



BE A GLOBAL CITIZEN
BE A DRAGON!

USFQ | UNIVERSIDAD
SAN FRANCISCO
DE QUITO



Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ stands as Ecuador's pioneering private **Liberal Arts** institution, shaping creative, free, and innovative global citizens. Today, USFQ has over **10,000 students** and receives over **1,000 international students** annually.

Through its research institutes, USFQ leads the generation of knowledge, development of projects, technology transfer, wealth creation, and improvement of levels of social welfare. USFQ holds the record for the highest number of Ph.D.s in Ecuador, with around **270+ full-time professors** and researchers.



#1 in Ecuador
#45 in Latin America
#21 sustainability in Latam

250+

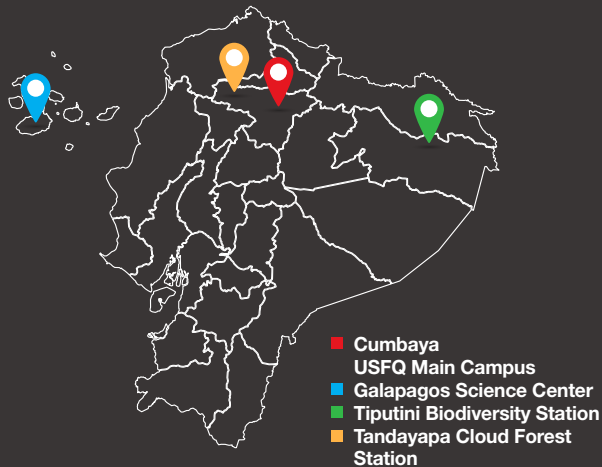
**full-time faculty
members with Ph.D.s**

100+

**bilateral agreements with
universities worldwide**

USFQ

■ ECUADOR



■ SPAIN



USFQ offers international students an opportunity to explore **more than 45 undergraduate programs**, and much more. Whether it's for a semester, summer, or a full year, **studying at USFQ is a life-changing experience!**

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USFQ offers a **variety of undergraduate programs** in which students develop analytic, research, and communication skills through comprehensive **humanistic training**.



MAJORS

■ **College of Communication and Contemporary Arts (COCOA)**

Advertising
Communication
Digital Animation
Interactive Media Design
Film
Graphic Design
Communication Design
Journalism
Visual Arts
Visual Arts: Emphasis in
Fashion Design

■ **College of Sciences and Engineering (POLI)**

Agronomy Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Computer Science
Engineering
Electronic and Automation
Engineering
Environmental Engineering
Food Engineering
Industrial Engineering
Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering
Physics
Agrobusiness

■ **College of Social Sciences and Humanities (COCISOH)**

Anthropology
Education
International Relations
Liberal Arts
Political Science
Psychology
Literature
Clinical Psychology

■ **College of Architecture and Interior Design (CADI)**

Architecture
Interior Design

■ **College of Biological and Environmental Sciences (COCIBA)**

Biology
Biotechnology
Environmental Management
(Galapagos)

■ **School of Business (CADE)**

Business Administration
Finance
Marketing
International Business

■ **School of Economics (ECON)**

Economics

■ **College of Music (CoM)**

Composition for
Contemporary Media
Music and Sound Production
Performance

■ **College of Hospitality, Culinary Arts, and Tourism (CHAT)**

Gastronomy
Hospitality Management
Tourism

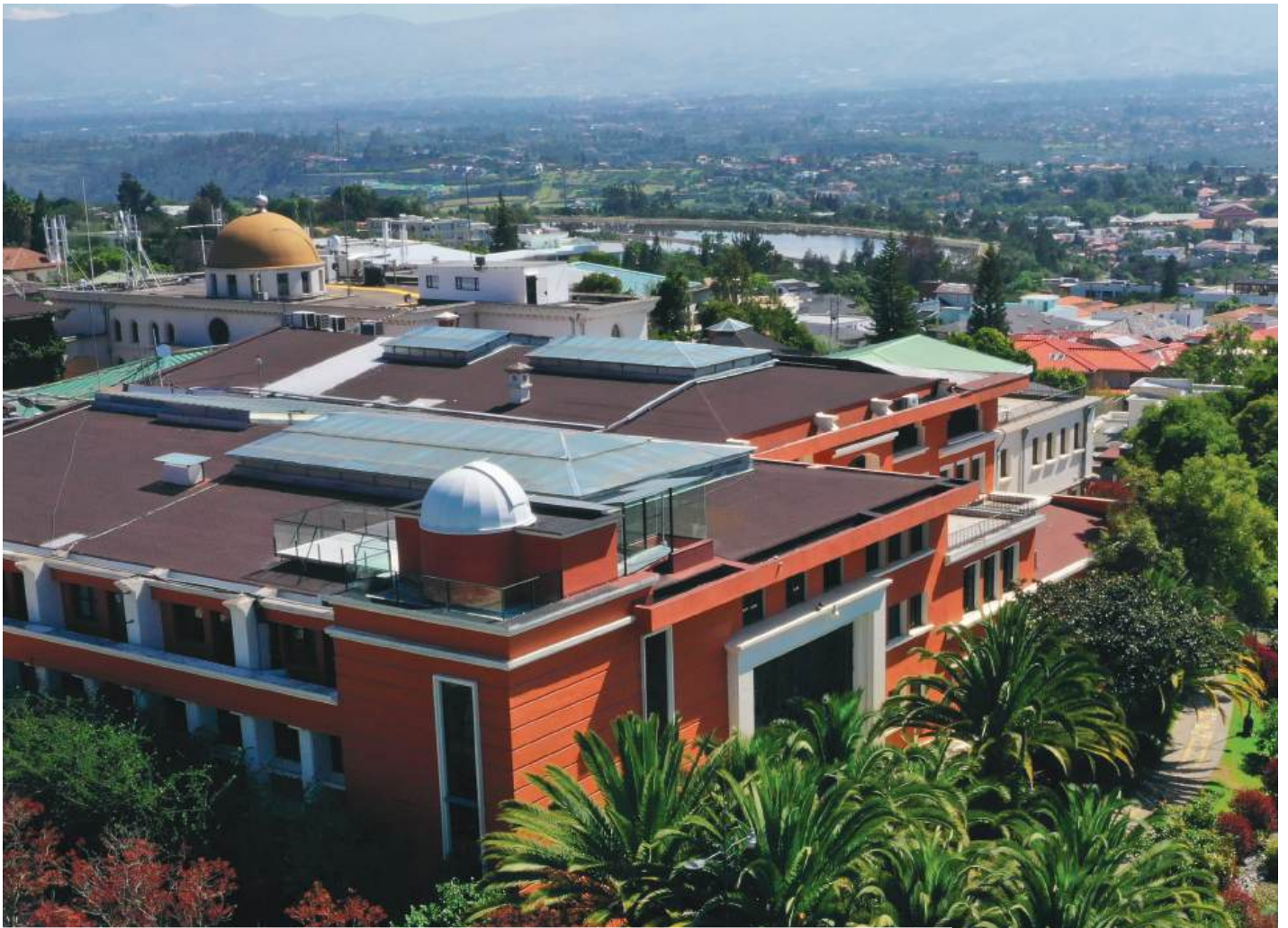
■ **College of Law (JUR)**

Law

■ **College of Health Sciences (COCSA)**

Medicine
Veterinary Medicine
Nutrition and Dietetics
Odontology

10k+
students
900+
professors



100+

**Bilateral
Exchange
Partnerships**

PARTNERSHIPS & NOTABLE NETWORKS



Berklee
Global Partners



HEMISPHERIC
UNIVERSITY
CONSORTIUM



EDEM



THE UNIVERSITY
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



CUMBAYA SEMESTER PROGRAM

International students can experience life in Quito and study at Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) alongside local students.



With nearly 2,000 courses offered each semester, including over around 150 courses taught in English, students from various academic backgrounds can find exciting and challenging options.





Students can apply for one semester, one Academic Year or for the Summer Session.



Students can take any classes offered, as long as they fulfill the prerequisites.



Any student can come to the program.



Students stay with carefully selected host families in Cumbayá area. For specific situations, students stay in hotels or research stations.



Check our website

For further information, please contact Veronica Castelo: vcastelo@usfq.edu.ec

USFQ GALAPAGOS EXTENSION

Our students have the opportunity to study at USFQ Galapagos, the only university extension in the Archipelago.



USFQ opened its Galapagos extension in 2002 to promote academic research, conservation, and development programs in the Galapagos Islands.





Located in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno on San Cristóbal Island, USFQ's Galapagos extension has become the most important higher education and research center in the entire archipelago.

The Galapagos Extension offers two hybrid undergraduate degree programs: **a Bachelor's of Business Administration and a Bachelor's of Environmental Management**, and an in-person Master's degree in Environmental Management with a specialization in Management of Socio-Ecosystems.

USFQ Galapagos offers students several resources and services for the development of their education:



8 fully equipped classrooms for face-to-face and virtual classes.

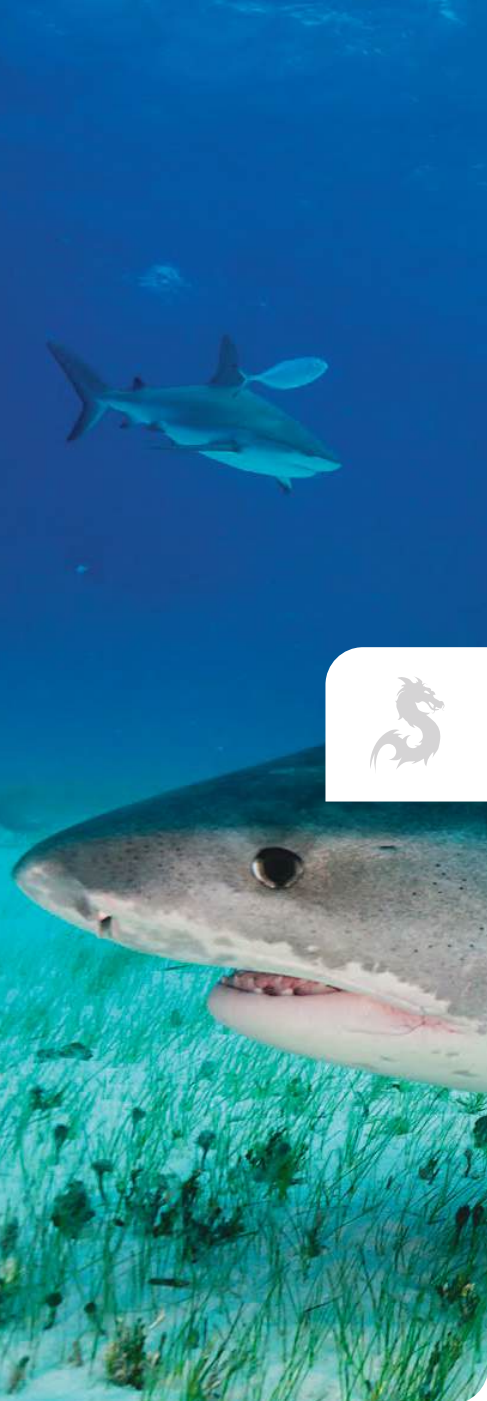


4 research laboratories: Terrestrial Ecology, Marine Ecology, Data Science and Visualization, and Microbiology and Molecular Biology.



Public Library with more than 2,000 titles with specialized information on Galapagos for face-to-face and virtual classes.





ADVANTAGES OF THE CAMPUS



The USFQ Galapagos Extension offers innovative blended programs, tailored to the needs of students and the local population.

- Teachers of the highest human and professional quality, with extensive local and international experience.
- Curriculum designed to train leaders in the field of Business Administration and Environmental Management with an emphasis on innovation, creativity, and social responsibility.
- Programs that connect theoretical approaches to practical experience.
- Participation in the planning, development, and evaluation of research and consulting projects with national and international centers.
- Access to infrastructure with first class technology, through the different laboratories and facilities of USFQ Galapagos.



STUDY SPANISH IN THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS!

The Department of Languages (DLE) offers language courses with the purpose of breaking down barriers, bringing cultures closer, and integrating students in a modern, active and globalized world.

In the Galapagos Extension, USFQ Galapagos students can start studying a language from a beginner level or take an exam to place themselves at the appropriate level. Language courses are available to all students as part of the comprehensive training embodying the liberal arts philosophy.

The English as a Second Language program is offered to undergraduate students as well as adults and children from the local community in the Galapagos Islands.

For more information, contact Oliver Carrik at: ocarrick@usfq.edu.ec

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



MODALITY

Blended (virtual and face to face mode)



DURATION

4 academic years



PAYMENT

facilities, scholarships, and financial support for students



DISCOUNTS

for Galapagos residents

ADMISSION PROCESS

Anyone interested in pursuing studies in one of the blended courses at USFQ Galapagos must contact the Admissions Office by email at admisiones@usfq.edu.ec indicating the course of interest and attaching their residence card. After verifying residency, the Admissions Office will respond to the applicant informing them how to begin the process.



Check our website

For more information, you can email us at: extensiongalapagos@usfq.edu.ec

GALAPAGOS SEMESTER PROGRAM

Embrace multicultural insights: discovering Ecuador's diverse environments, languages and people.



USFQ campus offers international students the opportunity to study in one of the most pristine natural laboratories in the world.

The Galapagos Semester Program offers four academic tracks in biological and social sciences.





ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Each academic track consists of 5 intensive 3 US-credit courses taught in 3-week modules, all taught in English.

Students will participate in hands-on classes where they will visit some of the most impressive places within the Galapagos islands as part of their coursework.

Depending on the program track, students might visit the highlands, the coast, or the cloud forest and all the students get to visit the USFQ Tiputini Biodiversity Station in the Amazon during the initial modules.

EXPLORE NATURE FROM THE OCEAN TO THE RAINFOREST

In collaboration with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USFQ jointly operates the Galapagos Science Center (GSC), a research center dedicated to scientific development in the Galapagos Islands.

In the Amazon Basin, the Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS) is located on the border of the Yasuni National Park, one of the world's most extraordinary biodiversity hotspots and one of the last remaining wilderness regions on Earth.



ACADEMIC TRACKS

Students can choose from the following tracks:



Evolution, Ecology, and Conservation



Marine Ecology



One Health



Sustainability and Resilience

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be entering at least their sophomore year of undergraduate studies.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0.
- English proficiency (international applicants for whom English is a second language must provide documentation).
- All students must have a yellow fever vaccination regardless of their chosen track.
- Requirements per track:
 - Evolution, Ecology, and Conservation, and Sustainability and Resilience track students must have completed at least one college-level biology or ecology course with a minimum grade of B-.
 - One Health track students must have completed at least two college-level biology and/or ecology courses and one college-level laboratory course, achieving a minimum grade of B- in each. Applicants may propose equivalent courses.
 - Marine Ecology track students must have completed at least two college-level biology and ecology courses with a minimum grade of B-. Additionally, these students must obtain open water diving certification and DAN dive insurance prior to the start of the program for USFQ-sponsored academic dives. Students without open water certification or dive insurance will only be permitted to snorkel during excursions. Depending in the tracks, there are certain classes you have had finished before the course.



APPLICATION DEADLINE

- Fall Semester: May
- Spring Semester: September



HOUSING

- Students stay with carefully selected host families in both Quito and in the Galapagos Islands. Otherwise, for overnight excursions, students will stay at hotels or at the Tiputini Biodiversity Station.



TRANSPORTATION

- The program includes transportation for all academic excursions as well as domestic flights from Quito to Coca and to the Galapagos Islands.

For further information, you can email us at: opi@usfq.edu.ec



Check our website



Check our video

GAIAS EUROPA BY USFQ

Liberal Arts come alive in Europe.



GAIAS Europa serves as the academic hub of Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) in Spain. The student life rhythm at GAIAS Europa is dynamic and vibrant. Valencia ranks among the best cities in the world for young people. Surrounded by culture and knowledge, students engage in various activities, including photography, music, sports, politics, and editing.

Our programs also include excursions where we accompany our students and professors to explore the city and live unforgettable experiences

INNOVATE, STUDY, AND WORK IN EUROPE



VALENCIA STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

GET INSPIRED

Our students can take General Education classes in Valencia for a semester, year, or summer.

TRANSFORM YOURSELF

For our student halfway through their studies who want to pursue a minor.

BECOME A PROFESSIONAL

Develop in a global, innovative, and creative profile during pre-profesional internships in Spain.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Be enrolled at USFQ or be a student from a Partner University
2. Complete an online application

PARTNERS



For further information, you can email us gaiaseuropa@usfq.edu.ec



Check our website



Check our video

FACULTY LED PROGRAMS

Explore and study in different places through a life-changing academic program.



USFQ Partners will have the chance of experiencing a life-changing experience, with safety, academic, and logistical on-site support from USFQ.

We offer international professors and their students the opportunity of exploring, discovering, and studying in Ecuador and Spain, through short-term customized academic programs.

Our programs typically range from 1 to 8 weeks and are tailor-made to meet the academic goals and expectations of our partners. We have more than a decade of experience designing and carrying out customized programs of any length of time and academic focus throughout the year. In USFQ's faculty-led Programs, students and professors will be able to visit diverse and remarkable destinations in Ecuador and Spain as the highlands, the Amazon, the Galapagos.



USFQ partners will have the chance of experiencing a life-changing experience, with the safety, academic, and logistical on-site support from USFQ.



ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

Imagine studying in the Middle of the World and being immersed in the local culture, exploring the Amazon rainforest, visiting the Cloud Forest the giant Andean volcanoes, traveling to the unique Galapagos Islands, or learning about the language and culture of Spain. All of that is possible with USFQ's faculty-led programs. With a strong presence in Ecuador, research stations throughout the country (Tiputini Biodiversity Station, Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station, Campus in San Cristobal, Galapagos), and now a hub in Spain, USFQ offers a unique academic experience.

PROGRAM INCLUDES



- **Academics:** classes, lectures, and field excursions with experienced Professors and Researchers.



- **Logistics:** we will take care of everything since your arrival in Ecuador (transportation, accommodation, meals, excursions, and more!)



- **Risk Management:** rigorous protocols and 24/7 on-site support.



- **Student Wellbeing:** counseling, day-to-day questions or needs, access to university services.



ACADEMIC TRACKS

Academic themes and topics include, but are not limited to:



- Spanish Language Learning & Ecuadorian Culture



- Ecology & Conservation



- Marine Biology



- Service Learning & Community Outreach



- Gender & Postcolonial Studies



- Topics in Global Health



- Food Security & Agriculture



- Entrepreneurship, Business & Sustainable Tourism

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS



A minimum of 8 students is required for the program





Check our website



APPLICATION DEADLINE

USFQ's faculty-led Programs can be carried out throughout the year. The deadline to confirm the program and provide the program participants list is 75 days before the start of the program.

HOUSING

The students can be arranged at hotels or carefully vetted host families.

TRANSPORTATION

USFQ will arrange and take care of all internal transportation: buses, boats, internal flights, etc.

COSTS

Program costs depend on the type of the program and different variables: length, excursions, type of accommodation, academics, etc.

For more information, you can email us at: customizedprograms@usfq.edu.ec

COIL

(COLLABORATIVE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING)

An interactive environment that facilitates the collaboration of national and international faculty within a COIL networking space.



The COIL ICOP (International Community of Practice) combines asynchronous training with monthly synchronous sessions to equip faculty and professors with useful insights to develop their COIL projects. We share specific educational tools that teachers can use in their courses, valuable COIL resources, and international education opportunities. Our ultimate goal is to foster learning among peers, address common and specific questions, and ensure robust support for successful COIL projects and the continuous enrichment of our global community of educators.

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

The COIL ICOP combines networking and professional development opportunities, exposure to innovative education tools, and continuous support from an online community and COIL coordinator. It goes beyond a common training with a start and end date, COIL ICOP is a community of faculty and educators learning together continuously. Plus, professors will earn a digital credential depending on their level of exposure to COIL teaching and learning methodology. This program will enable educators to enhance their global skills and portfolio as experience is gained with support from COIL ICOP.

COIL ICOP is also a valuable platform for faculty who do not have a COIL coordinator or designee on their campus.

The asynchronous modules are available both in English and Spanish. The synchronous sessions will be conducted mainly in English but with alternatives available for Spanish-speaking faculty.



COIL ICOP by USFQ connects national and international faculty, offers training, tools, and support for the development of impactful COIL projects.

Eligibility Requirements

Any international faculty member or educator can join the COIL ICOP. We welcome professionals at different levels of expertise to join us.

Costs

Differential cost between the annual and semester registration. There will be a fee waiver for international faculty members who have a confirmed COIL project with a USFQ faculty.

Partnerships & Notable Networks:



Check our website

For more information, you can email us at: opi@usfq.edu.ec

GLOBAL HEALTH



International rotations significantly enhance clinical exposure and experience, particularly in the context of diseases endemic to developing countries.

Ecuador's cultural and ecological diversity offers a variety of settings in the fields of Medicine and Global Health in both rural and urban environments. The School of Medicine Global Health (SoM-GH) Program offers academic, research and field activities in Andean communities for human medical students; an opportunity not only to learn and practice medical skills, but also to meet and learn about other health systems.





WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- Community health outreach projects - mid to advanced Spanish required
- Urban and/or rural clerkship/clinical rotations - mid to advanced Spanish required
- Medical Spanish - mid to advanced Spanish required

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

- Participants in the SoM-GH Program will learn not only about human medicine, but also major Ecuadorian health issues.
- Improve knowledge about Ecuadorian culture and Spanish language skills through classroom teaching and cultural immersion.
- Meet and experience a different health system along with professors, residents and medical students.

REQUIREMENTS

- Medium to advanced Spanish language knowledge
- For clinical clerkships must be a 3rd or 4th year medical student
- For Community Medicine/PHC, must be a Medical Student, 1st to 4th year

ACADEMIC TRACKS

- Clinical Internship
- Community Medicine - Primary Health Care (PHC)
- PHC - involvement in ongoing research projects at the MoH Clinics

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Six months in advance, Fall: September to December, Spring: January to May, Summer: June to July



Check our website

USFQ | SOM GLOBAL
HEALTH PROGRAM

For more information, you can email us at: globalhealth@usfq.edu.ec

THE LATITUDE ZERO: ECUADOR RESEARCH INITIATIVE (LOERI)

Explore the world of research in Ecuador.



The Latitude Zero: Ecuador Research Initiative (LOERI) is a program that offers undergraduate students from around the world a distinctive opportunity to engage in research projects in collaboration with esteemed faculty members at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ across a range of academic disciplines.

THESE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE BOTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE, TAILORED TO ACCOMMODATE THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS.





WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Advantages for students and partner institutions include:

- The application and honing of research methodologies and skills, thereby augmenting employability and prospects for graduate studies.
- Access to a network of connections with local and international experts within their respective fields.
- Exposure to diverse multicultural perspectives and an immersion in Ecuador's rich tapestry of environments, societies, and languages.

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

Participation in mentorship programs and collaborative team-building activities may potentially lead to opportunities for co-authored research publications.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum sophomore academic standing.

A minimum GPA of 2.5 (or the minimum requirement specified by the students' home institution for international study).

Demonstrated experience and proficiency in the chosen field of study.

HOUSING

The University of San Francisco de Quito USFQ diligently arranges accommodations for international students by matching them with carefully vetted host families in Quito. Host families are required to furnish students with private bedrooms (bathroom facilities may be shared), access to Wi-Fi internet, and provision of two daily meals (comprising breakfast and dinner). Typically, host families reside within a commuting distance of 15 to 45 minutes by public transportation from the USFQ campus in the Cumbaya valley.

Alternatively, students who prefer independent lodging arrangements have the option to organize their own accommodation.

TRANSPORTATION

Students use public transportation to get to school.



Check our website

For more information, you can email us at: opi@usfq.edu.ec

GLOBAL INTERNSHIPS

Your first job experience
in the Middle of the World.



OUR PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO TRAIN INNOVATIVE, ENTREPRENEURIAL, AND CREATIVE HUMAN BEINGS WITH A GLOBAL MINDSET WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LIBERAL ARTS.

We offer international students from all over the world a comprehensive, personalized internship experience to develop their soft and technical skills at USFQ, private, public organizations, and NGOs according to their profile and personal interests. Our goal is to contribute to the experience of international professionals while fostering connections that will help our partner organizations broaden their horizons.

WHY APPLY?

- **Cultural experience:** an international internship will allow students to be immersed in a new culture, helping them develop a greater understanding of the different contexts they are in and encouraging a diverse and inclusive approach in professional setting.
- **Skill Development:** by working in an international environment, they will have the opportunity to develop interpersonal, communication, and problem-solving skills that will be useful in their professional career.
- **Language learning and practice:** interns will have the opportunity to work on their language skills and improve their ability to communicate in another language.
- **Improved CV:** an international experience demonstrates students' ability to adapt to new environments and work in multicultural teams.



WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM

- Administrative fee
- Cultural and recreational events
- Orientation modules (includes content of the general Ecuadorian context and the specific labor characteristics in Ecuador)
- Additionally, students can choose to take private or group Spanish classes.*

*option subject to availability

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Junior and senior years
- Minimum GPA 3.0
- Spanish A2 level
- Availability of 4 - 6 hours per day
- Minimum internship duration of 2 months

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Apply 3 months in advance



For more information, you can email us at: contactoempresarial@usfq.edu.ec



Check our website

GLOBAL COMMUNITY ENGAGED INTERNSHIP

This program fosters community-engaged learning by promoting the understanding and comparison of diverse real-world contexts in connection with academic content.



Why is Community Engagement important in Ecuador? Our country is diverse and multicultural, offering numerous opportunities for community development in various areas of knowledge.



WHY TO APPLY?

To develop globally connected learners who, through shared learning experiences, are prepared to promote sustainable and inclusive community-engaged learning.

SERVICE LEARNING TOPICS



SDG: Sustainable Development goals



Poverty



Education



Human rights



Health care



Environmental sustainability



Duration of the Program: These are tailored learning experiences organized according to the group and community's needs.



Any student or groups of students can come to the program.



Check our video

For further information, please contact Sol Palacios: spalaciosp@usfq.edu.ec

SHIFT ACADEMY

Innovation transforms higher education.



- S Significant:** Learning must be relevant, purposeful, and enable individuals to understand the connection to their context and the values of the university: truth, goodness, beauty, and freedom.
- H Human:** It recognizes the value of human connection, authentic feedback, and allows the student embrace their individuality and freedom of thought.
- I Innovative:** Allows the teacher's creativity, incorporating effective evaluation and communication processes.
- F Flexible:** Adapted to the needs of creative, entrepreneurial, and individual students to their specific realities and learning rhythms.
- T Transformative:** Evolved education, aspiring to achieve an advanced level of growth, reflection, and training.

Shift Academy develops effective and purposeful learning through the active participation of students and the human connection of teachers.

This unit offers processes of reflection and development in many forms, like Book Clubs, workshops, seminars, and webinars that spark deep inquiries about education and higher education. It also supports researchers, providing connections and support for the academic growth path.



SHIFT Academy and its programs are based on three main values, which are the key to institutional transformation:



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

By being part of Shift Academy, partners will have access to:

Training



SHIFT provides a space for the ongoing reimagining of education and teaching practices, offering opportunities to engage in training focused on teaching strategies, enhancing technology, and developing new skills.

Teacher's support



SHIFT is dedicated to supporting teachers, offering a range of resources and activities to assist them in their professional development.

Challenges



SHIFT encourages teachers to discover innovative approaches for change, grow, and improvement; leading teachers to develop projects that enrich the learning experience and foster innovation in higher education.

SHIFT offers to the world online resources on best practices, research, and much more, fulfilling its aim to create a supportive network of higher education collaborators.

For more information, you can email us at: shift@usfq.edu.ec



Check our website

RESEARCH USFQ



Research areas such as Microbiology, Biosphere, Institute of Advanced Studies in Inequalities (IEAD) and Institute of Energy and Materials

USFQ provides seed funding through its colleges and some specific ones at the institutional level. Among the most important are Cornell - USFQ Global Strategic Collaboration Awards and Galapagos Living Lab - Edinburgh - USFQ Awards.



68

research areas

889

active research projects

2900+

SCOPUS Index publications
in the last 5 years

15+

research laboratories



Check our website



RESEARCH STATIONS

Galapagos Science Center (GSC)

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador created the Galapagos Science Center (GSC) in 2011 to advance science and conservation in the Galapagos Islands and to extend a richer, more complete understanding of island ecosystems and the threats to their sustainability to the world.

Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS)

Tiputini Biodiversity Station, established in 1994 by Universidad San Francisco de Quito, stands as a pioneering research facility in Amazonian Ecuador. Situated exclusively within the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve in the northern Ecuadorian Amazonia, TBS serves as a pristine natural laboratory set amidst the world's most biodiverse and least disturbed forest.

Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station

Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station focuses on encouraging the exploration of a highly biodiverse and fragile ecosystem, viewing it through the multidisciplinary lens of conservation and sustainable development.

The Galapagos Initiative seeks to integrate research, education, and outreach through a seamless transition between the classroom, field, and lab, relying upon the unique infrastructure at the Galapagos Science Center and the diversity of scientists.

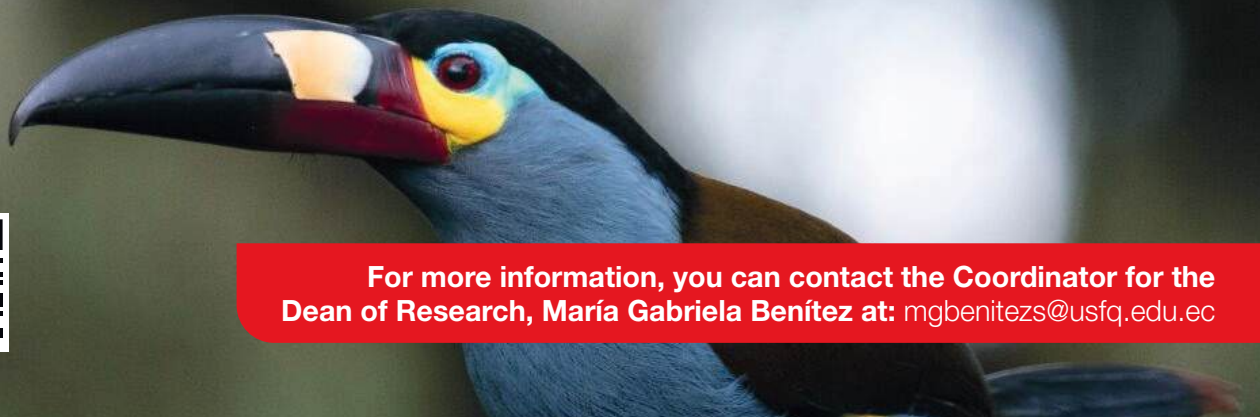
Galapagos Science Center (GSC)



Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS)



Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station



Check our website

**For more information, you can contact the Coordinator for the
Dean of Research, María Gabriela Benítez at: mgbenitez@usfq.edu.ec**

GALAPAGOS SCIENCE CENTER

Ensuring healthy social and ecological systems
for future generations.



In 2011, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ in Ecuador founded the Galapagos Science Center (GSC) to advance science and conservation in the Galapagos Islands and to extend a richer, more complete understanding of island ecosystems and the threats to their sustainability to the world.

This initiative seeks to integrate research, education, and outreach through a seamless transition between the classroom, field, and lab, relying upon the Galapagos Science Center's unique infrastructure and researcher team with extensive experience and international recognition.



We aim to broaden our comprehension of island and coastal ecosystems and their ability to endure in comparable challenging environments worldwide.



+100

research
programs



+400

international and local
students participating
in research programs



+6.500

community members benefited
from the GSC through scientific
and educational activities

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS – UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM

The International Galapagos Science Consortium (IGSC), is a network designed to provide operational support for the Galapagos Science Center and to unite world-class international institutions related to education, research and environmentally focused.

To become a member, contact: Sofia Tacle stacle@usfq.edu.ec

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Research is supported by four laboratories: these facilities provide researchers with the resources to conduct their experiments, analyze samples, and compose research reports and articles across a range of interdisciplinary topics.

The Marine Ecology Laboratory operates several projects and focuses on ecological, biological, and genetic studies of different populations of marine species that inhabit both the open sea and intertidal zones of the Galapagos.

The Microbiology and Biomolecular Lab provides the equipment to work with different biological samples for clinical, microbiological, and genetic studies.

The Terrestrial Ecology Lab supports the identification of terrestrial species and monitoring of climate and water which is essential for conservation efforts and improving quality of life in the archipelago and beyond.

The Data science and visualization Lab provides geographic information systems, scientific data visualization, mapping, and GPS representation, as well as spatial and statistical modelling tools.

For further information regarding the labs at GSC, email us at: gbautistat@usfq.edu.ec





EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The GSC offers education and research options tailored to student needs, interests, and availability. This flexibility enables us to actively tailor and direct research opportunities toward groups with diverse academic backgrounds. Our researchers mentor local and international students in their scientific research projects, guiding the next generation of scientists in the Galapagos and the world.

JOIN SCIENCE!

This program invites students from USFQ-Galapagos Campus to participate in research projects and communicate scientific activities. In addition, it offers a unique opportunity to gain practical and theoretical experience in different areas of research and to improve their chances of establishing professional networks.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES!

This educational program designed to allow students to work closely with researchers and experience active scientific research in Galapagos. Students will develop a realistic view of scientific inquiry, its demands, and the excitement of discovery.

The program can be completed through a variety of options that are tailored to the particular needs of each student. It is focused on national and international students. It lasts from 1 to 3 weeks, ideal for groups of university students who are interested in participating in scientific research in the Galapagos.

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

These are long-term research projects in which participants experience and learn fieldwork techniques, data analysis, and the processes of how to do research in the Galapagos. Some of these projects study cetaceans, sea turtles, geckos, snakes, sea lions, and the effects of the marine litter in the Galapagos, among others.

For further information, please contact Silvia Zavala: szavalam@usfq.edu.ec



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

The GSC supports sustainable community development by offering technical training and consultation to multiple local institutions such as the Directorate of the Galapagos National Park, the Municipality of San Cristóbal, the Ministry of Health, and the Government Council of Galapagos. It educates the local population about the research conducted within center through various activities within its “Connecting with Nature” program.

CONNECTING WITH NATURE PROGRAM

In 2019, with the support of the Galapagos Conservation Trust (GCT), the GSC, started the program "Connecting with Nature", seeking to bring the community closer to its environment. This science popularization initiative developed creative and interactive activities to make scientific information accessible to the local population in the Galapagos. Originally, the initiative was focused on the conservation of species from the Eastern Pacific Ocean, especially sharks. Currently, the program is expanding its focus to other thematic lines such as endemic and invasive species, genetic barcoding, among others. For further information, please contact Leidy Apolo: lapolo@usfq.edu.ec

PARTNERS



Check our website

For general information, please email us at: info@galapagossience.org

TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION



The Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS) is a research facility established in Amazonian Ecuador in 1994 by Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ.

The station serves as stewards of approximately 1800 acres of primary lowland Amazon rainforest, close to 300 km (200 mi) ESE of Quito. TBS is situated within the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve. Our primary activities are associated with research and education. Located within the world's greatest biodiversity hotspot, and one of the planet's last wilderness areas, our main goal is to train new generations through unique, tailorable academic programs.

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

TBS is the only field research station located within the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve in the northern Ecuadorian Amazon. It possesses all the necessary facilities to host thousands of visitors annually and also holds the essential permits to accommodate diverse needs for academic programs.



With a track record spanning over 30 years, we have amassed a wealth of scientific data and facilitated the publications of hundreds of peer-reviewed papers, which can be used for academic purposes.

TBS forests are exceptionally well-preserved, enabling researchers to collect data from natural ecosystems free from direct human impacts. Also, TBS has the capacity to organize special courses tailored to various topics, extending beyond the Amazon region.

**TBS IS A NATURAL LABORATORY LOCATED
IN THE MOST BIODIVERSE AND LEAST
IMPACTED FOREST OF THE PLANET.**



OUR FACILITIES

-Laboratory building of 600m² (6000 ft²) fitted with wireless internet access, divided into two floors and distributed as classrooms, library, offices, and research space with electricity 24/7.

-Our dining hall is located about 100m from the lab building and overlooks the river. The spacious open-air building can comfortably seat over 60 individuals. The menu predominately features international selections, complemented by a curated selection of traditional Ecuadorian dishes that have proven to be with all our guests.

-An observation tower (45m) in Terra Firme forest provides access to the uppermost parts of the canopy.

-A network of well-marked trails extend for approximately 40km (25 miles) and allow access for all visitors to all habitats. We also include well-trained local guides, administrative, and medical staff services and logistic support 24/7 for each class.

-TBS has several boats and buses to comfortably serve all visitors. Visitors are housed in cabins located within 100m of the central lab building. Each cabin has two rooms with large, screened windows for ample ventilation and light. Each room has a full bath with a flush toilet and shower. All room services are covered. There is no need for camping gear or mosquito nets.



A NEW ERA FOR AMAZON CONSERVATION





ACADEMIC TRACKS

- Biological Sciences
- Conservation
- One Health
- Sociology
- Anthropology
- Bioexploration
- Biomaterials
- Sustainability
- Tropical Ecosystems
- Science Based Solutions
- Management
- Tourism
- Ecosystem Based Adaptations
- STEM

For more information of applications and requirements, please visit **www.tiputini.com**

HOUSING

TBS can accommodate 45 to 50 students at the same time.

TRANSPORTATION

- Quito - Coca - TBS - Coca Quito =
airfare 30 minutes from the capital city

- Coca-TBS-Coca = boat ride in the Napo River (90 minutes), bus ride within the Yasuni National Park (90 minutes), boat ride in the Tiputini river (120 minutes).



Check our website



Check our video

For more information, email us at: opi@usfq.edu.ec

tbs@usfq.edu.ec; reservastbs@usfq.edu.ec

TANDAYAPA CLOUD FOREST STATION



Explore Conservation and Sustainability in the Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station: A Unique Learning Experience in a Diverse and Endangered Ecosystem.

Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station program focuses on encouraging the exploration of a highly biodiverse and fragile ecosystem, viewing it through the multidisciplinary lens of conservation and sustainable development.





We create avenues for learning by engaging in hands-on experimentation, research initiatives, and actively problem solving for real-world challenges. This program could serve as a practical complement to specific courses developed by partner universities centered around biological diversity, conservation, and sustainable development. We are also open to developing co-teaching opportunities for new courses in conjunction with partner universities.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

The program includes guided visits to Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station. Upon request, lectures focused on tropical biodiversity, ecology, conservation and restoration can be provided. Additionally, students can actively engage in research projects conducted at the station, and we can facilitate visits to other local initiatives emphasizing sustainable development and conservation.



ADVANTAGES OF THE STATION

Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station provides students with an exceptional opportunity to comprehend the intricacies and significance of global issues like biodiversity conservation, ecological restoration, and human well-being within a highly biodiverse and stunning environment.

Academic Traits



Tropical Biodiversity



Ecology



Restoration



For more information, email us at: tandayapa@usfq.edu.ec

USFQ CAMPUS SECURITY



The USFQ Security Office established rules and procedures to mitigate potential risks at USFQ facilities.

The rules and procedures are mandatory for all members of the USFQ community.

SAFETY RULES

- 1.** USFQ reserves the right to review your personal belongings by our security personnel.
- 2.** Members of the USFQ community must present a valid University ID upon entry.
- 3.** Visitors must present a valid ID upon entry.
- 4.** Alcoholic beverages and drugs on campus are strictly prohibited.
- 5.** Possession of any type of weapon on campus is strictly prohibited.
- 6.** Pets are not allowed on campus.
- 7.** Within the campus, each person is responsible for their belongings.

PROCEDURES

Security risk analysis of facilities in all USFQ campus



- Security within the USFQ plus agents on campus
- Operations center with 650 cameras 24/7



- Security company
- Entrance control



- Perimeter patrol system with motorized agents

Emergency plan for:

- Earthquakes
- Fire
- Floods
- Intruder
- Medical

Early warning and emergency system

- Alarm Tones
- ATED (Early Dragon Emergency Warning via WhatsApp)
- **Security and tracking**, for field trips through our GPS network
- **Free transportation and tracking service** through Pancho Bus and On track app
- **Medical assistance service** through paramedic and transport vehicle

Emergency contacts: (02) 2971-700 extension 1911 / 0989321-689

Contact email: videoseguridad@usfq.edu.ec



CAMPUS LIFE



The Dean of Students works to guarantee student well-being and the integral development of students. They also support academic growth, emotional well-being, and social and occupational activities throughout the academic year.

75 academic clubs
+ covering the
entire spectrum
of the Liberal
Arts.

+ 100 academic and
cultural events,
among others





SERVICES



Learning
Center



Teacher's
Assistants Program



Services for Students
with Special
Educational Needs



Ombudsperson



Psychological
Counseling



UNIDiversity



PanchoBus

For more information, you can email us at: opi@usfq.edu.ec

UNIQUE FACTS & FIGURES



Ecuador is home of the Middle of the World, where the equator line passes through the country.



Ecuador's currency is US Dollars.



Yasuni is the biggest diversity reserve in the planet by square meter.



Home of Cotopaxi, the world's highest active volcano.



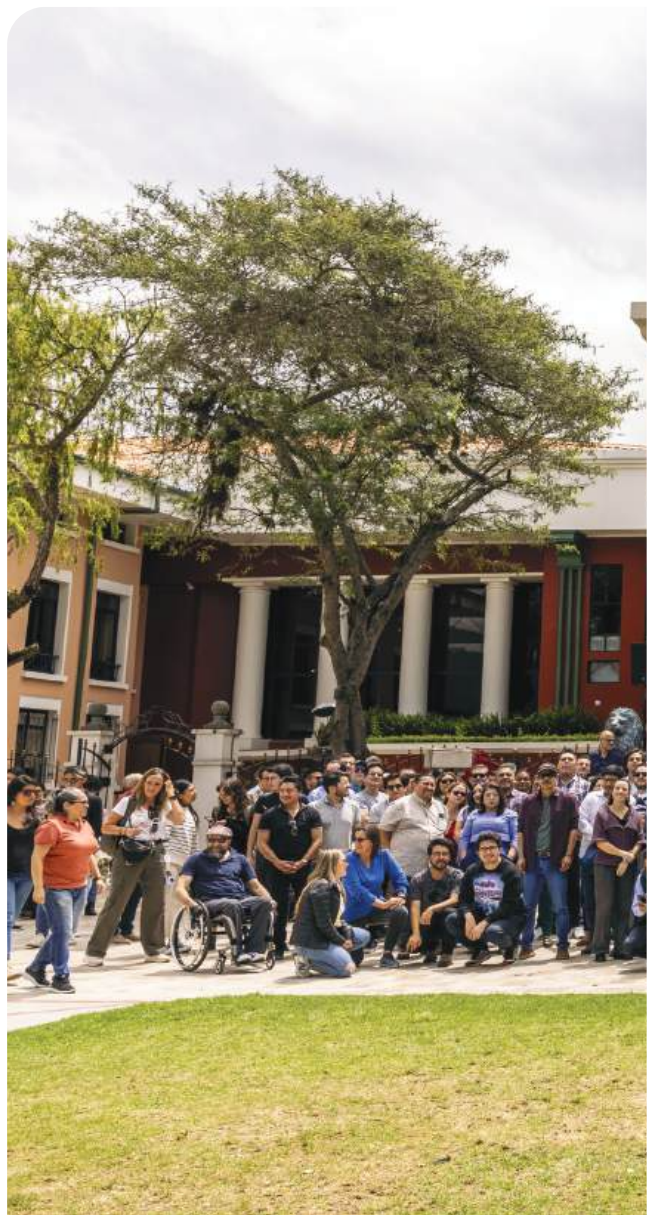
The Galapagos Islands are famous for their unique wildlife and Charles Darwin's studies.



Ecuador is a major producer of cacao, known for its high-quality chocolate.



Ecuador has World's Heritage sites: 2 natural sites and 3 cultural sites.





internationalprograms.usfq.edu.ec



opi@usfq.edu.ec



[@usfqopi](https://www.instagram.com/usfqopi)



[USFQEcuador](https://www.youtube.com/USFQEcuador)



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SAN FRANCISCO
DE QUITO