Study Abroad with URBS and Dr. Smith this summer in COSTA RICA!

Pura Vida Everyone,

Society, Space and Sustainability in Costa Rica
Summer Study Abroad with Dr. Heather Smith and Dr. Diane Zablotsky - July 5 through August 2, 2019. Society, Space and Sustainability in Costa Rica

Applications are now open for an URBS summer study abroad opportunity exploring the concept and practice of sustainability. With students based at the Universidad Hispanoamericana in the city of San Jose, this program offers an extensive overview of the social, cultural and geographical (both human and physical) influences on sustainability in Costa Rica. The course also provides students with opportunities to newly develop or hone their Spanish language skills and to work with and in the local community through a group civic engagement project. Students will examine urban, rural and coastal sustainability efforts, visit sites renown for sustainable tourism and environmental management and receive instruction from faculty from both UNC Charlotte and the Universidad Hispanoamericana. Dr. Heather Smith, URBS Director, is one of the two UNCC faculty co-teaching the course, so there will be lots of Urban Studies support and focus on the ground!

Students will enroll in each of the following two courses for their six credit hours. Students seeking URBS credit for one or both of SOCY 3090 and GEOG 3000 will work with Dr. Smith to develop urban focused final projects thus allowing the course(s) to count towards Urban Studies Minor requirements.

Course 1:

SOCY 3090: Topics in Sociology - The Social Context and Consequences of Sustainability in Costa Rica (3 credit hours)

This course will allow students to explore the many facets of sustainability and how efforts in Costa Rica compare to those in the United States. By exploring institutional arrangements, historical development, demographic influences, and relevant global issues, students will explore the uniqueness of the Costa Rican experience and be equipped to develop a comparative understanding of the goals and influences of national efforts related to environmental management, sustainable tourism, and social sustainability.

No pre- or co-requisites required.
Course 2:

GEOG 3000: Topics in Geography - Exploring the Geographical Underpinnings and Influences in Sustainability: The Costa Rican Model (3 credit hours)

This course will provide students with the basic concepts and principles of Geography as related to sustainability and as they have been developed in Costa Rica. Both lecture and site visits will provide broad understanding and critical analysis of sustainability in both historical and contemporary contexts.

No pre- or co-requisites required.

Please see the Office of Education Abroad's Program Website for information about cost and application Society, Space and Sustainability in Costa Rica