Evolution, Ecology and Conservation in Ecuador and the Galapagos
(Field Biology)
Galapagos/Quito, Ecuador
January 2 - 21, 2016  3 Credits

This course examines theories that have shaped the concept of evolution, and how Darwin's experience in the Galapagos Islands influenced his ideas. The field research component of the course focuses on the evidence presented by animals and plants of the Galapagos that illustrates the relationships among taxonomy, comparative anatomy, embryology, physiology, genetics, paleontology and the theory of evolution. Prerequisite: One semester of General Biology

Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) is recognized as one of Ecuador's leading institutions of higher education. Quito is located in the Andean mountain region, more than 9,000 feet above sea level. The "living laboratory" of the Galapagos archipelago, set in the Pacific Ocean some 600 miles west of the Ecuadorian coast, consists of 61 islands and islets. The Galapagos are a "United Nations World Natural Heritage Site", a national park and a marine reserve.

Housing and Meals: While in Quito, all students stay in a hotel. Generally students eat lunch at the university and dinner in a local restaurant. During their stay in the Galapagos, students will also stay in a hotel.

Program Cost for CUNY students: $5,385

Note: Non-NY residents and non-CUNY students may have a higher program cost. All dates and costs subject to change.

Program Cost Includes:
- Tuition (NYS Resident CUNY student tuition)
- Administrative fees
- International Medical and Travel Insurance
- Orientation in U.S. & Ecuador
- Airport Pickup
- Housing and most meals
- Scheduled field trips

Estimated Additional Costs:
- International Airfare $800
- Departure Tax, Books, and Personal Expenses $300

Application Deadline October 15

Faculty Viewpoint
"The Galapagos [course] was one of the most memorable visitations I've experienced. Faculty and students worked seamlessly together to explore the striking evidence of evolutionary biology that sits at one's fingertips, often literally, throughout the Islands. All in all, the three weeks in Ecuador went far beyond being merely a course. For many of the students, it was an intellectual and personal experience of a lifetime."

-- Dr. Persell, Professor of Biology, Hunter College
Why should I study overseas?
Doing course work overseas not only lets you earn academic credit and study subjects that may not be offered at your home institution, but you also have the opportunity to challenge preconceptions, learn about another culture first-hand, add an international dimension and global perspective to your major, increase your understanding about yourself and US culture and enhance your career potential.

Who can enroll in Overseas Honors Courses?
Overseas Honors Courses are intended for Macaulay Honors College University Scholars, local honors program students and CUNY Dean's List students who seek academically challenging overseas course work. Approximately 15 students from diverse backgrounds, different CUNY colleges and varied majors are selected to participate in each program. Sophomore standing and above is required.

What do I do next?
- Contact the Center for International Service, CSI at 718.982.2100 or Russell.Davis@csi.cuny.edu for further information.
- CUNY Macaulay Honors College Students can get an application instructions directly at: http://www.csi.cuny.edu/international/study_abroad/pdf/StudyAbroadApplicationPacket.pdf OR at http://macaulay.cuny.edu/eportfolios/studyabroad/

Student Point of View
“Through an exploration of some of the most biologically diverse and breathtaking islands in the world, you will learn about wondrous animals like the marine iguanas and blue-footed boobies, snorkel with sea lions, find euphoric relaxation on serene beaches, sleep under the stars atop a luxury yacht, speak Spanish and dance with the locals, and even dine on delicious Spanish cuisine. Adventure, inspiration, and pure fun awaits.”

–Brian Kateman, CSI, past participant

CSI sponsors programs at these institutions:
- Belgium: Vesalius College
- China: Shanghai University
- Denmark: DIS: Danish Institute for Study Abroad
- Ecuador: Universidad San Francisco de Quito
- Ecuador: Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil
- England: Middlesex University
- Greece: American College of Thessaloniki
- Italy: The American University of Rome
- Italy: Lorenzo de’ Medici -- Florence
- Italy: Lorenzo de’ Medici -- Tuscania
- Italy: Istituto Venezia -- The Venice Institute
- Japan: Ritsumeikan University
- Spain: Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo