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AMISTAD INSTITUTE COSTA RICA

SEMINARS

INTRODUCTION

You will attend Seminars in Santa Barbara, Heredia. A small town surrounded by rivers, mountains, and forests in the Flower's City, the way Heredia is called by Costa Ricans. This amazing location offers the opportunity to learn Spanish and enjoy its beautiful nature. The Institute is situated in 5 acres of Private Reserve, full of green space, trees, plants, butterflies and birds. Near by historical buildings, museums, restaurants, bars and shopping areas.

Our campus consist in one office building, one big building for introductions, Dancing and Cooking lessons, and special meetings; this building also has two large classrooms. A large and fresh gazebo (use as a class when possible), another group of classes (6 in total), and a little house by the river, use as a hosting facility or as classrooms depending on necessity. All this buildings give us the ability to hold twelve groups of no more than 6 people, a total of 72 people in each schedule (8-12, and 1-5). But even more... we have about 4 more acres for outside classes with all the green space we have!

We offer a full range of intellectual, social, and cultural activities. Amistad Institute offers specially developed Seminars, and Cultural Training Programs.

Seminars in Costa Rica at a glance.

Start dates: Depends on the Seminar.

Program length: Varies from one up to six weeks.

Accommodations: Host families and guests' houses. We always offer 3 meals per day and laundry service.

PLEASE READ THE COMPLETE DOCUMENT CAREFULLY!

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OUTLINES...

Eligibility:

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Must be eligible to receive a tourist visa to Costa Rica.
- Must be flexible, in good health, and have a real desire to learn.
- Must be able to fulfill the special requirements of each Seminar.

Location: Amistad Campus is located in Barrio Jesús of Santa Bárbara, in Heredia. In a rural town, just 30 minutes from San José by bus.

Insurance: Amistad Institute can arrange a Traveller Insurance when you arrive to Costa Rica, it will cover from the first day of your stay to the last. Prices are affordable; please ask about this prior to your arrival.

Pre-Departure Material: Amistad will send you a Pre-Departure document, and a placement sheet with important information about your program.

Support: Amistad has a phone number for questions and comments that works all the official time (Monday-Friday, 8-5), and two **emergency** phone numbers.

BUT YOU GET EVEN MORE!

- Pick up from the airport.
- Certificate for the Spanish lessons.
- Local in country support.



FEES (2006)

Please check the fees in each Seminar description.

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WHAT TO SEND?

Please submit your application package.

- Application form
- Application fee- \$300 (will be deducted from the Seminar fee).

Please remember this complete package of information has to be at the Institute prior to your arrival, or we cannot assure you a place. Also keep in mind we do not reimburse application fee.



WHAT IS NEXT?

After we receive your complete application package, a letter of acceptance and an invoice for the Seminar fee will be sent to you.

Once you purchase your airline ticket and give us your arrival information, we will send you a participant package with your placement sheet (information about your hosting and the program), and the Pre-Departure information sheet.

You must pay the rest of the fee, the first day of the Seminar.

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SEMINARS DESCRIPTION

SEMINARIO ELE (ENSEÑANZA ESPAÑOL COMO LENGUA EXTRANJERA)

DURACIÓN: 1 MES

EL SEMINARIO INCLUYE:

100 horas de capacitación en la enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera, incluye alojamiento y comidas con una familia hospedadora, así como transporte, material y equipo. El Seminario tiene una duración de un mes, con horario de 1 p.m. a 5p.m. y se abrirá con un mínimo de 5 participantes. Se requiere de un nivel superior en el idioma español, el cual se determinará por medio de un test.

Programa del Seminario

Día:	Tema:
1	Historia del Español y Variantes del Idioma
2	Historia de la Cultura y Geografía Universal. Cultura, subcultura y contracultura, aculturación y transculturación.
3	Biodiversidad de Costa Rica.
4	Paradigmas, enfoques y metodologías de la Educación. Teorías de la adquisición de una lengua extranjera.
5	Sociopragmática, pragmalingüística y Lingüística Contrastiva del Español. Aplicadas.
6	Literatura Universal y Latinoamericana Aplicadas.
7	Literatura Costarricense Aplicada.
8	Perfil del Instructor de Español para Extranjeros. Técnicas, dinámicas y actividades para la enseñanza.
9	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel principiante?
10	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel principiante?
11	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel principiante?
12	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel principiante?
13	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel intermedio?
14	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel intermedio?
15	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel intermedio?
16	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel intermedio?
17	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel avanzado y superior?
18	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel avanzado y superior?
19	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel avanzado y superior?
20	¿Cómo enseñar la gramática del Español al nivel avanzado y superior?
21	Habilidades Lingüísticas y Desarrollo de Destrezas Escritas.
22	Pronunciación y Fonética del Español.
23	Pedagogía vrs Andragogía y Construcción de Materiales Didácticos
24	Psicosociología del Estudiante de Español.
25	Evaluación Oral y Escrita, cierre, entrega de diplomas y almuerzo.

COSTO DEL SEMINARIO: \$ 2,500

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TEFL INTERNATIONAL TESOL CERTIFICATION (6 WEEKS)



The Seminar consists of two parts.

First part. Spanish course (Foreign Language Experience). The trainees receive training in an unknown foreign language to reflect on the experience of being a learner, and how this might direct their own teaching. The school will appraise the level for each student and provide an appropriate course of instruction. This **two weeks** session includes grammar structures, special conversation, and cultural activities.

The second part of the program is focused on the Teaching English experience. TEFL International's TESOL certificate is a **four week**, 120 hours intensive course, teaching students how to teach English as a second language.

LANGUAGE AWARENESS: Grammar. Inputs cover word classes, simple sentence elements, complex sentences and clauses, verb time and tense, aspect and conditionals and modals, phrasal and voice.

Phonology. Input cover phonemics, word stress and intonation, and connected speech.

STUDENT PROFILE: Trainees work with individual students on rapport building, error analysis and correction and addressing individual student needs.

TEACHING PRACTICE AND OBSERVATION: All teachers are expected to perform:

- 4 hours of observing experienced teachers.
- 1 hour observing professionally developed video.
- 12 hours of peer observation.
- 1 hour of shared teaching practice.
- Minimum of 8 hours of individual teaching practice.

SEMINAR FEE: \$ 2,500

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REAL ESTATE SEMINAR (1 WEEK)



SATURDAY

4:00-6:00 p.m. Pick Up at the airport and check in at the hotel.
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-12:00 m.d. Visit to Rain Forest Aerial Tram.
12:00 m.d. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-5:00 p.m. Visit to INBIO Biological Research Institute.
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

MONDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-10:15 a.m. Spanish lesson #1: General Information about Costa Rica.
10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break.
10:30-11:45 a.m. Spanish lesson #2: Greetings and presentations.
11:45 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-4:00 p.m. Real Estate in Costa Rica: A Resident's point of view.
4:00-4:15 p.m. Coffee Break.
4:15-6:00 p.m. Real Estate in Costa Rica: General aspects.
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-10:15 a.m. Spanish lesson #3: Real Estate's Vocabulary and Definitions.
10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break.
10:30-11:45 a.m. Spanish lesson #4: Reading surveys, construction materials.
11:45 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-4:00 p.m. Buying in Costa Rica: Legal aspects
4:00-4:15 p.m. Coffee Break.
4:15-6:00 p.m. Buying in Costa Rica: Financing (loans).
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

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WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-12:00 a.m. Visit some properties (Central Valley)
12:00 m.d. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-4:00 p.m. Spanish lesson #5: Articles, Nouns, and Pronouns
4:00-4:15 p.m. Coffee Break.
4:15-6:00 p.m. Spanish lesson #6: Verb TO BE (Ser and Estar)
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

THURSDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-10:15 a.m. Spanish lesson #7: Regular Verbs
10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break.
10:30-11:45 a.m. Spanish lesson #8: Regular Verbs
11:45 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-4:00 p.m. Building in Costa Rica
4:00-4:15 p.m. Coffee Break.
4:15-6:00 p.m. Cultural activity (Latino or Folkloric Dancing presentation)
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

FRIDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-10:15 a.m. Spanish lesson #9: Irregular Verbs
10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break.
10:30-11:45 a.m. Spanish lesson #10: Irregular Verbs
11:45 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00 p.m. Departure to the Beach (Jaco/Esterillos/Manuel Antonio zone)
4:00-6:00 p.m. Check in at the Beach Hotel
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00-12:00 m.d. Visit some properties at the Beach
12:00 m.d. -2:00 p.m. Lunch.
2:00-3:00 p.m. Properties at the Beach: Basic knowledge
3:00-8:00 p.m. FREE TIME
8:00 p.m. Dinner.

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Breakfast.
9:00 a.m. Checking out and departure
12:00 m.d. -2:00 p.m. Lunch in Alajuela
3:00 p.m. Juan Santamaria International Airport, Heredia or San Jose City.

SEMINAR FEE \$ 3,400

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HOME STAY WITH COSTA RICAN FAMILIES



Participants will live with a Costa Rican family. Each student is matched with a carefully selected family. The student will have his/her own bed but may need to share the bedroom with other volunteers of the same gender depending on availability.

Bathrooms are typically shared with the family. Three meals are provided: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Home stays are conveniently located, close to downtown and the Institute, and in safe neighborhoods.

Our home stay program provides students from around the world with a unique opportunity to experience Costa Rican life first-hand. Life with a host family makes it possible for students to practice what they have learned in the Institute, discover Costa Rican culture, and make friendships that last a lifetime.

Amistad also offers attendants the opportunity to extend the stay with the family after the Seminar. Participants should check with the Institute to determine if the family is available. The participant will then pay to the Institute for the extra nights with the family.

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FAQ



WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT CONCERNING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF MY HOSTING?

The living conditions of your placement will depend on where you are assigned. In some cases, you will stay in a hotel. Our host families are educated, well-respected, and experienced with international students. Few members of host families may speak English, but remember you have to practice your Spanish and try not to speak English.

WHAT SHOULD I REMEMBER TO BRING WHEN I LEAVE FOR COSTA RICA?

You may like to bring special items such as a pocket-sized English/Spanish dictionary, binoculars, camera and film, walking shoes, traveler's checks, cash and/or credit cards, swim suits. Also you can bring casual clothes for nightlife and fine dining, your favorite Costa Rican travel guide, sandals, sunglasses & hat, necessary medication, rain jacket, and seasonal clothes. It is best to provide your own towels as towels may not be provided or it would be below your standard of expectation. You may also be able to buy all those things in Costa Rica. It would be greatly appreciated if you bring a little present for your host family.

CAN I CHANGE MY HOUSE PLACEMENT IF I BECOME DISSATISFIED?

Amistad will consider the request of a participant for a house change, but we only change the placement if the reasons for the request are unresolvable and necessary as per agreement with us. In addition, change of placement is only possible if there is an available spot in the other house. Remember that if you ask to be change, you are going to have to cover the expenses that you can incur in to do so.

CAN I SCHEDULE MY OWN SEMINAR LESSONS FOR THE DATES THAT INTEREST ME?

We held Seminars only when we have a certain number of attendents. Participants arriving early need to pay for extra nights. We can also arrange your stay in hostels that will cost you around \$15 per day including breakfast. That is why we recommend that participants arrive one or two days before they start their Seminar (may not always be possible). Amistad suggests that participants adjust their flight schedule according to Seminar schedules. Participants can stay and wait at a hostel or host family at their own expense if they arrive too soon before or too late after the Seminar begins.

Lessons would not be replaced under any circumstance.

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HOW WILL I GET TO HEADQUARTERS FROM THE AIRPORT?

There is nothing to worry about. One of our staff members or representative will be waiting for you at the Juan Santa Maria International Airport terminal in Alajuela. He or she will be holding a sign showing your name. Please do not forget to send your detailed flight itinerary so these arrangements can be made. It is important to be patient and look carefully for your name at the airport. It is often very crowded. Please understand we do not reimburse any expense related to the pick up if you miss the person that is waiting for you.

WHAT EXTRA MONEY SHOULD I BRING?

Carrying extra money depends on your personal spending habits. Amistad will manage your food and room from the first to the last day that you are enrolled in our Seminars, so there will not be a need for more money. However, you may want some extra money for your personal expenses, and additional travel. An extra \$5 to \$10 per day will be useful for local travel, internet cafes, etc.

WILL I HAVE ACCESS TO MODERN COMMUNICATIONS, SUCH AS E-MAIL, TELEPHONE, OR THE POST OFFICE?

There is access to e-mail, telephone, and a Post Office in most places around the country. This information will all be given to you before your departure to Costa Rica.

CAN I COME WITH A FRIEND, OR CAN I BE PLACED NEAR OTHER PARTICIPANTS?

Amistad allows participants to come with a friend or even with a large group. Sometimes you may be placed in the same or nearby homes, lodges, and projects.

WHAT VACCINATIONS WILL I NEED FOR MY TRIP TO COSTA RICA?

This all depends on what vaccinations you already have and what country you are coming from. We suggest that you consult a travel doctor from your country before you arrive. Please visit www.cdc.gov for more information.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT OBTAINING A VISA?

There is no special visa arrangement for volunteers in Costa Rica. All nationals who intend to enter Costa Rica will need a proper visitor visa. You will get a 30, 60, or 90 day visitor visa to the nearest consulate of Costa Rica. For more information please visit <http://www.costarica.com/Home/> or call nearest Costa Rican Embassy or consular. Our attendants assist on a tourist visa. We can arrange to extend the period when you are in the country.

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HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET TO MY HOST SITE?

As we are located very near the airport, participants are to make their destination Juan Santa Maria International Airport. We will pick you up from the arrival lobby of the airport (remember to be patient and look carefully for a sign with your name).

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME TO TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA?

There are three seasons of travel to Costa Rica during the year: High Season (related to the dry season, from December to April), Peak season (Christmas, New Years, and Easter), and the Green Season (also called the Low Season or the rainy season, from May to November). If you live in the Northern Climates, you will probably consider winter the best time to visit. However, persons from other areas of North America and Europe might find the rest of the year equally pleasant. They also might find it quite a bit more affordable. Other travellers prefer the country when there are fewer tourists - during the Green Season, but Costa Rica has a nice weather all year round, so you would no find extreme weather at any time of the year.

DO I NEED TO SPEAK A FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN ORDER TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE PROGRAM?

Everybody who is interested in participating in the Real Estate or the TEFL Seminar is required to join the language and cultural classes. Our culture and language classes include an intensive introduction to the Spanish language, which you will learn quickly once you are immersed in the culture. Remember we are also an Spanish Institute, so all our Spanish Programs are complete and professional.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY IN COSTA RICA?

If you failed to meet our representative at the airport within 3 hours after your arrival, please proceed with the instructions that will be provided in advance in your placement details. We will reimburse part of your taxi and hotel bill (must not exceed \$20). Please bring your hotel and taxi bill to our office. We will give you a check or money order. If your flight changes suddenly, or if you experience some other emergency while you are at your placement, please contact our office to the numbers that we provide in your placement sheet.

IS THERE AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM?

There will be an orientation that will include project slides explaining the local climate, local people, safety issues, and other issues concerning your stay in Costa Rica. The orientations will be given in our Campus in Santa Barbara, Heredia, before the start of the program.

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WILL THE PROGRAM PROVIDE ANY SORT OF INSURANCE FOR THE VOLUNTEERS INVOLVED?

Amistad can arrange unexpensive insurance from the date of program starts to the end. Please contact us for more details.



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SAFETY



International travel presents risks for travelers, especially with the threat of international terrorism. We suggest that all volunteers consult their own governments before participating in our programs. These links provide travel information:

British Foreign Office Advice
<http://www.fco.gov.uk/>

American State Department Advice
http://travel.state.gov/travel_warnings.html

Australian Government Advice
<http://www.dfat.gov.au/>

Canadian Government Advice
http://www.voyage.gc.ca/destinations/menu_e.htm

**AMISTAD IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE RESULTING FROM YOUR
NEGLIGENCE IN FAILING TO TAKE APPROPRIATE TRAVEL ADVICE OFFERED
BY YOUR HOME COUNTRY.**

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