

LIVING & LEARNING INTERNATIONAL

FOR SPANISH MAJORS - QUITO, ECUADOR



OVERVIEW

MISSION

Academically excellent study abroad programs for college students to 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 an immersive Spanish and intercultural experience.

Students, while living in Ecuador, will:

- Enroll in 12-18 credit hours to be completed during the semester, in upper-division college-level Spanish that will deepen students' language development at an advanced level from native speakers.
- Engage and participate in orientation, debrief, leadership development, and cultural experiences.
- Complete an internship practicum for credit or engage in service-learning opportunities across the city and country.
- Live with an Ecuadorian family to experience culture and build relationships, to immerse themselves in Ecuadorian culture and community.
- Participate in academic guided tours of the Amazon jungle, Galapagos Islands, and Cuenca, Ecuador.
- 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: Professors provide classroom instruction to students (course descriptions listed below). Classes are typically held multiple days per week for approximately 3 hours. Most classes consist of 45 hours of instruction, equivalent to 3 credit hours.

Housing & Food: Students live with a local Ecuadorian family for the duration of the program (16 weeks). This interaction provides "life-on-life" experiences" to teach culture, language, and a deeper appreciation for differences and similarities between U.S. and Latin American culture. Students will depart from and return to their homestay family during semester trips.

Internship/Service-learning: Cultural exposure and learning experiences in Ecuador offer a complement to classroom experience and lecture. Spanish-speaking opportunities to be involved in ministry challenge students to put into practice all that they are seeing and learning. Thus, every student is placed in an internship (for credit or service-learning) with partner ministries, foundations, and organizations in and around Quito. Practicum/Internship credit may be earned, in compliance with policies and standards at the sending institution.

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, 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

SPANISH 310: ADVANCED GRAMMAR & CONVERSATION

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course is a 3-credit conversation and advanced grammar course. In order to increase fluency and grammar accuracy in Spanish, we will utilize student experience outside of the classroom as they interact with people and culture in Quito. Students will be assigned activities in all four language modalities: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Assignments will be both formal and informal. We will review major grammar principles and build on those concepts to more advanced structures.

SPANISH 320: ADVANCED GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course is a 3-credit advanced composition course. In order to increase fluency and grammar accuracy in Spanish, we will utilize experience outside of the classroom as they interact with people and cultures in Quito. Students will be assigned activities in all four language modalities: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Readings will be from different genres, which will then be the basis for composition tasks. Assignments will be both formal and informal. We will review major grammar principles and build on those concepts to more advanced structures in both speaking and writing.

SPANISH 330: VOCES DEL ECUADOR OF ECUADOR (SELECT TOPICS FROM ECUADORIAN PERSPECTIVES)

3 CREDIT HOURS

Este curso es de nivel avanzado y combina la investigación, la redacción, y el debate a través de temas importantes y complejas presentadas desde la perspectiva ecuatoriana tanto para desarrollar y mejorar el idioma y profundizar el conocimiento histórico y cultural del Ecuador. A la vez, el estudiante tiene el desafío de integrar la fe y la cosmovisión bíblica al considerar estos temas importantes.

SPANISH 400: VISION GENERAL DE LITERATURA LATINOAMERICANA Y CULTURA

3 CREDIT HOURS

El curso trata de forma general los aspectos literarios y culturales de América Latina. La literatura latinoamericana fue galardonada por cinco oportunidades con el premio Nobel de Literatura. Se conocerán los aspectos principales de las obras literarias de esos autores representativas de nuestra cultura y desarrollaremos lecturas seleccionadas para trabajar con ellas. Este curso afirma conocimientos gramaticales avanzados del idioma español. Los estudiantes conocerán modismos y frases idiomáticas propias del idioma español. A través de los temas de cultura ecuatoriana los estudiantes podrán entender algunos aspectos de la variedad de la cultura y de esta forma relacionarse cómodamente con los ecuatorianos.

COURSES

(CONTINUED)

ECUADOR 350: HISTORIA, ARTE, Y CULTURA

3 CREDIT HOURS

Ecuador tiene una diversidad de riqueza histórica, cultural, y natural. La diversidad presenta oportunidades y también desafíos para el desarrollo de la nación. Este curso enfocará en ayudar a los alumnos a entender e interpretar los siguientes temas:

- 1) Historia del Pueblo Indígena (Antes y Después de Contacto)
- 2) Historia y Contexto de las Creencias Culturales, Actitudes, y Hechos de Ecuador, particularmente al desarrollar la persistencia de la Tradición Oral.
- 3) Historia del Arte Ecuatoriano: Estilos, Formas, y Expresión.
- 4) Estructuras y Figuras Políticas de Ecuador.
- 5) Historia del Movimiento Misionero/Evangélico en Ecuador.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 100 & INTERNSHIP/ SERVICE-LEARNING

1-3 CREDIT HOURS

*all coursework, including readings and assignments, will be completed in Spanish
Community Development is a unique and engaging field. The emphasis of this course is to introduce key community development concepts, why they are important, and how to achieve successful community development. A second goal 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 understood as activities to facilitate, strengthen, or improve less-advantaged communities, empower their residents to define and participate in the development process, and interact in larger social, political, and economic systems on behalf of the community. This course starts from the basic assumption that community development is best characterized as complex.

For this class, our working definition of "community development" will be:

Community development is a dynamic process by which disadvantaged people develop capacity to improve and control their lives.

Syllabi for all courses are available upon request

FACULTY (BY COURSE)

SPANISH

3 CREDIT HOURS

Janelle Groeneweg, *M.S. Science Education (Department Head)*

Viviana Jimenez Garces, *M.S. Applied Tech in Ed*

Ruth Ramirez, *M.S. Education*

María Alejandra Valverde, *Lic. Education*

María Jose Portalanza Mancheno, *M.S. Applied Math & Lic. Spanish Education*

Aura Luna de Morillo, *M.S. Education & Administration*

Rebeca Susana Estevez Sanchez Troya, *Lic. Education*

María Fernanda Andrade Beltrán, *M.S. & Lic. Clinical Psychology and Education*

Additional Professors as necessary/applicable (Master's level or equivalent)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 100 & INTERNSHIP/SERVICE-LEARNING

1-3 CREDIT HOURS

Robert Watson, *M.Ed. Community Development*

ECUADOR 350 - HISTORIA, ARTE, Y CULTURA

3 CREDIT HOURS

Professors as necessary/applicable (with appropriate advanced degrees)

Guest Speaker(s)





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 make 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 community.

- Through a heightened awareness of diverse cultural contexts and values.
- Through development of skills and attitudes necessary to interact, work, and minister with people of other cultures.
- Through 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 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 developing 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.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

(CONTINUED)

Distinction between **LOWER** (1-200 level) & **UPPER-DIVISION** courses (3-400 level):

Generally, introductory (lower-level) courses are differentiated from highly specialized courses (upper-level) that require student entry with substantial knowledge and skill in the field.

- Lower-division courses, often designed with freshmen and sophomores in mind, may also be suitable for juniors or seniors with little or no background in a particular discipline.
- Lower-division courses often serve as prerequisites for upper-division study. Rather, they may be ends in themselves, providing breadth, enrichment, or general knowledge of a subject or field of study.
- Lower-division courses often deal with skills although some upper-division courses may be skills- oriented as well.
- Proper sequencing of curriculum and requirements of partner institutions/accrediting bodies also has an impact on course numbering.

Nevertheless, these general distinctions may serve as guidelines for course numbering:

LOWER-DIVISION COURSES (1-200 level) generally have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Breadth: students gain some understanding of the extent of a field or discipline; OR students learn how one field fits into or relates to other fields.
- Foundation: students become acquainted with principles, terms, methods & perspectives of a discipline or professional field, as a basis for more advanced or specialized study (most often completed in students' first two years of study).
- General Education: students develop essential skills, attitudes, and practices (basics of critical thinking, communication, problem-solving) important in many other fields of higher education.
- Preparation: lower-division courses may assume some basic entry-level knowledge.

UPPER-DIVISION COURSES (3-400 level) generally have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Depth/Focus: students make in-depth study of a discipline's theories and methods, developing an understanding of the application and limitations of those theories.
- Specialization: students develop specific intellectual and professional abilities that will enable them to succeed or progress in a particular field or professional practice.
- Refinement: students build upon the "general education" background noted above, applying these skills more discerningly or in more challenging contexts.
- Preparation: prerequisites may include more general courses, student class standing, GPA, or admission to a pre-professional program. Thus, majors & minors most often complete upper-division courses in students' final two years of study.

GENERAL CAPSTONE COURSES (400 level), although not necessarily specialized or focused on an in-depth study of one discipline, have an integrative function. Because one of the primary goals of these courses is to integrate knowledge gained from earlier studies, they are necessarily offered at the upper-division level and limited to juniors and/or seniors.

SEAT TIME

All L&LI courses base credit hours on 15 hours of seat time = 50 minutes = 1 credit hour.

Following this protocol:

1 credit hour courses: 15 hours of seat time

3 credit hour courses: 45 hours of seat time

4 credit hours course: 60 hours of seat time



STUDENT LIFE & DISCIPLESHIP

Spanish major students' community will include students, faculty, staff, homestay families, guests, visitors, and numerous other people. The success of the program depends on all participants performing their responsibilities to the best of their abilities. Expect the unexpected; be flexible! There will be changes and adjustments that stretch your tolerance and patience. Things do not always go as planned, but L&LI alumni agree that the experience, particularly living in community was one of the most impacting and influential times in their lives.

L&LI emphasizes growth and development in community. We are committed to providing a program that nurtures the integration of the whole person: intellectually, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. We are committed to making the homestay experience a positive and healthy place to live. Living in community is a focal point that will encourage growth and development. As students meet the challenges of living with a homestay family, they will receive support from staff, specifically in relation to cultural and language barriers and bridges who are trained to serve as skilled resources.

L&LI staff promotes the following basic objectives aimed at helping achieve unity and an atmosphere conducive to community life:

1. To explore and experience the concept of a Christian community as it is affected by the diverse backgrounds and patterns of thought in our student body.
2. To help each other learn about living with ourselves as well as with others.
3. To promote meaningful conversations and communication among students, faculty, staff, and homestay families.
4. To learn to make decisions that will positively affect us, as well as those in our living area.
5. To develop an understanding of individual and communal accountability.

Living with an Ecuadorian homestay family is one of the most interesting and rewarding aspects of the semester and other programs. All homes are carefully screened for suitability and are inspected regularly by our staff. Our program has a relationship with a number of Ecuadorian families who are interested in hosting international students. We call this our "homestay" program because when you participate in this program, you are not only renting a room in somebody's house, you are being welcomed into their home as if you were a member of the family. The homestay gives you 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 life, and holidays. We prefer to place two students per family because when students live together we have found the placement to provide additional safety and joint language learning. However, students could be placed alone.

STUDENT LIFE & DISCIPLESHIP

(CONTINUED)

Your compatibility will vary. Remember that you are a guest, and try to work around personal differences. Do not underestimate how close you can become in a short period of time. We match your family environment with your personality, individual needs, characteristics, and family background. The families with which we are affiliated have a lot of experience in living with students. A homestay usually includes a single room, two or three meals per day (depending on your schedule), internet, and laundry services.

Upon arrival, communicate about food preferences, allergies, and logistics about shower, laundry, breakfast and dinner times, class schedule, and transportation. Leave behind your concept of personal space; you may have less privacy than you are accustomed to at home. Your room is a part of the home. Tension can arise from miscommunication. Always tell your family if you will be returning late, or missing a meal.

Your role as a guest is twofold:

- **PARTICIPATE:** in home life, respecting cultural norms and rules: meal times, laundry, internet, showers, visitors, resource use, and chores.
- **COMMUNICATE:** in Spanish as much as possible (do not be afraid to make mistakes), ask questions, communicate often and if there is a difference in opinion, try to work it out together; contact L&LI staff if you are unable to reach a solution to a disagreement.

Dinner & Eating

Time spent at the dinner table often is important. Manners vary, so try to observe and imitate (polite portion size, utensils, facial expressions, etc). Ask questions when you are confused. Discuss a variety of topics. Remember that sharing food is a way to get to know and understand the culture of a country. Be sure to let your family know if you plan to miss a meal.

Gift Suggestions

You should be prepared to give a small gift to your homestay family. Gift ideas include cookbooks, CDs, food items, university items, flowers, etc. Alumni also suggest bringing something small to give your family when you arrive, and supplementing it with another small gift upon departure. A thank-you postcard will be provided by L&LI for each one of you to thank your family in written form.

Some keys tips from L&LI alumni about homestays:

1. Never leave your room a mess.
2. Always call to let them know where you are.
3. While time spent with homestays is your decision, do not neglect them.
4. Remember you are a guest in a home, not in a hotel.
5. If you are out for the evening, return home at a reasonable hour.

If any uncomfortable situation or problem arises, do not hesitate to contact L&LI staff. If it difficult to take steps to help if no help is solicited. It is L&LI's policy to make immediate changes if necessary. It is L&LI's policy to make immediate changes if necessary. Students should not be guests in homestays during times not designated in the program calendar, including vacation periods. If for personal safety reasons, it becomes necessary to stay somewhere else than your homestay, it is imperative you let your family family and L&LI staff know. Some students do return and visit their homestay family.

HOMESTAY EXPERIENCE

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 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

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 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 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 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 Cuenca, Ecuador
 - 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

SEMESTER COST

(not including airfare)

\$15,500.00 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 and breakfast and dinner while in Homestay (approximately 80% of the meals during the semester)
- Support and services provided by full-time onsite staff

COST BREAKDOWN

\$11,500.00 Tuition for Semester

\$3,000.00 Room and Board

\$1,000.00 Additional Fee (Homestay)

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*



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