



University of Maine Study Abroad Advisement Guide

WILDLIFE ECOLOGY

Opportunities for Study and Research

There are two programs which provide exciting opportunities for Wildlife Ecology majors to study and work in the field:

The School for Field Studies (SFS) at www.fieldstudies.org program exposes students to wildlife management practices and the complex issues involving sustainable wildlife conservation in the **Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem of Tanzania**. The course combines concepts and principles of ecology, natural resource management, and socio-economics which are central to effective and sustainable wildlife conservation. During the course, students will develop skills to explore the ecology, social organization, and behavior of common African large mammals.

The University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) at usac.unr.edu, through its study abroad program in **San Ramón, Costa Rica**, offers courses with field study components that provide students with an opportunity to explore Costa Rica and learn about the environment and biodiversity issues on a deeper level inside and outside the classroom.

Top Reasons to Study Abroad

You will:

- change your life
- explore & grow as an individual
- learn about yourself & make new friends
- learn different perspectives
- find out what is beyond your borders
- be amazed by places and people of different values, beliefs, and celebrations

This academic experience will enable you to:

- earn university credit
- fulfill major and minor requirements
- supplement your major by selecting courses not offered here

When to Study Abroad

It is recommended that Wildlife Ecology majors study abroad during their fifth or sixth semester.



Office of International Programs

Location: 100 Winslow Hall
Phone: 207-581-1509
E-Mail: studyabroad@umit.maine.edu

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Tanzania

WHY STUDY ABROAD IN TANZANIA

Northern Tanzania, home of world famous national parks such as Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Serengeti, as well as the Ngorongoro conservation area, offer a tightly packed hub of wildlife conservation. This magnificent setting on the Maasai Steppe will be our 'learning laboratory'. This area of Tanzania is extremely scenic and is the center of nature tourism in the East Africa region. Traditional pastoralism is also practiced in Northern Tanzania, which has been the home of the Maasai and Iraqw people for centuries, and members of local communities interact with wildlife on a daily basis. For these reasons, this area provides an excellent opportunity to examine some of the challenges and opportunities of conservation in Tanzania, including human-wildlife interaction.

CREDITS: Earn 4-8 credits for the summer session

FIELD EXPEDITIONS AND EXERCISES

Learn about social organization, basic taxonomy, and conservation status of charismatic large mammals in African savanna ecosystems; go on game drives in world famous national parks and conservation areas; practice field observation, game counting, and behavioral study techniques of savanna species

Costa Rica

WHY STUDY ABROAD IN COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is at the forefront of the ecotourism movement and is well known for its extraordinary natural beauty and biodiversity preserved in its many national parks and reserves. San Ramón is in the heart of Costa Rica in the country's beautiful Central Valley. Manuel Brenes, one of Costa Rica's richest reserves, just outside the city, makes San Ramón an ideal location for students interested in ecology and biology. Manuel Brenes offers a number of hiking trails and canopy tours where students can explore the cloud forest and spot rare quetzals, hummingbirds, monkeys, coatis, deer, and sloths.

CREDITS

Earn 12-18 credits for a semester and 3-6 credits for summer session

COURSES

Students can choose from courses in tropical ecology, tropical marine biology, conservation biology, environmental policy, and other life science topics within Costa Rica. Students who choose the Costa Rica, San Ramón program can also take courses in Culture and Area Studies such as *Dances of Latin America* and *Latin America and Its Cultures* to satisfy their general education (gen. ed) requirements.