**MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO**

Department of World Languages & Cultures 227 Armstrong Hall

Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Telephone (507) 389-2116 FAX (507) 389-5887

**SPANISH STUDY ABROAD 2015-16**

**SPAIN, ECUADOR AND COSTA RICA**

**Program Aims:**  Minnesota State University, Mankato’s Study Abroad in Spain, Ecuador or Costa Rica program offers a serious academic experience that affords an opportunity to study the Spanish language, Hispanic Cultures, and Spanish or Spanish American Literatures in a natural setting. The program welcomes the participation of not only those who intend to major or minor in Spanish, but also those who desire to use Spanish as a collateral skill for a variety of occupations. The program concentrates on intensive study of the Spanish language and Spanish Peninsular or Spanish American Cultures. Course work in Spanish Peninsular Literature (Spain) or in Spanish American Literature (Ecuador and Costa Rica) is also available for qualified and interested students. Even persons with no previous study of Spanish are welcome to participate.

**Program Locations:** Participants have a choice to study in three locations in Spain: Madrid, Salamanca, or Alicante (summer only). The institutes in all locations are part of the highly respected Estudio Internacional Sampere, whose home institute is in Madrid. Each city has its own special attractions. Since the semester program is divided into sessions of four weeks, participants may begin studies in one city, and then relocate to a second and even a third (provided that the courses needed are available in the next location). Students pay only the cost of transportation to the next location.

The ES also has an excellent facility in Cuenca, Ecuador. Cuenca is known as one of the finest examples of a city that has preserved it historical heritage with its Spanish Colonial architecture and its proud traditions.

The ES is also affiliated with COSI/Maximo Nivel in the capital city of San José and Manuel Antonio, on the Pacific Coast. San José is a friendly and relatively tranquil city with easy access to both ocean coasts. Manuel Antonio is a small town on the Pacific Coast where beautiful beaches and natural phenomena abound. Students may study in either or both locations.

**Housing:** It is the policy of our Spanish Study Abroad programs that participants reside in native homes. These are fine middle-class homes (board and shared room; single rooms are available at additional cost) that are selected and supervised by the host institutions. Apartments, hotels, hostels, etc. are not options.

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***\*All information presented herein is subject to revision without prior notice.***

**Dates and Credits:**

 ***Intensive Summer Sessions:***

 (4 weeks) May 9 -June 3 *6 credits* 20 class hours per week

 (4 weeks) June 6-July 1 *6 credits*  20 class hours per week

 ***Fall Semester: All*** (12 weeks) Aug. 22-Nov. 11 *18 credits*. 24 hours of instruction/week

(16 weeks-Spain or Ecuador only)Aug.22-Dec. 9 *18 credits.* 24 hours of instruction/week

 **Spring Semester: All**(12 weeks) Jan. 11-April 1 *18 credits. 24 hours of instruction/week*

 (16 weeks-Spain or Ecuador only) Jan. 11-Apri 29 *18 credits. 24 hours of instruction/week*

*The16 week program in Spain requires a visit to the Spanish Consulate in Chicago to obtain a student visa. A simple 90-day tourist visa (issued as you enter the country) will suffice for the 12-week program, and requires no visits to consulates. In Ecuador, the 90-day tourist permit may be extended in country for an additional 90 days.*

***It is also possible to study in more than one country during the semester or the summer. Graduate credit is also available. Consult with the program coordinator.***

**International Student Identity Card:**  Visit MSU’s Office of International Programs (or the comparable office of your home institution) where forms are available to obtain an International Student Identity Card, for which there is a nominal charge ($22). The ISIC is required and comes with some medical insurance benefits. Visit <http://www.isic.org/student-card/faq.html> for more details. The OIP will also have some forms that you must complete as a student participating in an MSU Study Abroad experience.

**Medical Attention:** The Sampere Institute provides full coverage student health insurance for the duration of the program in Spain. Such coverage is not included in Ecuador or in Costa Rica. Although the ISIC card provides some insurance benefits, participants are responsible individually for incidental expenses they might incur, such as transportation and medicine. Staff of the Sampere Institute will recommend and assist in obtaining the services of necessary medical personnel in Spain, Ecuador and Costa Rica.

**Financial Aid:** Most MSU students who are qualified for Financial Aid on campus qualify for assistance while studying in Spain, Ecuador or Costa Rica. Arrangements should be made with the appropriate office as early as possible prior to the beginning of the program. Non-MSU students should consult the Financial Aid office on their home campus.

**Cost Estimate:** The Program Fee includes costs charged to MSU by the Estudio Internacional Sampere for board and room, the use of their facilities, excursions and services. The figures below include board and shared room in Spain, board and a single room in Ecuador and half board and a single room in Costa Rican homes (3 meals per day in Spain and Ecuador; breakfast and the evening meal in Costa Rica), a colloquium of lectures covering selected topics in culture, society and history, a series of cultural events (museums, monuments) and several field trips to sites of cultural interest in the surroundings of the chosen destination (Madrid, Salamanca, or Alicante in Spain or Cuenca in Ecuador or San José in Costa Rica). Some of the field trips require a modest additional fee. **The Program Fee does not include MSU tuition** (which must be added to the Program Fees indicated below), **transportation to and from Spain, Ecuador or Costa Rica, personal spending, laundry, and some excursions.**

**The Program Fee below does not include MSU, M Tuition and Fees, which are additional.**

 16 week semester 12 week semester 8 week session 4 week session

*Spain:*  $9,266 $7557 $5,692 $3,200

*Ecuador:* $6,138 $4,680 $3,222 $1,766

*Costa Rica:* $6,885 $4,735 $2,495

**MSU tuition will vary according to the number of credits and the residency status of the student.**

*Some variation in the number of weeks per session is possible. The above costs would then be adjusted accordingly. Graduate credit is also available. Consult the Program Coordinator.*

**Deposit and Deadline for payment:**

A non-refundable deposit of $400 must be made at least 4 weeks prior to the starting date of the Summer 2016 program, by December 4 for the spring 2016 program and by July 15 for the fall 2016 program. Financial Aid recipients will arrange payment through the Business and Financial Aid offices.Persons who do not receive Financial Aid must make payment in full by least 2 weeks prior to the starting date of all program options (unless other arrangements have been made with the MSU Business Office in consultation with the Program Coordinator).

 **Checks are to be made payable to: MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO**

 Checks are to be sent: c/o Ms. Alison Key

 Student Financial Services, 120 Wigley Administration Center

 Minnesota State University

 Mankato, MN 56001

 Tele. (507) 389-5011 Email: alison.key@mnsu.edu

 Checks may also be delivered to Ms. Key in person at her office.

**Refund of Tuition and Fees:** Refund of MSU tuition only is made in accordance with Minnesota State University, Mankato policy. The Program Fee includes all costs in addition to tuition that are charged by MSU. ***NO PORTION OF THE PROGRAM FEE IS REFUNDABLE.***

**Passport:** A passport is required to enter or leave the US or any other country. In Mankato, you may apply for a passport at the Nichols Office Center, 410 Jackson St. Telephone (507) 304-4251. You will need an official copy of your birth certificate (not a simple photocopy; it should have a raised seal).

**When to arrive:** Classes begin on Monday and end on Friday for all locations. For Costa Rica, you should plan to arrive the Sunday before classes begin and leave the Saturday after classes end. For Spain and Ecuador, you should plan to arrive on the Saturday before classes begin and leave on the Saturday after classes end. For Ecuador, since Cuenca does not have an international airport, you should plan to book your flight to Quito or Guayaquil on a Saturday, then home on a Sunday. The program fee includes overnight lodging in Quito or Guayaquil when you arrive, and the flight to Cuenca.. Return transportation and lodging are not included, but the Estudio Sampere can assist you in making travel arrangements.

**Questions and Detailed Information about the Estudio Internacional Sampere:**

Contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Greg Taylor, Department of World Languages, & Cultures 227 Armstrong Hall, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Mankato, MN 56001. He may be visited in his office, 229A Armstrong Hall. Telephone: (507) 389-2116. FAX: (507) 389-5887. E-mail: gregory.taylor@mnsu.edu

 **COURSES**

 ***Language, Literature, and Culture***

***Note: All participants must consult with the Program Coordinator individually in order to determine the most appropriate course work.***

193 Elementary Spanish I 493/593 Topics in Language and Linguistics

194 Elementary Spanish II 494/594 Topics in Spanish American Literature

293 Intermediate Spanish I (Ecuador or Costa Rica only)

294 Intermediate Spanish II 495/595 Topics in Spanish Peninsular Literature:

 (Spain only)

393 Advanced Spanish I 496/596 Topics in Spanish American Culture (Ecuador or Costa Rica only)

394 Advanced Spanish II 497/597 Topics in Spanish Peninsular Culture

395 Readings in Hispanic Literature (Spain only)

Course work is done in 4-week cycles. The above MSU courses will correspond to classes provided by the Estudio Sampere.

 **TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks will be obtained in Spain, Ecuador, or Costa Rica through the Sampere Institute and are included in the price of the program.

 **MONEY IN SPAIN, ECUADOR and COSTA RICA**

Like most European countries, the unit of currency in Spain is the Euro. In Ecuador, the unit of currency is currently the U.S. dollar. In Costa Rica the unit of currency is the Colón. Personal checks cannot usually be cashed and even cashier’s checks may present considerable difficulty. ATMs are widely available. ***Never carry more cash than you can afford to lose!***