

# experience ECUADOR

summer serve & learn spanish

## the program

This short-term study abroad program combines intensive Spanish language instruction, travel and intercultural learning with service placements in community-based organisations in the city of Guayaquil, Ecuador. The Serve and Learn Programs are 4 weeks in length, during the months of June and July.

## what is included?

- 1 Orientation Tour:**  
4 days of travel beginning in capital city Quito, and including the famous Otavalo crafts market, visits to Andean communities, and to the Equatorial Line.
- 2 Field Trips:**  
A weekend trip to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Cuenca, Cajas National Park, and the Ingapirca Inca ruins; and a chance to experience the coastal ecology of Ecuador.
- 3 Cultural Seminar:**  
Weekly debrief and guest lecture gives students a chance to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Ecuador.
- 4 Other:**  
Cultural activities like Latin dance or Ecuadorian cooking classes, as well as a language exchange with a local student.
- 5 Accommodations:**  
Homestay with an Ecuadorian family.
- 6 Full use of the university's facilities,**  
including sports complex, buses and doctor's surgery.
- \*7 Six Credits of Spanish and Service Learning.**
- 8 Donation to service agency.**



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### q&a!!!

#### ● Where is the program located?

The program is based at the Universidad Espiritu Santo in the city of Guayaquil, Ecuador. Possibly the most diverse and undoubtedly one of the most beautiful countries in the world, Ecuador offers unspoiled coastline, snow-capped mountains, indigenous cultures, colonial architecture, and the planet's two greatest natural wonders: the Amazon Rainforest and the Galapagos Islands.

Guayaquil is Ecuador's largest city – with a population of over 2.5 million – and commercial hub. However, like other Latin American mega-cities, it suffers social problems that provide opportunities for students interested in service and in learning about the realities of urban life in the tropics.

The Universidad Espiritu Santo – located in the district of Samborondón – is ranked as one of the country's top universities. UEES' modern campus has a sports complex and pool, fleet of buses, doctor's surgery, music and TV studios, and a student-run restaurant. We also have iguanas wandering around the main plaza.

#### ● Where will I stay?

Participants live with an Ecuadorian host family. Life with a host family provides students with a rich intercultural experience, language practice, and 3 meals a day.

#### ● What will I study?

Students take up to 6 credits: 3 credits of intensive Spanish language, and 3 credits for the service learning placement. The academic component of the placement includes a weekly journal, attendance at a weekly Cultural Seminar, and a final reflection paper. Students are issued with an international transcript in English at the end of the program.

#### ● Where will I serve?

Students are placed in a variety of community organisations that work at addressing the pressing social needs in Guayaquil, such as health, nutrition, education, shelter and housing, and environmental protection, or working with the physically and mentally disabled, street children, and other marginalized members of society. Students are placed according to their skill set and Spanish language level.

#### ● What about travel arrangements?

We can assist with further travel, such as trips to the Galápagos Islands and Amazon Rainforest, along with hotel reservations in Quito before the program begins.



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### ● How much does it cost?

The one-month program costs US\$2,900.  
For students wishing to take both  
programs, a discount is available.

### ● How do I sign up?

To apply, go to

<http://www.uees.edu.ec/cei/apply.php>

The deadline for applications is one month prior to the start of  
the program.

### start dates

Summer 1  
Late May to early June

Summer 2  
Late June to early July

Exact dates are  
available by emailing:  
[international@uees.edu.ec](mailto:international@uees.edu.ec)



## why choose UEES?

- Experienced, friendly, bilingual staff on call 24 hours a day
- Accommodation with Ecuadorian host family
- Extensive travel and field trips
- Cultural and social activities
- Weekly Cultural Seminar
- Opportunity to serve in the community
- Assistance with travel arrangements in Ecuador
- Study at one of Ecuador's premiere Universities



*"Leaving Guayaquil was a bitter  
experience. In my time in South  
America, I made many friends.  
I have pictures, but they only  
make me wish I was back.  
As all travelers say,  
I hope to go back one day."*

*Ben Smith  
(SUNY Buffalo)*



## contact us CEI

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UNIVERSIDAD ESPIRITU SANTO

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