



# SCHOLASTICUS STUDY ABROAD, INTERNSHIP AND VOLUNTEER PROGRAM IN GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

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HOST INSTITUTION:



UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA  
DE SANTIAGO DE GUAYAQUIL

## PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- ◆ **Access** the best higher education in Ecuador at one of the most prestigious universities in the country, which's "Spanish for Foreigners" Program has over 10 years of experience teaching foreign undergrads.
- ◆ **Learn** Spanish and other languages with highly qualified teachers.
- ◆ **Engage** prominent local leaders through small and personalized conferences and lectures, including former presidents, city officials, writers, artists, journalists, businessmen, politicians and thinkers.
- ◆ **Intern and volunteer** in highly recognized companies and foundations, public and private.
- ◆ **Live** in a comfortable, safe and fun environment with other scholars.
- ◆ **Understand** the Ecuadorian and Latin-American socio-economic reality.
- ◆ **Travel** through the country.



## ABOUT UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA

Founded on 1962, Universidad Católica has for long been regarded the best university in Guayaquil. Founded on Catholic guidelines, it is now a well-known secular center of higher-education.

## GUAYAQUIL: PEARL OF THE PACIFIC

Located in the coastal province of Guayas, Guayaquil is the most populated urban center in Ecuador and core of the country's economic activity. With almost 2.5 million inhabitants, Guayaquil combines the accessibility of a metropolis and the charm of an ever-developing city.

Situated at sea level its port "Puerto Marítimo" is the main sea port of the country where about 80% of the country's imports and more than 50% of its exports are handled. It is the commercial and industrial center of Ecuador and lies on the west bank of the river Guayas about 60 km from its outflow in the Gulf of Guayaquil. Numerous beaches are close-by, the closest is at about one hour drive.

### CLIMATE

The climate in Guayaquil is the result of a combination of factors. Due to its location on the equator zone, the city has a warm temperature almost all year, but due to the proximity of the Pacific Ocean the Humbolt current (cold) and El Niño current (warm) cause two well defined climatic periods throughout the year. The first period, which goes from December to April (known as winter, which corresponds to the austral spring), is rainy and humid, with the typical tropical heat during the day. The other period, running from May to December, is dry and slightly cooler (known as the summer, which corresponds to the austral winter). The warm weather in Guayaquil allows tourists to travel "light", with temperatures ranging from 68-95 degrees Fahrenheit.



"Rotonda Monument" is one of iconic spots in Guayaquil. Located in 2.5kms long "Malecón Simón Bolívar" riverwalk, it commemorates the unique historic meeting between *Simón Bolívar* and *José de San Martín* to define the strategies for the Independence efforts of Latin-America.

## ECUADOR: WHERE ADVENTURE LIVES

Located in the upper western side of South America, the country straddles the equatorial line, root of its name. To the north is Colombia and to the east and south is Peru. Two high and parallel ranges of the Andes, traversing the country from north to south, are topped by tall volcanic peaks. The highest is Chimborazo at 20,577 ft (6,272 m). The Galápagos Islands (or Colón Archipelago) in the Pacific Ocean, became part of Ecuador in 1832. Despite being relatively small –about the size of Nevada-, Ecuador possesses great climate varieties and fauna diversity, combining four different natural regions: the Coast, the Highlands, the Amazon and the Archipelago. It's official language is Spanish, although Quechua and several other Amerindian languages are also spoken. Ecuador's population is also ethnically diverse. The largest group are the *Mestizos*, mixed descendants of Spanish colonists and Indige-

nous Indians, followed by *Amerindians*, which account for nearly a quarter of Ecuador's 14 million population.

Ecuador is very rich in colonial history and a crucial player in the independence war efforts. It's cultural development has been enriched by the continuous mix of western and native cultures. Ecuador's political history is filled with interesting passages and ever-changing environments. Nowadays a Presidential Republic, Ecuador continues to be one of the most curious case studies of Latin-American politics and developing democracies.

It's economy is heavily based on the export of commodities, mainly oil and agricultural products.

“  
*Education,  
therefore, is  
a process of  
living and  
not a  
preparation  
for future  
living*  
”

(*John  
Dewey*)



Cuenca's Cathedral is the largest temple in Ecuador and considered a world heritage.

## PROGRAM ACADEMICS



Students will be able to choose among numerous courses offered by Católica's nine Colleges and Departments:

- ◆ College of Architecture
- ◆ College of Arts
- ◆ College of Economic Sciences

- ◆ Business College
- ◆ Philosophy, Literature and Communications College
- ◆ College of Engineering
- ◆ College of Law
- ◆ College of Medicine
- ◆ College of Education

Students can fulfil General Courses pre-requisites at Universidad Católica with passed courses at their home institutions, depending on a case-by-case analysis of the applicants' qualifications and the passed courses' description

### ***Spanish for Foreigners Program***

All students, regardless of their Spanish proficiency, will also be able to participate in the classes given by Universidad Católica's Spanish for Foreigners Program, where participants can take language lessons as well as especially tailored literature, history and sociology courses dictated in Spanish, depending on the participant's language proficiency level.

All courses earn credit, which will be transferred to your home institution after your academic or study abroad advisor's approval.

## INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERING

As part of the learning process in a foreign country, earning field-experience is vital to complement the academic experience.

By taking advantage of the network of associated companies, foundations and institutions, program participants will be able to intern and volunteer at highly-

praised local entities, in order to apply hands-on the knowledge being acquired in the classrooms and enhance their understanding of Latin American everyday know-how.

### ***Volunteering***

We encourage all Scholasticus participants to undertake at least one volun-

teering experience during their stay in the program. These will be closely coordinated with Scholasticus staff. Volunteering options range in many activities categories, such as house-building, teaching, food preparation, childcare, agriculture, social work collaboration, and more.



## CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Through one-on-one discussion of important subjects, students will increase their understanding of the topics that shape the country and the region.

All program participants will be given the opportunity to attend and participate in small lectures with prominent Ecuadorian leaders, given exclusively for Scholasticus' scholars in groups of ten or

less.

Each lecture will last one to two hours, which includes an extensive Q&A on the topics discussed. Most students will meet each lecturer at least once for every academic session.

Some featured lecturers include:

- ◆ Dr. Gustavo Noboa, former president of Ecuador.

- ◆ Dra. María del Carmen Vidal Maspons, former family-law judge and professor.
- ◆ Melisa Spurrier, M. Ed., recognized academic counsellor.
- ◆ Ec. Guillermo Arosemena, journalist and professor, expert in development economics.



## HOUSING SERVICES

For the convenience of all students, all of the following services are included in the package:

**Transportation:** There will be two cars for each group of up to 10 students, readily available with professional drivers to satisfy their transportation needs inside the city.

◆ **Meals:** three meals a day will be provided at the house by a professional chef, following the recommendations of a nutrition specialist. Individual requests can be accommodated.

◆ **Room services:** the house's common areas will be cleaned up routinely by the housing staff. Room cleaning is available upon request.

◆ **Washing services:** All students will have access to the optional complimentary clothing washing and drying service.

◆ **Communications:** Each student will get complimentary access to the house's broadband wireless service and high-speed connection outlets from their rooms.

Each student will get a prepaid cell-phone with a predetermined line, so they can stay in touch locally and internationally at all times.

Each student will have access to the complimentary US phone line, so they can stay in touch with their loved ones at home.

◆ **Safe Box:** to store your valuables and documents.

Students will share a house with other program participants. Students will likely have a roommate.

## HOUSING LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

### Location

Scholasticus' houses are located inside premium upper-class gated-community "Laguna Club". Placed on the highway to Salinas beach, Laguna Club offers its residents a perfect combination of relaxation environments, safety and convenience. Its amenities include:

- ◆ Tennis, basketball and soccer courts
- ◆ Three artificial lakes for outdoor recreation
- ◆ Jogging pathway

- ◆ Big parks and meditation places
- ◆ Gym

### House Description

The house is the dream place for every undergraduate student. All houses have:

- ◆ A fully equipped kitchen: with refrigerator, kitchenette, microwave and dishwasher. Dishware is included.
- ◆ A fully equipped laundry room with

washer and dryer.

- ◆ Fully equipped common living room with Cable TV, DVD Player and gaming console.
- ◆ Study room with Internet-connected computer.
- ◆ Four bedrooms with individual bathrooms with heated water. All required linens will be provided.
- ◆ Outdoor pool and heated Jacuzzi.
- ◆ Wireless internet connection.



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**PROGRAM DATES**

The program is offered in 12 duration options throughout the year. The number of transferable credits earned per session will depend on the number of courses taken and transfer eligibility.

**Study Abroad Program General Schedule**

www.scholasticus.com.ec

Approximate dates in which the following type of academic and field experiences are offered by Universidad Católica												
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
General Courses	> Semester B					Semester A					Semester B >	
Spanish for Foreigners	Intensive		Regular Term				Intensive			Regular Term		
Internships/Volunteers	Year-long availability. Internship/volunteer opportunities will adapt to student's schedule, depending on General and Spanish courses selection											

Study Abroad Term Options												Application Deadline		
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November		December	
Option 1) January-May	Intensive	Regular Term			Internship(s)								October 1, previous year	
Option 2) January-August	Intensive	Regular Term			Internship(s)		Semester A						October 1, previous year	
Option 3) February-May		Regular Term			Internship(s)								November 1, previous year	
Option 4) February-August		Regular Term			Internship(s)		Semester A						November 1, previous year	
Option 5) May - August				Internship(s)		Intensive	Internship	Semester A					February 1, same year	
Option 6) May - December				Internship(s)		Intensive	Internship	Regular Term		Internship(s)			February 1, same year	
Option 7) July-August						Intensive	Internship						April 1, same year	
Option 8) July-December						Intensive	Internship	Regular Term		Internship(s)			April 1, same year	
Option 9) September-December								Regular Term		Internship(s)			June 1, same year	
Option 10) September-Next February	Intensive	Internship	> Semester B					Regular Term		Internship(s)			June 1, same year	
Option 11) November- Next February	Intensive	Internship	> Semester B							Internship(s)		Semester B >		July 1, same year
Option 12) November- Next May	Intensive	Regular Term			Internship(s)					Internship(s)		Semester B >		July 1, same year

**CONTACT INFO**

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