

Costa Rica Global Media Consulting

Summer 2022

Visit <http://meredith.edu/oip> for Study Abroad 101, Study Abroad Advising, and Funding Workshops.

Application Deadline

Program applications accepted until **February 15, 2022**. Click "[Apply to Study Abroad](#)" to begin your online application.

Dates

International travel: May 23 – June 3, 2022

Requires additional class meetings upon return to the U.S.

Location

The first four days of the program will be spent in Heredia, where we will learn necessary digital skills in order to help us create media content for clients in Costa Rica. The program will then travel to La Fortuna, Upala, and San José. Excursions include a coffee farm, a wildlife boat tour, and a chocolate farm tour. Farmers and tour operators at each of our excursion sites will serve as our clients, and we will create unique digital media content to support their non-profits and local businesses.

Eligible Students

Open to all current Meredith undergraduates, as well as students in the Post-Baccalaureate Digital Communication Certificate Program.

Journey Highlights

Imagine producing a video and creating a social media plan for an actual working non-profit or small business in Costa Rica! This hands-on class will first include classroom style learning in Heredia, where for four days you will learn all the digital skills necessary to design and create content for real Costa Rican clients.

After those four days, you will meet with your clients and perform a Media Audit on their digital platforms. After deciding on what types of media they need, you will then spend the next seven days traveling to different locations. You will videotape, interview, edit video, create a social media plan, create marketing materials, or any combination of the above. Upon our return to the U.S., we will package the material together and deliver it digitally to the client during our post class meeting.

In addition to gaining valuable knowledge about creating media content and working with an international client, you will travel to local towns within Costa Rica! Included in this program are multiple excursions to nearby sites such as a family run coffee farm on the way to La Fortuna, the Caño Negro Wildlife Tour and a chocolate tour in Upala, and a waterfall tour at El Pueblo de Gavilan.

Note: While this brochure describes what we plan to offer in summer 2022, Meredith College Office of International Programs reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary, program capacity limits, schedule, cost, academic program, etc., as necessary.

Faculty

Director: Professor Alan Buck, dabuck@meredith.edu

Courses – 3 credits

COM 400: Digital Media Convergence (3 credits, required)

Fulfills COM Major/Minor, PR Concentration, Photography minor

This course features units on social media, visual literacy, photo editing, audio processing, video gathering and editing, and web publishing. Students learn theories of audio and visual aesthetics and will produce individual content Costa Rican clients. This course will be a combination of lecture and lab. Students will create a variety of digital content, still images, graphics, narration, music, and video which can be used as a portfolio piece for each student. Convergence is the blending of text, sounds, pictures and video in the media environment to create integrated media. The project will be a culmination of the above examples and will be used to produce projects for a real non-profit and/or small business in Costa Rica. Approximately 3-5 days of digital media workshops required prior to departure for Costa Rica at Meredith's Raleigh campus (dates TBD).

Cost

\$3,450 includes:

- \$100 non-refundable application deposit
- Tuition for 3 credits
- Housing and most meals
- Academic excursions & program activities

Additional expenses include:

- Round-trip airfare estimate – \$1,000
- Passport (if needed) – \$150
- International health insurance – \$46
- International cell phone plan – \$50
- Personal spending money and independent travel – \$500

Note: Estimates are based on previous student reports. Your spending habits may differ.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Additional study abroad funding is available. Register for a Funding Workshop and access the scholarship application at <http://meredith.edu/oip>. **Scholarship deadline: February 15, 2022.**

COVID-19 Health and Safety Considerations

The Office of International Programs, in partnership with Meredith's Health Center, will continue monitoring daily the following resources regarding coronavirus and international travel:

- CDC
- U.S. State Department
- Overseas Security Advisory Council
- World Health Organization
- American College Health Association

- NAFSA: Association of International Educators professional listserv and the Forum on Education Abroad (peer institution responses)
- Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) updates
- Email announcements and communications from affiliate study abroad providers
- Multiple news outlets

All study abroad participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes recommendations by the CDC and host countries at the time of program departure, including but not limited to boosters, vaccine timelines, etc.