observing and

photographing flora and fauna in its natural environment. The course also studies how to manipulate and arrange images digitally in order to create an effective visual presentation

**PHOT 2130 Cultural Photography
3 credits (48 hours)**

Practical exercises and field trips students will apply the theoretical information provided in lectures to consciously explore Costa Rican culture. The focus of the projects is the creation of photographic images in black and white.

**PHOT- 2600 Digital Photography
3 credits (48 hours)**

The course offers a general knowledge in the reaches and the stages of digital photography. Through practice exercises aiming to apply the information provided through lectures, students will be able to consciously create and manipulate digital photographic images.

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND COMMUNICATION

**COMM 3200 Intercultural Communication
3 credits (48 hours)**

This course addresses issues of diversity and commonalities amongst human beings, implications and applications according to each situation and professional context. Students will develop skills for intercultural competence.

ECON 3403 Introduction to International Economics in Latin America 3 credits (48 hours)

Examines Latin American policies that affect the international economy, with attention to trade barriers, economic nationalism and regionalism, international political economy, exchange market intervention and international transmission of economic perturbations. Pre- Requisite ECON 1000, or ECON 2010 and 2020.

**GEB 3350 Introduction to International Business
3 credits (48 hours)**

An overview of cultural environment of international business and the institutions which affect business today. The Latin American perspective with regard to the U.S., Asia and Europe is examined: NAFTA, Mercosur, the EC and other common market areas and agreements.

**GEB 3500 Ecotourism: The Costa Rica Case
4 credits (60 hours)**

It will offer the chance to analyze this dynamic process from different socio-economic perspectives. It will discuss the economic importance of ecotourism for the Costa Rican national economy, the stimulation of grassroots, community ecotourism projects, and the role of ecotourism in securing environmental

protection. The advances and limitations of ecotourism will be explored.

**MGMT 3021 Logistics Management
3 credits (48 hrs)**

An overview of logistics management areas within the domestic and international contexts. Examines logistics objectives such as warehousing, inventory control, transportation, import-export logistics, etc. Emphasis is given on the importance of legal aspects in certain logistics areas.

**MGMT 3030 Creative Leadership Skills
3 credits (48 hrs)**

Provides the opportunity to learn about and practice the skills required for managerial excellence. These skills include leadership, negotiation, conducting performance appraisals, delegation, effective communication, interviewing and making hiring decisions and effective human resource management.

HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

HIS-3293 Costa Rican Health Care & Tropical Medicine 4 credits (60 hours)

Costa Rica's health care system is unique due to the fact that it's socialized and has achieved excellent health indicators. The course focuses on the history and development of the public health care system within the context of the Costa Rican sociopolitical and economical situation. It also gives a strong emphasis on how the system actually works and points out not only the strongholds of the systems, but also its weak points. A third objective, of fundamental importance in order to understand this system, is the study of Costa Rica as a tropical country. Students will learn about the prevention and transmission of relevant tropical diseases.

**HHD-1020 Introduction to Physical Therapy
4 credits (60 hours)**

This course will introduce basic concepts of human anatomy, an overview of the most common injuries and illnesses that require physical therapy, and an introduction to the different tools and methods used to treat them. The course will consist of lectures about the theoretical concepts, and also laboratory practice, which will allow the student a hands-on experience of the different techniques given during the lectures. At the end of the course the student will have general knowledge on various areas of expertise, and on techniques such as massage therapy, electrotherapy, and therapeutic exercises, among others.

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**HHD- 1050 Alternative Health Approaches
4 credits (60 hrs)**

This course will introduce basic concepts of alternative medicine. Also this course will explore, and evaluate alternatives approaches and philosophies to personal health and wellness. Some of the topics included are: Homeopathy, TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) Acupuncture, Herbal and Nutritional Therapies, Massage, Chiropractic, Electromagnetic Therapy, Breathing Exercise and others.

PSY-2200 Health Psychology 3 credits (48hours)

The World Health Organization defines health as being “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. Based on this definition, the concepts of health and illness have changed. Nowadays, health care professionals have to tackle the health from a bio-psycho-social concept. For this reason, it is extremely important for health care professionals (doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, just to mention some) to have general information about Health Psychology, which studies how biology, behavior, and social context influence health and illness. In this way, health care professionals can have an integral approach to the patients under their treatment. This will discuss some of the most common topics related with Health Psychology and pertinent to practice in the health care professions.

**HISTORY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

**HIS 2302 Contemporary Latin-American History
3 credits (48 hours)**

A survey of the main events in Latin American History after its independence. Topics include the historical causes and effects of the independence, some of the main issues on social, economic and political problems and the main historical leaders in modern Latin America.

**HIS 3290 Costa Rican Economic Development
3 credits (48 hours)**

This course introduces the outstanding socio-economic and political features that have shaped and defined the history and development path of Costa Rica.

**POL 2500 Human Rights in Latin America
3 credits (48 hours)**

A particular emphasis will be given to the case of Costa Rica, giving the students an opportunity to explore the development of human rights in the following areas: women’s rights, children’s rights, HIV/AIDS, the CAFTA agreement and labour rights, indigenous groups and human rights, disability and age issues, and the prison environment.

Revised: March 28, 2011

**POL 3100 Costa Rican Tradition: Peace and
Democracy 3 credits (48 hours)**

The general objective of this course is to discuss, with students, the social, economic and political issues of the process of construction of peace and democracy in Costa Rica and Central America (1948-2005).

**POL 3220 Migration Issues: The Costa Rica case
3 credits (48 hours)**

This class studies the construction of migrants as others, the management of their image by media and elements pertaining human rights and citizenship in the cases immigrants in Costa Rica and opening the possibility to compare the United States as a host country. The objective is to visualize the construction of cultural identities, its effects on the intergroup encounters and societal perspectives on migration.

**POL 3400 World Politics and Terrorism
3 credits (48 hours)**

This course examines the historical and actual events related to international terrorism. The focus is to understand the background of global, regional and local conflicts between various groups and governments. Various topics will be closely followed, like Jihadism, Al Qaeda in 2008 and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The objective of the course is to promote the interaction of ideas and arguments based on a balanced analysis of the themes. Students participate in various ways: writing essays, internet research assignments, documentary movies, socio-dramas and debating actual topics.

**POL 3450 International Relations in Latin America
3 credits (48 hrs)**

The course will analyze the aspects of the Economic Integration, globalization and conditions for a successful integration between economies and the effects of free trade in the region as well as the effects of protectionism. There will be a special treatment on foreign investments and joint ventures in the Latin America.

**POL 3560 International Politics in the Middle East
3 credit (48 hours)**

This course examines the historical and actual events in The Middle East. The focus is to understand the background of conflicts in Iraq, Lebanon and The Palestinian Territories.

The aftermath of the Middle East Peace conference of December 2007 will be closely followed. The objective of the course is to promote the interaction of ideas and arguments based on a balanced analysis of the themes. Students participate in various ways: writing essays, internet research assignments, documentary movies, socio-dramas and debating actual topics.

POL 3740 Economic Integration in Latin America
3 credits (48 hrs)

This course will analyze the beginning of the International Relations in Latin America and the most important historical facts that marked the politics in the region in the current era. The focus of this course is on the historic background of the region before independence and post independence that helped to consolidate the American hegemony and the insertion of foreign investment, the North American imperialism and the Latin-American resistance.

ELECTIVE COURSES TAUGHT IN SPANISH

(12 WEEKS)

LITERATURA Y LINGÜÍSTICA

SPN 1002 COMUNICACIÓN ORAL BASICA

3 créditos (48 horas)

Este curso está diseñado para estudiantes de español como segunda lengua que cuentan con un dominio elemental del idioma en los aspectos morfosintácticos, léxico-semántico y fonético-fonológicos, por lo que deben haber aprobado el nivel básico I. A lo largo del curso, desarrollará su competencia comunicativa oral, que le permitirá desenvolverse de manera efectiva y eficaz en situaciones cotidianas.

SPN 3020 Lecturas Selectas de la Literatura

Latinoamericana 3 créditos (48 horas)

Estudio panorámico de autores, corrientes literarias o particularidades de género en la literatura Latinoamericana.

SPN 3050 Fonética y Fonología

3 créditos (48 horas)

En este curso se aprenden métodos y herramientas de la lingüística descriptiva aplicada a la fonética y articulación.

SPN 3520 Dialectología Latinoamericana

3 créditos (48 horas)

Este curso explora una perspectiva socio-histórica de la lengua como un aspecto de estudio importante, para comprender el mecanismo lingüístico actual dentro de diferentes contextos sociales de habla.

El enfoque de este curso es analizar la variedad dialectal que se refleja en los diferentes países latinoamericanos mediante rasgos: fonológicos, morfológicos y léxicos que toman en cuenta elementos culturales. Además, el curso pretende como objetivo primordial conocer y poner en práctica estrategias dialectales para fomentar elementos comunicativos auténticos que enriquezcan el uso del idioma español.

SPN 3560 Tópicos Selectos en Literatura Comparada

3 créditos (48 horas)

El curso plantea los fundamentos de poesía, narrativa (cuento corto y noveleta) y drama, que servirá como marco teórico de discusión de textos representativos de esos mismos géneros. Los textos han sido seleccionados con base en sus recursos para establecer comparaciones, y en el grado de interés que pueden despertar no sólo a estudiantes de literatura, sino a estudiantes de español como lengua extranjera. *Pre-Requisitos: SPN 301*

SPN 4110 Escritoras contemporáneas costarricenses

3 créditos (48 horas)

El curso aborda la principal producción literaria femenina en Costa Rica. Se enfoca en el análisis de temáticas presentes en los diferentes textos y su relación con la realidad nacional. *Pre-Requisitos: SPN 301*

SPN 4330 Tópicos Selectos en la Literatura Española

3 créditos (48 horas)

Estudio de autores, corrientes literarias o particularidades de género en la literatura española. *Pre-Requisitos: SPN 301*

SPN 4390 El Cine y la Literatura Latinoamericana

3 créditos (48 horas)

Estudio de la producción cinematográfica en relación con la literatura en Latino América. *Pre-Requisitos: SPN 301*

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Tropical Marine Biology or Tropical Ecology

(6 credits)

2 Week Online in the US and 2.5 weeks in Costa Rica

Art Design and Architecture Quarters

Only for students with advanced Spanish Skills.

Please inquire for dates and additional information including descriptions and costs.

Housing Options

Homestays: Students are generally housed in the homes of Costa Rican families. Housing is an important aspect of the program and all housing arrangements are handled by the university. The homestay offers a special insight into Costa Rican culture and daily life as well as the opportunity for students to practice Spanish.

All students are provided with a private room, breakfast, evening meal and laundry service. Students are usually placed one per family in nearby neighborhoods.

Extracurricular Activities

In addition to the vast outdoor activities and visits to beaches, mountains, and volcanoes, students in the Veritas program will have the opportunity to participate in weekend excursions, weekly tropical dance lessons, sports, Latin American cooking lessons, museum and artisan market visits, volunteer work with underprivileged children in the afternoons, and youth groups.

Volunteer Program

Universidad Veritas also coordinates volunteer programs for students who are interested in the national park and reserve system. "Volunteers and Projects for the support of Conservation Areas" is a program that gives support to the National System of Preservation Areas of Costa Rica. This program allows interested students the possibility to learn more about the support of our National Parks, Wildlife Shelters, Forest Reserves, etc".

If a student would like to participate in specific areas such as species monitoring, turtle nesting, botanical projects, etc, he/she should indicate it on the application and personal statement.

CONVERSA INFORMATION SHEET

Program Dates and Deadlines:**

Cycles for 2010 are listed below:

2010 CYCLES			
2010 Eleventh Cycle:	Oct. 11	to	Nov. 5
2010 Twelfth Cycle:	Nov. 8	to	Dec. 3
2010 Holiday Cycle:	Dec. 6	to	Dec. 17

2011 CYCLES			
First Cycle:	Jan. 03	to	Jan. 28
Second Cycle:	Jan. 31	to	Feb. 25
Third Cycle:	Feb. 28	to	Mar. 25
Fourth Cycle:	Mar. 28	to	Apr. 22
Fifth Cycle:	Apr. 25	to	May 20
Sixth Cycle:	May 23	to	Jun. 17
Seventh Cycle:	Jun. 20	to	Jul. 15
Eighth Cycle:	Jul. 18	to	Aug. 12
Ninth Cycle:	Aug. 15	to	Sep. 09
Tenth Cycle:	Sep. 12	to	Oct. 07
Eleventh Cycle:	Oct. 08	to	Nov. 04
Twelfth Cycle:	Nov. 07	to	Dec. 02

Application Deadline: Applications are due TWO months prior to the beginning of the cycle that you plan to attend.

Application Requirements:

- Two-page CCIS application (www.ccisabroad.org)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official university/college transcripts
- Statement of purpose
- \$ 130 application fee

If you are applying through a CCIS member institution, please deliver all application material to your study abroad advisor. Otherwise, mail all materials directly to our office at Miami Dade College.

Program Costs for 2011-2012**

4-week Cycle** Santa Ana

Non CCIS	\$3858
CCIS members	\$3658
MDC students	\$3448

Included: administrative fees, medical insurance, housing with host family, and most meals.

Not included: airfare, personal expenses, and tuition at home institution.

** Program fees and dates are subject to change**

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:

CCIS SPONSORING INSTITUTION—MIAMI DADE COLLEGE

Address: Miami Dade College
Office of International Education
300 NE 2nd Avenue, Suite 1403-1
Miami, FL 33132-2297
Phone: (305) 237-3580 or (305) 237-3008
Fax: (305) 237-7439

Cindy Cordova, Study Abroad Assistant
ccordova@mdc.edu

Eva Fernandez, Programs Manager
efernan1@mdc.edu

CCIS HOST INSTITUTION—CONVERSA

Mr. David Kaufman
Director
dkaufman@conversa.net

Mr. Andrew Kaufman
Administrative Director
akaufman@conversa.com

Address: Centro Lingüístico Conversa
Apdo. 224-6151
Santa Ana, Costa Rica

Phone: (506) 2203-2078 ext. 114
Toll Free: (888) 669-1664
Fax: (506) 233-2418

Revised: March 28, 2011

UNIVERSIDAD VERITAS INFORMATION SHEET

Program Dates and Deadlines:**

Spring 2012

January 9th through March 30th

Application Deadline: November 1st

Summer 2011 Programs

5 week cycle: (Spanish + 1 elective)

July 4th through August 5th

8 weeks cycle (Spanish + 2 electives)

July 4th through August 26th

Application Deadline: June 1st

Fall 2011

September 26th through December 16th

Application deadline August 1st

Application Requirements:

- Two-page CCIS application (www.ccisabroad.org)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official university/college transcripts
- Statement of purpose
- \$ 130 application fee

If you are applying through a CCIS member institution, please deliver all application material to your study abroad advisor. Otherwise, mail all materials directly to our office at Miami Dade College.

Program Costs**

SEMESTER PROGRAMS**

	FALL 2011	SPRING 2012
Non CCIS	\$7395	\$7395
CCIS members	\$7195	\$7195
MDC students	\$7145	\$7145

SUMMER 11** (5 weeks) (8 weeks)

Non CCIS	\$4444	\$5570
CCIS members	\$4244	\$5370
MDC students	\$4194	\$5320

Revised: March 28, 2011

Included: administrative fees, room and most meals, medical insurance, and some weekend excursions

Not included: airfare, personal expenses, and tuition at home institution if applicable

** Program fees and dates are subject to change

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:

CCIS SPONSORING INSTITUTION—MIAMI DADE COLLEGE

Address: Miami Dade College

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300 NE 2nd Avenue, Suite 1403-1
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San José, Costa Rica

Phone: (506) 283-4747

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