Students engage in outdoor adventure fitness and learn about the unique biology of Costa Rica through hands-on work with plants and animals in field research settings with Costa Rican and international scientists.

**Course Goals**

- Experience, understand and appreciate the cultural heritage of Costa Rica
- Actively participate in numerous outdoor physical activities in unique settings, including hiking, biking, running, yoga, snorkeling and surfing
- Explore a variety of natural environments in Costa Rica, comparing and contrasting flora and fauna with East TN/Southern Appalachia
- Assist researchers in Costa Rica in scientific investigations, including both botanical, or agriforestry-centered and animal-focused projects
- Compare and contrast environmental and economic development policies in Costa Rica and the USA

**TENTATIVE ITINERARY**

**Day 1** - Travel to San Jose, Cartago Basilica and Yoga

**Day 2** - Turrialba: Biking & CATIE research station

**Day 3** - Pacuare River Rafting

**Day 4** - Sarapiqui: La Selva Research Station

**Day 5** - La Selva: Sea Kayak Tour

**Day 6** - Hike Arenal Volcano, Ziplining, Maleku Indigenous people, Hot Springs

**Day 7** - Boat ride, Monteverde Canopy Tour, Hummingbird Garden

**Day 8 & 9** - Junquillal: surfing and research

**Day 10 & 11** - Yoga, research & surfing & snorkeling

**Day 12** - Manuel Antonio National Park

**Day 13** - Bahia Bellena National Park, Isla del Cano, Hiking Corcovado National Park
Costa Rica
Biology & Outdoor Adventure

Highlights & Course Information

- 3 credits
- Fulfills experiential requirement
- Open to sophomores, juniors, seniors
- Includes pre-departure and ongoing lessons
- Field Research Experience
- Interaction with locals
- Outdoor fitness experience
- Volcanoes, Rainforests, Cloudforests, Rivers, Oceans, and more...

Program Fee: $3,520 (subject to change)

Program Fee Includes:
- Roundtrip airfare
- Local transportation & trips
- Housing & meals
- International travel insurance

Not Included:
- Passport
- Immunizations
- Personal expenses

Faculty Leaders

Bruce Guillaume
Director of Mountain Challenge
35+ years facilitating outdoor adventures

Dr. Jerilyn Swann
Associate Professor of Biology
MC Science Research Liaison for Costa Rica & Outdoor Adventure Enthusiast

Scholarships & Application Process

Fill out an application form (www.maryvillecollege.edu/studyabroad) and return to Kirsten Sheppard (see below). Selection decisions are made by faculty members and are based upon the entire application packet: application, essay, references, GPA, student conduct, matching student and course goals, etc.

Apply by March 1 with $100 deposit. Only students who are not selected for any listed sites will receive a refund of this application fee. Selected students will need to make a $200 deposit by March 1. The Travel Study scholarship can cover up to $1000. Download and submit scholarship form by March 1.

Kirsten Sheppard - Center for International Education
International House - (865) 273-8991 - kirsten.sheppard@maryvillecollege.edu