

LIVING & LEARNING INTERNATIONAL

FOR SOCIAL WORK MAJORS - QUITO, ECUADOR



OVERVIEW

MISSION

Academically excellent international programs where students will live in community, engage the challenges of the world, and learn to respond with a Biblical Christian Worldview.

GOALS

To capture the excitement of cross and intercultural learning.

To challenge individuals to see the world as God sees it.

To provide real-life opportunities for international ministry.

To enjoy, learn from, and value the riches of the Ecuadorian culture and people.

To provide a hands-on Social Work practicum where students will meet CSWE standards.

Students, while living in Ecuador, will:

- Engage in Social Work Field Placement (400+ hours for seniors, 150+ hours for juniors) that will deepen students' understanding of cross-cultural social work.
- Enroll in Social Work Field Seminar taught by MSW qualified Living and Learning faculty.
- Participate in orientation, debrief, leadership development, and cultural experiences.
- Live with an Ecuadorian family for a portion of the semester to experience the culture.
- Engage in academic guided tours of the Amazon, Galapagos Islands, and the city of Cuenca.
- Live in Christian community.

DETAILS

College Credit: L&LI is a fully-accredited program wherein students can receive credit from L&LI's accrediting institution or receive credit from their home institution via course equivalencies. All faculty have appropriate advanced degrees.

Coursework: Coursework includes supplementary Social Work courses as well as context-specific courses to deepen students' understanding of the peoples of Ecuador. See course descriptions below.

Internship/Field-Practicum: The social work field practicum introduces students to agency-based social work practice. With an adjustable format, the number of practicum hours can be set based on institutional needs (junior vs. senior-level practicum). All placements are at local social service agencies, where students will engage in direct social work practice, under the guidance of a professional social worker. The practicum is designed to meet CSWE standards.

MSW Supervision: Study Abroad provides unique opportunities for cross-cultural learning and social work practice in a diverse environment. L&LI provides practicum supervision with three unique roles: the L&LI Internship Coordinator, Internship-Site Supervisor, and L&LI Field Liason (MSW). They work collaboratively to ensure students are supported and can process the integration of CSWE competencies with the work they are doing each day. See the description of supervision further along in this document for more details.

Housing & Food: Students live with a local Ecuadorian family for 4 weeks during the semester. This interaction provides "life-on-life" experiences" to teach culture, language, and a deeper appreciation for differences & similarities between U.S. and Latin American culture.

Travel Opportunities: To complement classroom learning, students participate in multiple excursions around Ecuador and South America. The program includes 4-5 day-long excursions to the Amazon jungle, the Galapagos Islands, the city of Cuenca, and the coastal beaches of Ecuador. Additionally, there are multiple opportunities for one and two-day trips around Ecuador over the weekends. A full list of travel opportunities is indicated on the semester calendar.



COURSES

Students participating in the Social Work track in Ecuador will enroll in multiple courses. For those enrolling in Senior Field Placement for 400+ hours, they will also complete:

- *International Field Seminar*
- *Ecuador History, Art, and Culture*
- *Community Development 100*

For those enrolling in Junior Field Placement for 150+ hours, they will enroll in the above courses AND have access to the full course catalog which includes additional Spanish courses, Bible courses, and General Education course work. The full course catalog is available on our website: landli.org/students/courses

SENIOR FIELD PLACEMENT

400-450 HOURS

This course provides an educationally directed practicum, introducing the student to agency-based social work practice. The student completes 400 hours in a social service setting, engaging in direct social work practice, under the guidance of a professional social worker. The student begins to integrate theory and practice and demonstrates beginning social work practice behaviors.

JUNIOR FIELD PLACEMENT

100-150 HOURS

This course provides an educationally directed practicum, introducing the student to agency-based social work practice. The student completes 150 hours in a social service setting, engaging in direct social work practice, under the guidance of a professional social worker. The student begins to integrate theory and practice and demonstrates beginning social work practice behaviors.

INTERNATIONAL FIELD SEMINAR 1 & 2

2-4 CREDIT HOURS

This course offers the student the opportunity to process the international internship experience under the professional supervision of the professor. This course will discuss re-entry components of the international experience and will incorporate discussion of globalization as it relates to social work and the diversity of the social work profession in other countries. The senior international seminar is held two (2) hours weekly in which students submit their own practice records for critical study and offer constructive feedback to their peers. Emphasis is placed on the integration of students' social work theoretical knowledge and skills as they enter the profession. Students must demonstrate all social work competencies designated by the Council on Social Work Education.



COURSES

(CONTINUED)

ECUADOR 250/350: HISTORY, ART, AND CULTURE

1-3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides an overview of the history, art, and culture of Ecuador, along with the relationship between these various aspects. The course includes guest speakers from local organizations and visits to community groups, along with lectures and readings. The one unit seminar is required for all students. Completing the course for three units is elective.

*There is an adaptation of this course for Spanish Credit rather than History or Art credit.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 100

1 CREDIT HOURS

An integrative cross-cultural experience designed to help the student develop a Christian worldview, engage cross-culturally, and understand diverse social and cultural contexts. A one-hour-per-week classroom-based lecture is a required component of students engaging in local internships. The goal and emphasis of this course is to provide students with a set of tools to utilize in interacting with people in work, community, or educational settings. Community development interventions in this course are designed to strengthen and improve less-advantaged communities, empower residents to participate in the developmental processes, and interact in larger social, political, and economic systems on behalf of the community.

FACULTY & SUPERVISION

FIELD LIASON

Julie Kuhn

BSW, Philadelphia Biblical University, 2000

BS in Biblical Studies, Philadelphia Biblical University, 2000

M.SW, The University of Pennsylvania, 2004

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 100

Robert Watson

M.Ed. Community Development, University of Glasgow (Glasgow, Scotland)

B.A. Religion and Culture Studies, Western Washington University
(Bellingham, WA)

ECUADOR 350 - HISTORIA, ARTE, Y CULTURA

José Luis Tipantuña

Abogado, Derecho internacional, Universidad Central del Ecuador (Quito, Ecuador)

Estudios Teológicos, Teología/Estudios teológicos, Word of Life Bible Institute (Argentina)

Maestría, Teología/Estudios teológicos, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (TX)

LIVING & LEARNING'S MODEL FOR FIELD PLACEMENT SUPERVISION

Study Abroad provides unique opportunities for cross-cultural learning and social work practice in a diverse environment. L&LI provides practicum supervision with three unique roles: the L&LI Internship Coordinator, Internship-Site Supervisor, and L&LI Field Liason (MSW). They work collaboratively to ensure students are supported and can process the integration of CSWE competencies with the work they are doing each day. See the description of supervision further along in this document for more details.

1. The Field Liason is an MSW adjunct faculty member on staff with Living and Learning. Their role consists of the following:
 - a. Teach and Assign grades for Seminar I and II - 2 credits for Junior Field
 - b. Teach and assign grades for Seminar I and II - 4 credits for Senior Field
 - c. Provide Supervision for In Country Task Supervisors who do not have BSW degree and 2 years social work experience per CSWE guidelines
 - d. Act as the Liaison between each university Field Director and student.
 - e. Mediate any issues pertaining to or arising in Social Work Field Placements, working in conjunction with the L&LI Internship Coordinator, and on-site social work Field Instructor or Task Supervisor
2. The Field Instructor or Task Supervisor provides oversight of the student at the social services agency.
3. The Living and Learning Internship Coordinator is on the Ecuador-based staff team and works with the Field Liason to facilitate internship placements.



SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

The program is roughly 16 1/2 weeks in length. Students arrive on Tuesday of Week 0 and depart on Friday of Week 16. The table below is included to give a sense of the program calendar in a high-level snapshot view. A full calendar is available upon request

Week 0: Students arrive on Tuesday and have program orientation all week

Week 1: Full-time internships

Week 2: Full-time internships

Week 3: Full-time internships

Week 4: Full-time internships (Homestays begin at the end of the week)

Week 5: Full-time internships

Week 6: Full-time internships, Depart on Wednesday for Amazon Jungle

Week 7: Full-time internships

Week 8: Full-time internships (Homestays end)

Week 9: Full-time internships

Week 10: Full-time internships

Week 11: Full-time internships

Week 12: Full-time internships

Week 13: Full-time internships

Week 14: Cohort Trips - Galapagos Islands/Cuenca

Week 15: Cohort Trips - Galapagos Islands/Cuenca

Week 16: Program debrief, students depart Ecuador on Friday

Definitions:

Full-Time Internships - Students are at their internship site for a full day Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. Wednesday is reserved for course work and evening Chapel service

Homestays - For about four weeks mid-semester students transition to living with an Ecuadorian family. This does not affect the hours they are at their internship site.

Cohort Trips - The program splits into two cohorts to minimize the impact of a large group traveling together. Students go to both the Galapagos Islands and to Cuenca, Ecuador.



HOMESTAY

Living with an Ecuadorian homestay family is one of the most interesting and rewarding aspects of the L&LI experience. All homes are carefully screened for suitability and are inspected regularly by our staff. During a semester, students will have the privilege of living with a family for 4-5 weeks.

L&LI has relationships with a network of families who are interested in hosting international students. We call this our "homestay" program because when students participate in this program, they are not only renting a room in somebody's house; students are welcomed into a home as if they were a member of a family. The homestay weeks gives students the opportunity for additional practice speaking Spanish outside of the classroom, as well as the opportunity to experience some of the cultural aspects of Ecuadorian life, such as food, family outings, and holidays. L&LI attempts to match students and families with personality, needs, history and characteristics. The families with which we are affiliated have experience in hosting international students. A host family provides a single room, internet service, two to three meals per day (depending on schedule) and laundry services. Traditionally, students are paired for safety and language learning methodology.

Profiles of L&LI's network are provided below. Their stories serve as examples of the families that L&LI provides the privilege of hosting students (families listed are not guaranteed as providers every semester):

FAMILY PROFILES

The Jaramillo Family

Ivanhoe works at a private systems and computer company. His wife Lily is a Literature teacher at a local high school. Their 30-year old daughter Cristina, and two children: Matías, who is 5, and Ana Julia, who is 2, live with Lily and Ivanhoe. They have another daughter Gaby, age 24, who attends college at a local university.

The Córdova Family

Juan Sebastian sells medical equipment and instruments. Carla works part-time in Public Relations (PR). They have been married for 3 years and do not have children... yet.

The Peña Family

Fabricio works as a lawyer in a law firm. Cristina owns and operates her own baking business. They have three sons: Fabricio, who is 17, Juan Martín, 13 and Daniel, 5. They love adventure and the outdoors.

The Arteaga Family

Alfredo is an architect who works for a private company. Paty is a stay-at-home mom and works part-time at a clothing store owned by the family. They have three children. Their sons, David and Antonio are both married. Their daughter Belén, who is 19 attends college at a local university.

The Córdova Family

Andrés is a lawyer and works at a bank. Maritza works in a law firm as an Assistant Manager. Their two children: Naty, who is 7 and Felipe, who is 5, both attend elementary school.

The Sanchez Family

Miguel works in a private company as an Administrator. Margarita is a stay-at-home mom, heavily involved in church ministry. They have three sons: one of whom is married. Andrés, the oldest son, at 29 is a computer engineer and Nicolai, 21, attends college.



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES & ENGAGEMENT

Seeing and engaging in the beauty and culture in Ecuador is an important component of the program. In addition to homestays and experiential outings included in coursework, L&LI provides day and overnight trip opportunities throughout the semester. Most costs are covered by the program, while some are optional, out-of-pocket expenses for students:

- *In-Class*
 - Tour one Neo-Gothic and one Baroque-style church in Colonial Quito (Experiential Outing)
 - Tour the Presidential Palace
- *Day Trips*
 - Orientation Session(s) at a Retreat Facility and/or City Park
 - Equator Visit & Zip-lining in the Cloud Forest
 - Hike Rucu Volcano with a summit of 15,696 feet (higher than any summit in the continental U.S.)
 - Explore Otavalo Market (largest open air market in South America)
 - Hike to the Refuge of the Cotopaxi Volcano (15,748 feet)
- *Overnight Trips*
 - 5-day service trip to the Amazon jungle of Ecuador (Puerto Misahualli)
 - 2-day trip to the mountain adventure town of Baños (Swing at the End of the World)
 - 5-day trip to the Galapagos Islands (Santa Cruz)
 - 5-day trip to the city of Cuenca
 - 4-day trip to the Coast of Ecuador for Debrief (Same)

Depending on availability, national or club soccer games may be provided as optional activities.



FINANCIAL MODEL

PRICING FOR THE 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

(not including airfare)

\$15,000.00 per student

COST INCLUDES

- Minimum of 12 credit hours, maximum of 18
- Most in-country travel and student/cultural activities (excluding optional, out-of-pocket expenses for students),
- Excursions to the Amazon jungle, Galapagos Islands, Cuenca, and the Coast of Ecuador
- Housing (in Homestay)
- All meals during program events (approximately 50% of the meals during the semester)
- Support and services provided by full-time onsite staff

COST BREAKDOWN

\$12,000.00 Tuition for Semester

\$3,000.00 Room and Board

MAILING ADDRESS

Living & Learning International
81 Pelican Place
Moses Lake, Washington 98837

MAILING ADDRESS ABROAD:

Living & Learning International: Misión Mundo Juvenil
Sancho de la Carrera N37-68 y Villalengua
Quito, Ecuador
SOUTH AMERICA

** Payment should be received by L&LI 30 days prior to student arrival*



EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

MISSION

Academically excellent international programs where students will live in community, engage the challenges of the world, and learn to respond with a Biblical Christian Worldview.

The faculty & staff of L&LI have expressed their purpose in sending forth graduates:

Whose lives reflect the love of Christ and find sole identity in Christ as part of His kingdom.

- Through reverence and worship of God.
- Through consecration to Christ & His Church.
- Through knowledge of the Bible and appreciation of its principles & truth.
- Through displaying Christ in thought, word & deed.

Who develop healthy, life-giving rhythms.

- Through possessing intellectual integrity and an enthusiasm for continuing growth & maturity in Christ.
- Through use of mental processes which lead to intelligent discussions, critical thinking, and making connections between processes.
- Through familiarization with a variety of sources of information.
- Through mastery of means of communication of ideas.
- Through becoming aware of, and responding to idols & treasures to become emotionally, physically and spiritually healthy.

Who value diversity, engage in, and contribute fully to the community.

- Through a heightened awareness of diverse cultural contexts and values.
- Through the development of skills and attitudes necessary to interact, work, and minister with people of other cultures.
- Through the utilization of knowledge and practice of wisdom.
- Through understanding the inclusiveness and breadth of God's kingdom and the equality of all people before God.
- Through the formation of a Christian worldview.

Who express and possess the character, knowledge, and wisdom to live purposeful lives.

- Through their willing response to God's plan to become like Christ, and develop Christ-like character.
- Through working in chosen vocations with skill, sacrifice, and dedication, with a commitment to obedience to God's will.
- Through a cooperative and understanding attitude toward fellow workers.

Who function effectively and bear fruit personally; locally and globally.

- Through active cooperation with other people toward community transformation.
- Through practice in becoming people of love and justice.



CREDIT OPTIONS & MOU

L&LI has a bold academic vision which is unique in the world of international education. L&LI's desire is to offer academic programs of the highest quality, based on a platform of faith-integrated curriculum and education. L&LI, however, is not an accredited college in its own right. The reality is that fully operational and accredited universities with a Christian academic agenda are rarely in place in countries outside the United States. This means L&LI must work with and partner with respected, accredited universities and colleges.

Partner institutions may rest assured that all L&LI programs will be trustworthy and excellent in terms of curricula, faculty qualifications, contact hours, study and research expectations, grading, and overall academic administration. Additionally, L&LI is committed to all its programs adhering to the recognized standards of best practices in the field of Study Abroad. Therefore, all programs will be regularly assessed on the basis of the "Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad," developed by the Forum for Education Abroad. These standards include baseline expectations regarding academic integrity, learning environments, health and safety, student learning and development, student conduct and advising, and student learning and development.

Council of Christian Colleges & Universities members and other institutions that currently partner with L&LI and grant course credit are:

- Anderson University
- Azusa Pacific University
- Biola University
- Cairn University
- Cal Baptist University
- Cedarville University
- Charleston Southern University
- College of the Ozarks
- Colorado Christian University
- Concordia University of Irvine
- Concordia University of Nebraska
- Concordia University of St. Paul
- Cornerstone University
- Covenant College
- Eastern University
- Eternity Bible College
- George Fox University
- Geneva College
- Grand Canyon University
- Grove City College
- Hope International University
- Houghton College
- Huntington University
- John Brown University
- Kuyper College
- Liberty University
- Messiah College
- Oklahoma Baptist University
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- San Diego Christian College
- Seattle Pacific University
- Southeastern University
- The King's College
- Toccoa Falls College
- Trinity Christian College
- Union University
- Vanguard University
- William Jessup University