

ATE 2947 Veterinary Work Practicum V – Costa Rica

INSTRUCTOR:

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COURSE PREFIX AND NUMBER: ATE 2947

COURSE NAME: Veterinary Work Practicum V

SPC's Veterinary Tech program in Costa Rica offers a dynamic learning experience that blends hands-on instruction with the exploration of Costa Rica's breathtaking natural beauty. Designed to provide aspiring veterinary technicians with practical skills and knowledge, this program includes immersive experiences in real-world veterinary settings.

Students have the opportunity to work directly with animals under the guidance of experienced professionals, honing their skills in animal care and medical procedures. Beyond the classroom, students embark on excursions to explore the diverse ecosystems and stunning landscapes of Costa Rica, including visits to beautiful spots such as lush rainforests, pristine beaches, and vibrant wildlife reserves. These excursions not only enrich the learning experience but also offer a unique opportunity for students to appreciate the interconnectedness between veterinary medicine and the natural world.

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Approval for participation in the program is subject to the participant:

- Being in good academic standing at the time of application (cannot be on academic warning, probation or suspension).
- Being enrolled for credit in an approved Study Abroad program course.
- Interviewing with program's lead faculty member.
- Being approved by the Center for International Programs. Paying all deposits and fees according to the fee schedule.
- Obtaining all immunizations required by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In addition, participants are strongly encouraged to get all immunizations and preventative treatments recommended for the particular country and regions through which they will be traveling.

MEETING INFORMATION/ATTENDANCE POLICY:

IMPORTANT: The college-wide attendance policy is included in the Syllabus Addendum <http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/policies.htm> . The policy notes that each instructor is to exercise professional judgment and define “active participation” in class (and therefore “attendance”), and publish that definition in each syllabus. For this class, weekly attendance will be based on your logins to the course prior to traveling and participation while onsite.

The program plan for this class (class meetings and activities, etc.) meets or exceeds the requirement of **100** contact hours for the course.

COURSE CONTENT:

Contrast the outlook and worldview of those living in highly collectivistic societies with those from highly individualistic ones. In doing so the impact on many aspects of life will be considered including veterinary health.

- Consider the challenges associated with communities living side by side with conservation initiatives
- Examine and contrast Costa Rica Veterinary Medicine, care and treatment.
- Understand a variety of health issues and considerations common to domestic and wild animals in Costa Rica.
- Critically reflect on individual growth and transformation by means of structured reflection sessions and transformative assessments
- Demonstrate professional competencies through practical engagement with project partners and the application of intercultural communication skills, attitudes and values in daily interactions

PREREQUISITES (IF APPLICABLE):

[Admission into the BAS or AS Veterinary technology program and approval from academic chair](#)

GRADING:

Grades will be based on your posting a minimum of 2 blogs to SPC international boards:

All posts are at least 100 words including at least 1 picture in each of the blogs.

Each post describes in detail what you have participated in during your hands on activities.

Completion of presentation portfolio with 2 weeks of return.

Participation and professionalism while on site

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

St. Petersburg College has an Academic Honesty policy. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the policies, rules, and the consequences of violations. Read about the policy at: <http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm>. There is no tolerance for cheating and academic dishonesty. Discipline can range from a zero on that specific assignment to expulsion from the class with a grade of F. Note that copy/pasting published information, whether it's from your textbook or the Internet, without citing your source is plagiarism and violates this policy. Even if you change the words slightly, the ideas are someone else's, so you still have to cite your sources. Cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy and fabrication are defined in Rule 6Hx23-4.461, Student Affairs: Academic Honesty Guidelines, Classroom Behavior.

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:

None

ASSIGNMENTS:

Required blogs	100 points
Attendance at all pre departure meetings	100 points
Presentation Portfolio	100 points
Required Re- entry meeting	50 points
In country Activity Participation	200 points
Professionalism	100 points

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

See included packet

ITEMS TO PACK:

See included packet

STUDENT CONDUCT / ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY:

Please refer to important information about student conduct and related policies in your study abroad application package.

EMERGENCIES/HEALTH & SAFETY:

Please refer to important information in pre-departure orientation materials.

LINK TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE ADVISORY FOR STUDY ABROAD DESTINATION(S):

www.state.gov

This information is subject to change; please check this source again as departure time nears.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you anticipate requesting of the Learning Specialist an accommodation for a **documented** disability, it is important to notify the International Programs office as soon as possible that you plan to make a request. Please also make an appointment with the Learning Specialist on campus to make your request as soon as possible. The Learning Specialist can be reached at 791-2628 or 791-2710 (CL), 341-4758 (SP/G), 394-6108 (SE), 712-5789 (TS), or 341-4532 (AC).

Requirement 1f

Description of cultural immersion activities and additional excursions

See Itinerary

Requirement 1g

Suggested safety precautions and arrangements.

Although it is not required by the CDC, two inoculations are recommended when traveling Costa Rica and it is strongly suggested that all participants acquire them: hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and Typhoid. Due to the nature of the course, we will be working with wild animals and Rabies vaccinations are required.

The lead faculty member on the program will carry emergency safety supplies appropriate for the environment and first aid care.

In addition, specifics regarding safety in an unfamiliar environment are covered in participant orientation, including the Study Abroad Emergency Checklist. This checklist covers knowing where to go in emergencies (how to get there, transportation options), emergency contact information (home and local) and contact numbers (local 911 equivalent, embassy, police, hospital, etc.), back-up plans, special conditions, emergency kits, and cash reserves and alternatives. Closer to the time of travel, current safety conditions can be obtained from the State Department via the Internet.