



Costa Rica



Ethics and History of Development and Health Care

What's this program about?

At a time when all countries, including the United States, struggle to deliver equitable and affordable health care services that meet public needs and expectations, it is useful to see how other countries provide health care. This program examines the health care system in Costa Rica, a developing nation that has in many ways been successful in providing health care and other services. We will look historically and culturally at how its health care system came to be, and how it operates within the present political and social milieu. We will also examine from an ethical point of view the dilemmas that arise in providing health care effectively, efficiently and fairly, with limited resources. And we will compare how analogous issues arise and are dealt with in the United States.

Students will be able to study and see first-hand how health care is being provided in a number of settings. We will also hear from a variety of local speakers who are health care professionals and people concerned with health care policy.

To properly understand the Costa Rican health care system and its challenges, one must see this within the broader context of the challenges facing a Latin American developing nation. A central focus here will be the environment, due to the emphasis on prevention and public health in the health care system, but also because the environment is a crucial resource available to a developing tropical nation. Students will study the importance of preserving such environments and the pressures and policies at play in efforts to do so.

More details about this program can be found at <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/costaethics.html>

College sponsors:	College of Arts & Letters
Semester offered:	Summer: May 21 – July 13, 2007
Course offered*:	HST 487; PHL 491; Spanish language (level dependent upon placement exam)
Requirements:	2.5 GPA; essay
Program fee**:	\$2,443 (2006)
Deadline:	March 1
Contact:	Karen Meagher Department of Philosophy E-mail: meagher6@msu.edu



Lisa Campo Engelstein
Department of Philosophy
E-mail: engelst1@msu.edu

Web: <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/costaethics.html>

*Check the program's Web page for details on courses.

**Program fees are not uniform and do not cover the same expenses for all programs. Carefully check the program's Web page for what is included in your program fee. If that is still unclear, contact the Office of Study Abroad to provide you with a full explanation.