

**Summer in Costa Rica 2011**  
**Social Justice, Environment and Language**  
**Dates: May 15<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 if participating in both sessions**  
**Or choose just the 1<sup>st</sup> session (May 15 – June 4) or 2<sup>nd</sup> session (June 5 – July 2)**

One of the longest running programs of the Stone Center is changing for the better. Always an incredible way to spend some weeks in Central America, starting with summer of 2011, you can now take additional courses and choose from several sessions. How about combining some Spanish language classes with a course on Climate change, biodiversity and tropical ecology? And what about adding into the mix a Service-Learning class on Social Change and Civic Engagement, or maybe even do a Service-Learning internship in a Costa Rican organization working exactly on those issues?

Whatever program you choose, your main base for these weeks will be the beautiful campus of CIAPA (Centro de Investigación y Adiestramiento Político Administrativo), which has the feel of a tropical oasis in the midst of Costa Rica's impressive capital city of San José. CIAPA is a prestigious academic research institution with a distinguished track record of research and scholarship in the social sciences. The main building on the small campus houses multiple lecture and seminar rooms. The campus also includes a wonderful dormitory where you will be housed along with fellow Tulane program participants.

If you are ready for an early start, come down on May 15<sup>th</sup> for a three-week Service-Learning program. In this program, you will enroll in a 300-level, 4-credit Service-Learning Social Justice course. Enrolling in this course would allow you to fulfill either the first-tier or the second-tier Service-Learning requirement. This course, taught in English, will explore notions of citizenship and concepts of social justice in Latin America from a theoretical perspective, and will supplement this in-class learning with actual practical application in the community through a 40-hour service-learning placement.

If you decide to stay for the second session or just join the group on June 5, you will be able to choose from several 6 or 7-credit program options: (1) you can combine one of the Spanish classes with the Environmental Ecology class, (2) you can take a Spanish class and do a Social Justice Service-Learning Internship, or (3) you can combine the Social Justice Service-Learning Internship with the Environmental Ecology class.

## **Courses**

Students may enroll in the following courses during this summer program:

- **LAST 3950 with LAST 3890:** This course, taught in English, will explore notions of citizenship and concepts of social justice in Latin America from a theoretical perspective, and will supplement this in-class learning with actual practical application in the community through a 40-hour Service-Learning placement.
- **LAST 4570:** Tulane, through CIAPA, is developing partnerships with a variety of local governmental and non-governmental organizations that will host students as interns. Students may have the opportunity to work with a variety of government entities charged with civic education and the protection of human rights. Students may also have the opportunity to partner with grass-roots, non-governmental organizations that work on reducing drop-out rates in high schools, primarily in poor and marginalized communities. Additional opportunities to work with organizations promoting social justice and civic-capacity building are also being developed.
- **EEOB 212 Climate change, biodiversity, and tropical forests, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology:** Most of the world's plants and animals live in the tropics. The complexity, beauty, and diversity of tropical forests make them a treasure trove of spectacular scenery, genetic and biochemical resources with uses practical and unforeseen, the source of much of our knowledge of how ecological systems have evolved, and the storage of much of the world's carbon. As the world's climate changes rapidly because of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, tropical forests may be severely threatened. Learn in this course about the structure and ecology of tropical forests. Learn to distinguish among rainforests, cloud forests, and dry forests, between old-growth and secondary forests. Explore the relationships among plants, animals, soil organisms, soils, water, and climate. Learn about the real social and economic causes of deforestation and grass roots efforts to revert it. And finally, understand, as much as anyone does, the social, political, economic, and biological logic of world climate change agreements and disagreements.

- **Spanish:** Spanish classes at a wide variety of proficiency levels will be taken at the University of Costa Rica, one of the most prestigious academic institutions in the region. Pre-certified by Tulane University for Spanish course credit, the language classes along with the field trips will improve your written and oral Spanish abilities.

## Costs and Application

Cost of the program depends on the option/s you are choosing within your summer program but all modules will include corresponding credits at Tulane, room and meals at CIAPA, medical insurance, specialized tours and outings designed for participants in the program. Airfare and incidental costs are not included in the program cost.

Option 1 (May 15<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>): Social Justice Service Learning course - \$2900

Option 2 (June 5<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>): Spanish class and Environmental Ecology class - \$4550

Option 3 (June 5<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>): Spanish class and Internship - \$4500

Option 4 (June 5<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>): Internship and Environmental Ecology class - \$4100

Airfare is not included with the program fee. Participants should expect to pay approximately \$500-\$700 for airfare (airfare rates subject to change). Students participating in the program should expect to bring additional money to cover entertainment and other incidental costs.

Undergraduate students wishing to apply must be in good academic standing and have at least a cumulative grade point average of 2.5. In addition to a complete application form, each participant must secure two (2) letters of recommendation, and submit a current official transcript with his/her application. Please note that Spanish language ability is not a prerequisite since all courses are taught in English.

Complete applications (including application form, current transcript, two letters of recommendation, and the housing form) and a \$200 non-refundable deposit are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2011 in the Stone Center for Latin American Studies (Jones Hall, Tulane University.) The balance of the program costs is due upon acceptance into the program. The final payment may be made by MasterCard, Visa, check, or money order. Checks should be made payable to **Tulane University** and submitted directly to Natalia Porto at the Stone Center. Note that airfare is not included in the official program costs.

Students at Tulane seeking student loans to cover costs of this program should contact the Financial Aid office as soon as possible. Please be sure to indicate that you are seeking a loan for a SUMMER PROGRAM. **All students who will be receiving Financial Aid are still individually responsible for submitting a payment for the full program price directly to Natalia Porto at the Stone Center.** The indication of an available balance in a student's Accounts Receivable balance will not be sufficient; the student must still produce a check/money order/credit card payment for the full amount due to the program. (Note: You can now cover part of your cost through a TULASO Scholarship for Summer Programs. Look for more info on our website!)

## Passport

All students are required to possess a valid passport in order to participate in this program. For information on applying for a passport (U.S. citizens), please visit the U.S. State Department web site at <http://travel.state.gov/>. Non-U.S. citizens should check with a Costa Rican consulate about entry and visa requirements and with Tulane's Center for International Students and Scholars for information regarding re-entry to the United States. U.S. citizens can enter Costa Rica for up to 90 days as a tourist without obtaining a visa.

For more information, please contact:

Natalia Porto

Stone Center for Latin American Studies

Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118-5698

504-862-8629 / EMAIL: [nporto@tulane.edu](mailto:nporto@tulane.edu)

or Visit *International Programs* at <http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/>

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION  
to the Tulane Summer in Costa Rica 2011 Program**

- A. All application materials must be submitted directly to the following address no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2011.**

Stone Center for Latin American Studies  
Jones Hall, Tulane University  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
TEL 504 862-8629  
FAX 504 862-8678  
EMAIL [nporto@tulane.edu](mailto:nporto@tulane.edu)

- B. Please review the checklist before submitting your application for the program and sign the following:**

Enclosed are the following documents:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Completed Application Form (including Statement of Purpose)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Recommendation Forms (2 needed – your professors can emailed them to Natalia Porto)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Current Official Academic Transcript  
\_\_\_\_\_ Application Fee of \$200 (check or money order payable to Tulane University)

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure the delivery of any documents missing at the current time in order for my application to be considered. I also understand that application fee of \$200 is non-refundable. I understand that I must pay the program balance upon acceptance into the program.

**APPLICANT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION  
to the Tulane Summer in Costa Rica 2011 Program  
(cont.)**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name (last, first): \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Issuing Country of Passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Valid Until: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Valid Until: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If your parent/guardian is a Tulane employee, will you be paying for the program through the Tulane Tuition Waiver Program?      Not applicable      Yes      No

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

If you are a Tulane student, what school are you at? \_\_\_\_\_

If not a Tulane student, which university do you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) as of the Fall 2010 semester? \_\_\_\_\_

*(if you are not on a 4.0 scale, please provide an explanation of the system at your school)*

What is (are) your major(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

What is (are) your minor(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION  
to the Tulane Summer in Costa Rica 2011 Program  
(cont.)**

**What academic year are you in? How many semesters do you have left to graduate?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Have you previously studied Spanish?                      *yes*                      *no***

**If yes, please elaborate on number of Spanish courses taken and at which level.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Have you previously participated in a study abroad program?    *yes*                      *no***

**If yes, please identify the program name, country, and date of participation**

\_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about our program?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide the names of the two people submitting letters of recommendation:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

*Applicant's Last Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of Purpose:**

Please describe, in one paragraph, why you are applying to this program. Be sure to include your interests in the topics presented in the course work: Central American politics, tropical biology, and/or ecology, environmental studies, etc.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION  
to the Tulane Summer in Costa Rica 2011 Program**

**STUDENT APPLICANT:** This form must be completed by the person recommending you for this program. Please write your name and social security number in the space provided below before giving this form to the person filling it out. The completed form should be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered together with your application or you can ask your recommender to send it directly to Natalia Porto at the Stone Center by March 28, 2011.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Security Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE PERSON:** Please place the completed form in an envelope, sign it across the seal and return either to the applicant or Natalia Porto at the *Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Jones Hall, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118*. If you are Tulane Faculty and Staff, you can email your recommendation for admission to Natalia Porto at [nporto@tulane.edu](mailto:nporto@tulane.edu). (This recommendation will remain confidential and will be used by the program staff only in its procedures relative to admission to the Tulane Summer in Costa Rica program).

*Please address the following:*

- How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
- What are the applicant's qualifications for this particular program?
- Please comment on attributes such as motivation, adaptability, intellect, and maturity.
- If possible, please comment on applicant's scholarship and preparation in Central American politics, tropical biology, and/or ecology, environmental studies, etc.
- Please sign and date the form.
- Please give your full name and title/position.

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*Please feel free to use the space provided or attach your comments to this form.*

*Applicant's Last Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

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*Applicant's Last Name:* \_\_\_\_\_