

# Intercultural Communication in Ecuador Spring Semester 2023 Travel Course

**Take your learning to Ecuador in May of 2023 on an educational journey of a lifetime!**  
**Planned dates of trip: May 13-24, 2023 with optional 5-days in the Galapagos Islands**



## **COMM 1131: Intercultural Communication in Ecuador**

Students will explore the theories and skills of intercultural communication as they learn about and experience the culture of Ecuador. Throughout this course and tour, students will meet and learn from people representing Ecuador's diverse population. Along the way, students will develop an intimate appreciation and understanding of intercultural communication and develop global competency skills. This course culminates in a faculty-led, 11-day study abroad experience in Ecuador with an option to spend an additional five days in the Galapagos Islands. This course satisfies Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goals 7 & 8.

**Course Registration:** Registering for this course requires permission from the instructor and additional enrollment in the tour through our educational tour provider, Learn From Travel (LFT).

All participants must choose one of two options (they are the same cost regardless):

- Option A: 3 credits - requires participation in all pre-trip class sessions and course work
- Option B: Audit – requires participation in first and last pre-trip class sessions, and recommended to attend all other sessions, with option to complete course work

### **Required Class Meeting Guide:**

Class will meet 6-10 PM

**Class #1: Mar 24, 2023\***  
**Class #2: Apr 7, 2023**  
**Class #3: Apr 21, 2023**  
**Class #4: May 5, 2023\***

\*Required for Auditing students

### **Estimated Costs:**

**\$150** LFT Enrollment fee  
**\$3190** LFT Tour Fee\*  
**\$600** estimated for 3 credits of tuition (for all participants)  
**\$50** course fee for International Travel Insurance (required)  
**\$3990 total estimated costs**

*\*Tour details and inclusions listed on reverse.*

*\*\*A variety of payment plans are available, including monthly, installment, or in-full.*

### **Contact the following professors with questions.**

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*Anyone 18 and over is eligible to participate.*

*Alumni, friends, students at other colleges, and family are all welcome on this journey!*

*Academic travel scholarships will be available for students taking the course for credit. Ask how financial aid can apply.*

## Tour Information

We're planning a fantastic tour to the Ecuador from May 13-24, 2023 with Learn from Travel. Optional 5-day Galapagos Islands add-on available!

### Cost of Tour?

- \$150 Enrollment fee
- \$3190 Remaining Tour Fee (if 22-24 participants)  
(Remaining Tour Fee will be \$3240 if we have 19-21 participants)

### What's included?

- Round-trip air transportation
- Ground transportation
- All activities and entrance fees as described in itinerary
- Guided sightseeing tours and city walks as per itinerary
- Tips and gratuities
- 24-hour Tour Guide and Translator
- Personal Online Fundraising Tool
- Tour journal
- Breakfast daily, 10 lunches, 9 dinners
- Overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms- double occupancy. Limited single rooming upgrades available for additional \$350 fee.
- A one-of-a-kind, fun-filled educational experience

### Tour Highlights

- Day 1: Quito, Welcome dinner
- Day 2: Tour of Quito, meet with students from University of the Americas
- Day 3: Travel to Otavalo with students from University of the Americas
  - Visit Peguche Waterfall, Otavalo Market
- Day 4: Cotopaxi National Park
  - Hike to refuge and glacier, optional downhill biking
  - Transfer to Salasaca – meet with local artisans
- Day 5: Salasaca
  - Tour of community to learn about farming and cultural traditions
  - Weaving workshop
- Day 6: Transfer to Guamote
  - Puntzan Adventure Park, jungle zipline adventure
- Day 7: Guamote market, llama history museum, myths and legends hike
- Day 8: Transfer to Cuenca
  - Nariz del Diablo train ride through the Andes Mountains
  - Sibambe museum and dance performance
  - Guided tour of Ingapirca Incan ruins
- Day 9: City tour of Cuenca – a UNESCO World Heritage Site
  - Pumapungo Museum of Ethnography and Art
  - Salsa dance class
- Day 10: Visit several communities known for craftsmanship, fine jewelry, handmade guitars, Panama hats and indigenous markets.
- Day 11: Transfer to Guayaquil
  - Guided hike in Cajas National Park
  - Visit a cacao plantation to learn about the chocolate making process
  - Evening departure for MSP for those not continuing to Galapagos

### Enrollment Notes:

- All participants must be at least 18 years of age at time of departure
- All participants are required to register for the 3-credit course COMM 1131-80 in spring 2023 (for credit or audit)
- A passport will be required, good through 6 months after return date
- **CANCELLATION DUE TO COVID-19** – Normandale Community College has planned this program with your health and safety in mind. If COVID-19 conditions make this trip unsafe, Normandale may cancel or delay it. If this decision is made on or before 90 days before departure, all enrolled travelers will receive a full refund of all money paid to LFT. After this date, LFT's cancellation policy will apply. We recommend that you carefully read the cancellation policy upon enrollment. All participants must abide by local, college, tour company, and airline policies related to COVID-19.

## INTERESTED?

### Step 1: Complete This Form

<https://rb.gy/1dslai>



### Step 2: Enroll in the Tour

You'll get an e-mail with tour enrollment instructions. An enrollment fee of \$150.00 is required to secure a place on the tour. Monthly invoices in equal amounts will be calculated based on date of enrollment. A 4% fee for credit card payments and a 2% fee for debit card payments will be applied.

### Step 3:

Watch for emails with updates, scholarship applications and course registration info. Apply for a passport!

### Optional Galapagos Islands Add-On

- Day 12: Travel by plane boat to Santa Cruz Island. Free time on the beach. Check into included hotel room.
- Day 13: Visit the El Chato Tortoise Reserve, explore a labyrinth lava tubes, visit a fish market, free time.
- Day 14: Bartolome Island Day Trip – Travel by yacht to Bartolome Island, hike to summit peak, snorkel with penguins, sea turtles, rays, and tropical fish. Encounter other possible wildlife such as blue-footed boobies. Evening free time.
- Day 15: Short boat ride to Las Grietas, a tunnel like swimming hole famous for its rock formations. Hike or boat ride to Tortuga Bay – beach day for snorkeling, kayaking, and observing wildlife.
- Day 16: Midday flight home to MSP

**\$500 Deposit**  
**\$2090 Remaining Galapagos fee**  
**(Total - \$2590)**

*(based on 10-12 participants.  
Cost will be lower if more than 12 enroll)*