



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS

## THE PROBLEM

According to the National Association for Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA), only about 1% of all students enrolled in higher education institutions studies abroad.

About 15.7% of the study abroad programs done in the academic year 2012-2013 were to Latin America.

The Republic of Panama has several sustainability programs to which university students are unaware.

## THE PROJECT

In order to increase the number of options to Latin America, a summer study abroad program is proposed.

To achieve this goal, a partnership has been made with the following organizations:

- A. CREA – Panama
- B. Azuero Earth Project



# Summer Study Abroad Program in Panama

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*“Panama is in many ways the regional model for economic, political, and social progress. As a result, it can offer great study and learning opportunities for American students. Moreover, the country is very safe and locals are very welcoming. Studying abroad in Panama could undoubtedly, offer a life-changing experience”*

- Antonio Henriquez Garcia  
(Princeton in Latin America Fellow)

## REQUIREMENTS

In order to register for this class, you must be willing to get out of our comfort zone. This program is open to all majors.

Credits offered: SUST 390V (Special Problems in Panama)

## Expected Cost

Cost of program: \$2800\*

Airfare: \$700

\*Does not include U of A Tuition

## ITINERARY

- Day 1: Arrival in Panama.
- Day 2: Theme - The Panama Canal City's History.
- Day 3: Theme - Indigenous Cultures – The Emberaa. Spend the day at an Emberaa village.
- Day 4: Theme - Biodiversity in the Tropics.
- Day 5: Travel to Cocobolo Nature Reserve. Orientation to the CREA field station.
- Day 6: Theme and Talks on Tropical Ecology and Competition.
- Day 7: Theme and Talks on what inhabits the forest? – Tropical biodiversity and how it got there.
- Day 8: Theme and Talks on Ecological Services and Forest Conservation.
- Day 9: Theme and Talks on Campesinos and Tropical Agriculture.
- Day 10: Theme Indigenous Cultures – The Kuna. Travel to **Kuna Yala**
- Day 11: Theme Indigenous Cultures – The Kuna. Visit different islands by boat, enjoy the beaches and snorkel.
- Day 12: Travel to Azuero and receive orientation by Azuero Earth Project.
- Day 13: Theme – sustainable food model. Meet local cow milkers and study their business model.
- Day 14: Theme – organic agriculture. Help with the production of organic agriculture products through the creation of gardens at local schools.
- Day 15: Theme – organic agriculture. Continue the project started the previous day.
- Day 16: Theme – Addressing deforestation through a biological corridor.
- Day 17: Theme – sustainable agriculture.
- Day 18: Theme – marine environments. Study the importance of mangroves in marine environments and natural conservation in Isla Iguana.
- Day 19: Theme – marine environments. Lecture in Los Achotines Research Laboratory about tropical tunas.
- Day 20: Travel back to Panama. Wrap up session.
- Day 21: Travel back to USA.

## SUSTAINABILITY

The program of 21 days of duration will travel to indigenous, rural, and urban areas to study the different approaches of sustainability. Throughout this program, several areas of sustainability will be studied:

**Environmental sustainability:** by understanding the different marine and forest ecosystems and how they interact with each other.

**Social sustainability:** by studying the indigenous population of the Embera, and the touristic region of Pedasi where sustainable tourism will be studied.

**Built systems sustainability:** by studying the different infrastructure projects that have taken place in Panama City over the recent years.

But most importantly, by creating global citizens that are aware of the differences and similarities of different cultures.

