

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

JENNIFER LAU

Program: UW Spanish Language in Costa Rica, Summer

Jennifer's Majors: International Business, MHR, Certificate in Spanish Studies for Business Majors

Academic Life: Classes were held in a language institute in San Jose. Most classes were comprised of a small group, ranging from one to four students. Students had a lot of opportunity to interact with professors to improve language proficiency and understanding toward the topics discussed in class. Depending on the class, students were given different amounts of homework. For instance, two of my classes dealt more with refining writing skills and grammar, whereas the other focused on analyzing local literature or plays.

Housing: I lived in suburb area called Sabanilla, a 15 minutes bus ride from the institute in San Pedro. It is a really secure and peaceful neighbourhood. The house I lived in has two stories with a balcony. I would sometimes help my host mother hang washed clothes or clean the house. Other than that, the house is usually filled with laughter and the singing of birds.

Advice for Someone Considering Studying Abroad: Go for it! It doesn't matter where the destination is, as long as you have the desire to explore. You will definitely end up learning more than you expected, through different incidents and people you meet while studying abroad.

How Study Abroad Changed Jennifer: The experience becomes a story about the adventures you had; something you would be proud of sharing with others in the future (whether it had been good or bad). You see a little more of the world and learn how to deal with different problems that may not occur on a daily basis in your home country. This 6-week program has changed my perspective towards friendships, families, my goals etc. I now understand more about how I am and what I want for my future.

106 Red Gym / p. (608) 265-6329 / www.studyabroad.wisc.edu
e. peeradvisor@studyabroad.wisc.edu / skype: [peeradvisor.studyabroad](https://www.skype.com/en/peers/peeradvisor.studyabroad)



Jennifer holding a toucan in Costa Rica.

“Be open to new experiences without preconceived notions about what it will be like. It will be unpredictable but worth it!”

