

SEMESTER IN THE ANDES SPRING SEMESTER



COURSE DESCRIPTION

CEDEI'S Spring Semester in the Andes combines quality academic content, focusing on the environment, Latin American literature and history, and Spanish-language learning, with an extended intercultural and language experience. Live and study in Cuenca, Ecuador, and end your study-abroad experience with a visit to the must-see Galapagos Islands, one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world! Our semester is open to students from a wide range of majors with or without previous Spanish knowledge. Study at CEDEI and live a unique experience!

LIFE ABROAD

Experience the laid-back and historic culture of Cuenca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, filled with beautiful cathedrals, rotundas, and luscious green parks. Visit local indigenous villages, sandy beaches, and snow-capped mountain ranges, and one of South America's must-see sites: the Galapagos Islands!

DINE

Enjoy traditional dishes prepared by host families, such as locro de papa (potato stew), mote pillo (corn) and llapingachos (fried potato pancakes). Three meals a day are provided seven days a week throughout the program.

EXPLORE

The semester program kicks off with an Orientation trip, during which information sessions are held on topics such as cultural adjustment, health and safety, living with a host family, and a general program overview. During orientation our students tour the capital city of Quito, a UNESCO Heritage, and stand on the Equator at Mitad del Mundo! The group continues their adventure south to Cuenca through the Route of the Volcanoes.

Students are based in Cuenca for the length of the program and also enjoy weekend cultural excursions which include: Ingapirca Inca Ruins, Cajas National Park, and the indigenous community of Saraguro. During mid-term break, students will enjoy a well-deserved rest by the sea, recharge their energy with the vibrations of the beautiful Ecuadorian beaches.

The Spring semester ends with a magical trip to the world famous Galapagos Islands, where the program participants enjoy the unique ecosystems and endemic species of the archipelago and connect what they have learned during the semester with this wonderful environment!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Take in the beauty of Ecuador known for its rich biodiversity and mesmerizing landscapes, composed of volcanoes, beaches, rainforests, and mountains.
- This program offers the best of both worlds: quality academic content and unforgettable travel and intercultural experiences throughout the Andean mountains, cities, and cultural heritage sites of Ecuador.

LIVE

Embrace the Ecuadorian way of life by living in a homestay that is a 10-15-minute bus or tram ride from campus. Enhance your language proficiency in Spanish by practicing with a host family, or match with a family that knows some English (depending on your language experience).

EXPERIENCE

Experience Ecuadorian culture through cultural activities included in the program, such as dance classes, cooking classes, and pottery classes. Stroll through the quaint colonial streets of Cuenca while enjoying the beautiful weather and archeological sites all around.

CREDITS EARNED

Students who complete the program in good standing can expect to take 4-5 classes between both sessions with a semester which ISEP recommends is the equivalent of 12, 15 or 18 US Credit Hours. Each course is usually worth 3 credits.

Average Classes Per Week: 5

Average Class Hours Per Week: 20

Classes Available:

The chart below details the courses that you can choose from to complete your course requirements.

SPRING SEMESTER (GALAPAGOS) COURSES			
01	ENV 301-Environmental Studies of the Andes	09	SPA 202-Intermediate Spanish II
02	ENV 330-Tropical Ecology	10	SPA 310-Advanced Spanish: Grammar and Syntax
03	ENV 340-Conservation Biology	11	SPA 311-Advanced Spanish: Conversation
04	GEO 302-Geography of Latin America	12	SPA 312-Advanced Spanish: Writing
05	HED 209/SOC 380-Health Issues in Developing Countries	13	SPA 336-Survey of Latin American Literature
06	SPA 101-Beginning Spanish I	14	SSPA 341-History of Latin America: Conquest and Colonization
07	SPA 102-Beginning Spanish II	15	SPA 347-Modern Latin America
08	SPA 201-Intermediate Spanish I	16	SSPA 403-Expresiones Artísticas Andinas

LECTURES

- Ecuadorian ecosystems - Cajas
- Migration.
- Natural Medicine.

EXTENSIVE EXCURSIONS ARE INCLUDED IN THE SEMESTER IN THE ANDES PROGRAM!

The participants will visit various indigenous towns within the Ecuadorian Andes. Students will also develop diverse activities and will have a direct involvement with different communities of the northern part of the country. Each day is filled with learning experiences and guidance that will ease the transition to Ecuador.

In addition to the 4-day orientation trip at the start of the semester, students participate in weekend visits to Cajas National Park, Ingapirca Incan Ruins, Saraguro Indigenous Town, Northern Ecuador and Jungle, Gualaceo and Chordeleg. There is also a mid-semester excursion to the Pacific Coast.

The Spring semester ends with a 6-day magical trip to the world famous Galapagos Islands, where the program participants enjoy the unique ecosystems and endemic species of the archipelago!

Airport Pickup

An International Programs Coordinator will pick you up at the Quito airport.

Requirements: the submission date for all documents is based on the chosen semester.

- [Application Form](#).
- [Spanish Placement Exam](#).
- * University's official transcript (GPA 2.5 minimum).
- * Two recommendation letters.

* These documents need to be sent to oip@cedei.org



Join CEDEI for a semester of adventure, learning, and cultural exchange in one of the world's most beautiful regions. For more information, contact us at oip@cedei.org. Start your journey today!