

Costa Rica Center

Spring 2021 Semester Course Listing & Descriptions

- Register for courses through the MY LIU portal: <https://my.liu.edu>.
- Students are charged a flat tuition rate for 12-18 credits. If students register for 19 credits and up, they will be charged an additional per credit rate. Students interested in registering for 19 or more credits must get permission from the Center Director and Dean.
- Students will have the opportunity to drop and add courses during the program change period in consultation with their advisor. The deadline is posted on the academic calendar: <http://liu.edu/Global/Global-Life>.
- Students who are pursuing minors should consider the minor-related courses indicated below in their academic planning/registration. The minor course requirements can be found at <http://liu.edu/Global/Academics/Global-Studies-Degree-Program>.
- Call or email Carlett Thomas, Director of Student Affairs & Administrative Services, with any questions or concerns at carlett.thomas@liu.edu or 516-299-3401.
- Students may take courses at the China or Asia Pacific Australia Center (where they do not plan to attend).
- Students may take courses offered by LIU Brooklyn and one course offered by LIU Post.

Required Courses

GCOS 118 Foundations of Global Studies: Governance (3 units)

Minor: International Relations

Field Experience: Panama

Moran, Sarah

Global Studies II enhances students' understanding of Global Studies by introducing them to the structures of global governance represented by the United Nations, with its emphasis on human rights, world peace and human development. Students will also review the system of economic governance, represented by key institutions such as the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and critically explore the challenges associated with governance gaps and how these relate to questions of culture, economics and ecology. The course's methodology includes the study of institutional origins, thought leaders, videos, class discussions, academic research and documentation. The course is complemented by fieldwork in Costa Rica, interactions with the United Nations University for Peace (headquartered in Costa Rica), and travel to other Central American locations.

GCOS 146 An Introduction to Field Research (4 units)

Field Experience: Costa Rica to conduct field research project

Sylvester, Olivia

Moran, Sarah

This course is designed to take students through the process of thinking about, designing, and carrying out their own independent qualitative research projects. Together we will explore the basic structure of research and examine the origins of different research approaches; this includes different worldviews about research such as Indigenous, feminist and decolonial approaches. Specifically in this course, students will: 1) draft research questions, 2) create a research proposal which includes finding a research gap, 3) design a consent form, 4) apply data gathering methods, 5) analyze and discuss research findings in the context of the literature, and 6) present their results in written and oral formats. Students will gather data for their research topic in Costa Rica during a period of two-weeks in a field setting

GCOS 173 Exploring Questions: Writing the Research Paper I (3 units)

Gordon-Chipembere, Natasha

Moran, Sarah

In this course students are introduced to the processes of writing college-level research papers. They learn to identify research topics, define research questions, design bibliographic search strategies, and answer their research questions in papers supported by primary and secondary sources. Their research papers demonstrate their capacity to support their own theses with well-reasoned arguments and evidence, as well as their ability to acknowledge and respond to divergent points of view.

Spanish Courses

Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Communicative Spanish language courses are taught each semester in Costa Rica. Students are required to take a four-unit language course in the fall and spring semesters.

GCOS 121 Beginner Communicative Spanish II (4 units)

Moran, Sarah

Spanish classes for beginners have the goals of improving basic oral and written communication skills, as well as further introducing the students to Latin culture. To achieve these goals, the students meet four times a week and also complete daily assignments, participate in field activities, live with a Costa Rican family, and interact daily with Spanish-speaking people.

OR

GCOS 221 Intermediate Communicative Spanish II (4 units)

Moran, Sarah

Spanish classes for intermediate students have the goals of further improving intermediate oral and written communication skills already acquired and learning about Latin culture. To achieve these goals, students meet four times a week and also participate in field activities, complete daily assignments, live with a Costa Rican family, and interact daily with Spanish-speaking people.

OR

GCOS 321 Advanced Communicative Spanish II (4 units)

Spanish is not required for advanced students, who can take two of the courses listed below instead.

Moran, Sarah

Spanish classes for advanced students have the goals of further improving specific advanced oral and written communication skills based on individual needs at the appropriate level. The students attend class, complete weekly assignments, live with a Costa Rican family, interact daily with Spanish-speaking people, and write about weekly readings related to topics of interest or Latin American literature.

Elective Courses

Electives are offered based upon registration numbers/enrollment. Your choice of elective credits is tentative until you meet with your advisor.

GCOS 115 Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship (3 units)

Minor: Entrepreneurship

LIU Global students must choose between this course or GCOS 134, Introduction to Strategic Communications

Clark, Jessica

Moran, Sarah

This course introduces students to social entrepreneurship and the related set of social enterprises that aspire to channel both market forces and entrepreneurial energies to achieve sustainable social good. The course draws upon case studies that exemplify the ways in which entrepreneurial innovators from around the world are devising and executing solutions to some of the world's most intractable social problems. Social entrepreneurship will be studied in relation to a set of related socially productive enterprises such as micro-finance, social business and corporate social responsibility. The course will include both visiting speakers and fieldwork that will expose students directly to successful practitioners and the organizations that support them and that they build.

GCOS 134 Intro to Strategic Communications (3 units)

Minor: Arts & Communications

Clark, Jessica

Moran, Sarah

LIU Global students must choose between this course or GCOS 115, Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship.

This course introduces students to the principles and processes governing strategic communication in the digital age. After an introduction to the transformative impact that the Internet has had on global communications and politics, students gain an understanding of the relative strengths of various social media platforms and specialized tools, enabling them to design effective communication strategies targeting multiple cultural and national audiences. Central to the course are: the definition of messages and audiences, concept-guided content, visual and informational design, and measurable outcomes. They will apply these concepts to existing campaigns. The final course project calls upon students to design a model campaign of their own.