



About us

- Founded in 1988, USFQ is a private liberal arts university with over 9,000 students, welcoming 1,000 international students per year. Our teaching model emphasizes academic excellence, research, entrepreneurship, and interculturality.



Liberal arts Education

- Education goes beyond training professionals, it's about shaping free, thoughtful, and ethical individuals. Through the Liberal Arts model, students learn to think critically, act with integrity, and cultivate a love for wisdom as a path to freedom.



Top Majors

- Engineering • Liberal Arts • Ecology • Biology • Business • Law
- Culinary Arts • Art • Spanish • International Relations • Biotechnology



Research Stations

- USFQ has 3 research stations throughout Ecuador, where you can do on-site research with USFQ faculty:
 - Tiputini Biodiversity Station (Amazon)
 - Galapagos Science Center, co-founded with UNC at Chapel Hill
 - Tandayapa Cloud Forest Station



Course Offer

- USFQ offers a wide variety of undergraduate courses in areas such as Business, Engineering, Social Sciences, Biology, Law, Arts, Communication, and more.
- Courses are primarily taught in Spanish, with select courses available in English, especially for exchange students.
- Students can enroll in 3 to 5 courses per semester.



Campus Life

- Join clubs (theatre, ecology, tango, chess, cycling...) or start your own
- More than 100 different types of Conferences, Fairs, and much more
- Explore a UNESCO World Heritage Site - Quito



Language Requirements

- Spanish is the main language of instruction at USFQ.
- Exchange students are recommended to have at least a B2 level of Spanish (CEFR).
- Some programs may allow enrollment in English-taught courses; in those cases, proof of English proficiency may be required (TOEFL, IELTS, etc.).



Eligibility Requirements

- Students must have:
- Minimum sophomore standing.
 - Minimum 3.0 GPA (or minimum required by students' home institution)
 - Recommended minimum of four semesters of college-level Spanish.



Student Visa

- Must be obtained before arrival to Ecuador at an Ecuadorian Embassy or Consulate and required for stays over 180 days or if you've been in Ecuador within the past year.
- Main Documents Needed:
 - Valid passport
 - Apostilled FBI & State background checks (only U.S. citizens) students from other countries must have an apostilled background check
 - Bank proof with at least \$1,500 USD in your name USFQ admission letter
 - Letter from health insurance provider (must include coverage details)
 - Visa fee: approx. \$150 USD
- Check with your local consulate for exact requirements.



Housing

- USFQ matches interested international students with carefully screened host families in Quito. Host families are required to provide students with their own bedroom (bathroom may be shared), Wifi internet access, and two meals per day (breakfast and dinner). Host families generally live within a 15 to 45-minute commute by public transportation from the USFQ campus in Cumbayá valley.

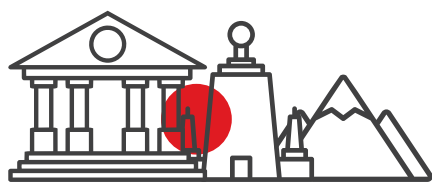


Cost of Living

- Housing : \$35-\$42 per day
- Food: \$200-\$250
- Transportation: \$25-\$50
- Other personal expenses: \$100-\$200
- Estimated total: \$1.375-\$1.760 per month



USFQ Programs for International Students



CUMBAYA SEMESTER PROGRAM

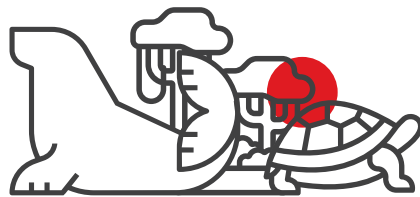
Academics

- Over 4,000 courses per semester (150+ in English)
- Spanish classes for all levels
- Most courses taught in person with local students
- Take up to 16 US credits per semester

Nomination and application Deadlines

FALL SEMESTER mid-August to mid-December
Nomination: May 10 | Extended: June 28
Application: June 1

SPRING SEMESTER early January to early May
Nomination: Oct 1 | Extended: Oct 15
Application: Oct 25



GALAPAGOS SEMESTER PROGRAM

Academics

- Evolution, Ecology & Conservation
- Marine Ecology
- Sustainability & Resilience
- One Health

Field Opportunities

- Visit to Tiputini Biodiversity Station (Amazon)
- Explore cloud forests, highlands, marine ecosystems

Application Deadlines

FALL SEMESTER mid-August to mid-December
Application until May 1

SPRING SEMESTER early January to early May
Application until Sept 25



OTHER PROGRAMS



Global Internships

Internships in Ecuadorian Companies or Research Opportunities throughout the research stations with USFQ Faculty.
Application Deadline: Anytime in the academic year.



Summer Programs

From Anthropology, to learn spanish in Ecuador, we have several summer programs.
Application Deadline: Until May of each year.



internationalprograms.usfq.edu.ec



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





USFQ Programs for International Students

