PROGRAMS OFFERED

**Intensive Spanish**
- Intensive Spanish grammar 4 week courses (80 contact hours)
- Spanish for Health Professions 4 week courses
- Spanish for Law Enforcement Professions 4 week courses

**Elective & Sustainability Studies**
12-week Elective Courses taught in English including Environmental Sciences, Art and Humanities, Business, Economics, Communications, Health, Human Development, History, Politics and/or International Relations. Students with an advanced level of Spanish can enroll into Elective courses taught in Spanish.

**Integrated Art & Design Studies**
15-week courses in Architecture, Interior Space Design, Product Design, Advertising Design, Digital Animation, Film & TV and Photography. Students with an advanced level of Spanish can enroll in these courses with Costa Rican students.

**Short Term Programs**
Winter and Summer Bi-Modal Short Term Programs available in Ecological Photography, Tropical Architecture, Tropical Ecology, Tropical Marine Biology, and Basic Aerospace Engineering.
Also a Cultural and Environmental Perspective Short Term Program of twelve days is offered for Freshmen groups in January and in June.

**Summer Short Term Programs**
Summer Programs of 4 weeks, 5 weeks and 8 weeks. English Bi-Modal Electives (a portion online and a portion onsite) or Intensive Elective courses may combine with Intensive Spanish courses in the morning.
Also Spanish for Health Professions and Spanish for Law Enforcement Professions courses can be taken in June and July.

**Interships**
Universidad VERITAS coordinates with different NGO’s and companies to offer Internship opportunities. Students who would like to experience the labor environment in Costa Rica can apply during their Junior or Senior year to work for 8, 12 or 16 weeks in a project related to their field of study.
INTENSIVE SPANISH

Our Intensive Spanish and Latin American Culture Program offer different levels of intensive (4 weeks/80 hours) courses in Spanish grammar, conversation and composition (applied linguistics) courses. The use of authentic and practical contexts facilitates the acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students are coached in the analysis of linguistic and extra-linguistic elements during the reading and writing practices.

Our evaluation system in all Spanish courses integrates convergent (grammatical structures) and divergent (global use of language) techniques in our test procedures. All levels evaluate oral, listening, reading and writing assignments. There is a maximum of 10 students in each language acquisition course.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS INTENSIVE SPANISH LANGUAGE (4 WEEKS EACH)

SPN 101 Basic 1 Spanish
(80 hours)
This course is an introduction to Spanish for beginners with no previous knowledge of the language. Students will develop basic linguistic skills necessary in order to communicate in common situations. The course covers basic grammatical structures, vocabulary, communicative expressions and frequent situations in settings such as restaurants, stores, buses and others. Emphasis is given on understanding, speaking, reading and cross-cultural perspectives.

SPN 102 Basic 2 Spanish
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 101
This course is for students who have completed a minimum of 60 contact hours in Spanish studies and already have a command of elementary grammatical tenses. Students will advance on their previous experiential knowledge and further develop their oral, reading, written and listening skills. Students will expand their vocabulary and language usage in order to facilitate interaction with the Costa Rican environment and be able to express themselves in the past.

SPN 201 Intermediate 1 Spanish
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 102
Students in this course should have a good communicative command of usual everyday situations and a structural command of the present tense. The objective of this course is to develop the student’s skills emphasizing on oral and written presentations and more complex grammatical structures. Students should develop a good command of all past indicative tenses.

SPN 202 Intermediate 2 Spanish
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 201
This course emphasizes the discourse enrichment on contexts related to description and simple narrations. The contents include vocabulary building and detailed work with the subjunctive mode and other complex grammatical structures. Students will also learn idiomatic expressions used in Costa Rica.

SPN 210 Intermediate Spanish Conversation
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 202
This course is for students who already have a high intermediate level of Spanish and wish to better their communicative skills and pronunciation. The emphasis is set on situational every day conversation and certain cultural issues. This methodology enhances structured speech to provide a firm base in patterns of spoken Spanish progression towards free conversation.

SPN 240 Intermediate Composicion
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 202
This course is for students with an intermediate level of Spanish who want to improve their writing skills. The course stimulates writing, through theory and practice of different composition rules and techniques.

SPN 301 Advanced 1 Spanish
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 202
This course is based on grammatical analysis, expansion of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions through readings, and student compositions at
a complex level. The objective is for students to acquire a high level of communicative Spanish that will permit them to express their opinion and thoughts on complex and controversial subjects.

SPN 302 Advanced 2 Spanish
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 301

This course is for students who want to polish their oral and written skills. Students should have a high linguistic level and full knowledge of grammatical structures in order to work on polishing stylistics. Students will practice narrative constructions, reactions on non-expected contexts, how to report compiled information. The course also covers important aspects about myths, beliefs and other cultural issues in Latin America.

SPN 310 Advanced Spanish Conversation
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 301

This course is based on acquiring the skill of self-correction. Students will acquire higher levels of diction and fluency through the exposure to oral contexts, idiomatic language and the varieties of Spanish spoken in different Spanish-speaking nations. This course develops skills in reading, discussion, analysis, self-correction and research. Emphasis is given to pragmatic production and students must be prepared to spend a minimum of 2 extra hours per day for assignments.

SPN 330 Spanish for Heritage Speakers
(80 hours) Pre-requisite Heritage speaker with advanced level of communication

This course is for heritage speakers who need to acquire proficiency in the use of complex grammatical structures. Emphasis will be given to listening, writing and reading skills.

SPN 340 Oral Expression Techniques
80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 301

This course focuses on advanced communication and presentation skills. Students will work on communication techniques and efficient oral expression in formal contexts.

SPN 304 Spanish for Business
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 301

This course is for students with an advanced level of Spanish who wish to learn general information about the development and processes of some of Costa Rica’s main entrepreneurial settings. By the end of the course students will have a general knowledge of business vocabulary and usual business practices in Costa Rica. The course contents are complemented with a couple of field visits to some of Costa Rica’s developing businesses.

SPN 320 Cultural Heritage in Latin America
(80 hours) Pre requisite SPN 301

This course introduces relevant topics and issues in the development of Latin America’s cultural heritage.

Students will develop an understanding of intellectual, artistic, social and historical perspectives in Latin America with emphasis on Costa Rica.

SPN 410 Advanced Composition
(80 hours) Pre-requisite SPN 302

This course is for high advanced level students who want to further develop their written skills through different composition practices and techniques. The course studies complex and difficult syntax topics. Special attention is given to stylistics and composition structure.
SPECIALTY: SPANISH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS

SPN 141 Basic Spanish for Health Professions
(80 hours)
This course is designed for the purpose of giving health personnel, who do not have any previous Spanish experience, the tools necessary for interacting with and interviewing simulated Spanish speaking patients. During the four weeks of the course the students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level with simulated Spanish speaking patients.

SPN 241 Intermediate Spanish for Health Professions
(80 hours) Pre-requisite two semesters minimum of College Spanish.
This course is designed for health personnel that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of medical related Spanish and increase the competency of communications in specifically simulated situations with Spanish speaking patients.

SPN 341 Advanced Spanish for Health Professions
(80 hours) Pre-requisite four semesters minimum of College Spanish.
This course is designed for health personnel that have an advanced background in Spanish and who need to improve their linguistic competency in order to interact with their Spanish-speaking patients and their families.

SPECIALTY: SPANISH FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONS

SPN 151 Basic Spanish for Law Enforcement Professions
(80 hours)
This course is designed for the purpose of giving general law enforcement professionals, who do not have any previous Spanish experience; the tools necessary for interacting with and interviewing simulated native Spanish speakers. During the four weeks of the course the students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level in simulated situations with Spanish native speakers.

SPN 251 Intermediate Spanish for Law Enforcement Professions
(80 hours)
This course is designed for law enforcement professionals that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of law related Spanish and increase the competency of communication in specifically simulated situations with native Spanish speakers. Students from law enforcement areas can also enroll in afternoon electives.
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

ENV 3005: Environmental Impact and Social Development
4 credits (60 hours)
This course is an introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Students will examine ecosystems, population patterns and dynamics; use and misuse of resources; population and environmental quality; environmental citizenship and economic incentives and Costa Rican initiatives in eco-tourism.

ENV 3044: Tropical Ecology
4 credits (60 hours)
Students will learn about the interactions between earth and land and how these interactions or processes affect our life and the stability of the planet. Emphasis will be given to the study of the most relevant tropical ecosystems such as: tropical rain forest, cloud forests, coral reefs and mangroves. Field trips to selected environments will provide on site examples of some of the issues learned through class work and readings. All field trips are mandatory.

ENV 3120 Land Vertebrates of Costa Rica
4 credits (60 hours)
This course is an introduction to the zoology of terrestrial vertebrates in Costa Rica. Students will gain insight about various biological characteristics of the groups of land chordates in the country. Costa Rica has an immensely rich animal biodiversity, with an influence of both North American and South American fauna and is a world-renowned hot spot for animal research and conservation. Emphasis will be given to the study of Costa Rican species, but others will be discussed as well.

ENV 3190 Tropical Marine Biology
4 credits (60 hours)
The course studies the balance between ecosystems and human stress and demands on the constant changing Marine environment. All field trips are mandatory. Certified Divers may pay a $100 fee in order to complete 2 immersions in each field trip (4 immersions total).

ENV 4040: Environmental Awareness and Sustainable Development
4 credits (60 hours)
This course is an introduction to the actual world problems in natural resources management and conservation, and its effects on sustainable development efforts in tropical countries. Current issues that condition the possibility for development such as poverty, global warming, deforestation and potable water will be analyzed.

ART AND HUMANITIES

ART 2130 Mural Painting and Public Art
4 credits (60 hours)
This studio art course introduces theoretical and practical aspects of large-scale painting, murals and public art. The course includes an actual practicum in large-scale media and experimentation of early and contemporary techniques including drawing, fresco, painting, aerosol and various industrial materials. The objective of this course is for students to develop understanding about some of the social roles of art and the impact of murals in communities, based upon its historical and contemporary applications. The course will enable student to control scale, color, specific techniques and safety measures aimed at public spaces. Students will incorporate a Service Learning component by either conducting a collective workshop with children from a rural location or actually painting a collective mural as a donation to a community. The Students fine arts background will help with the complexity of the final collective project but the course does not require previous painting knowledge.
ARCH 3112 History of Latin American Architecture and Art
3 credits (48 hours)
A chronological overview of main inventions and influences that contributed to the making of past and present architecture in Latin America analyzing the artistic manifestations.

ARCH 3200 Tropical Architecture and Design
4 credits (60 hours)
This course teaches students to develop the skill to analyze a particular architectural situation and be able to offer adequate design solutions that will guarantee a good quality environment. It is offered to all students with no previous knowledge of design projection and means of graphic expression, who want to learn about tropical design.

ART 2100 Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice
3 credits (48 hours)
This course is designed for the beginner student to help find personal meaning in works of art and develop a better understanding of the nature and validity of art as visual and space language (line, shape, volume, light, space, time, motion, color, and texture). This means that you will learn about the essentials of art through experience and experimentation. Through determination and an open mind, you will increase your creativity and discover more interesting ways to understand and judge the visual arts. Emphasis is on the diversity of form and content in artwork. With willingness to work and an open mind, your experiences in this class will be memorable in a positive way. Upon completion, students should understand the basics of art materials used and have a basic overview of the history of art and how art represents its society, especially, Latin American culture.

ART 1301 Basic Principles of Drawing
3 credits (48 hours)
This studio art course introduces basic principles of drawing. The course includes model drawings, landscape drawings and experimental (abstract) drawings. The focus of this course is on the development of expression and observational drawing from still life, a model and landscapes.

CTV 3400 Documentary Appreciation
4 credits (48 hours)
Documentary Appreciation will focus on the critical analysis of audiovisual documentaries, exploring film and photography mediums in traditional and new media. Class interactions will comprise academic learning, viewing and discussion of material, practical exercises and written assignments.

DNCE 2500 Introduction to Latin American Tropical Dance
3 credits (48 hours)
This course explores the technique, rhythm and movement style of Latin American Tropical dance. History, anthropology, folklore videos and songs are part of this experiential course. This course will provide students with a general overview and a better understanding of the folklore and history of Latin American dance. They should also be acquainted with some of the basic rhythms in various countries.

HUM 3513 Costa Rica Colloquium: History & Culture
3 credits (48 hours)
This course is a general survey of the complex heritage and social evolution of Costa Rica, examined through a comprehensive and multidisciplinary view focusing on the historical development and present day dynamics of economy, society, politics, natural resources and culture. Emphasis will be placed upon different topics during the course, according to students’ backgrounds and expectations.

ETH 3100 Selected Topics in Afro-Caribbean Studies
3 credits (48 hours)
Can also count for ETHN 3100 Selected Topics in Ethnic Studies
This course examines a particular topic, theme, issue, or problem concerning the Black presence in Costa Rica and Central America. Sample offerings could include Central America and ethnic politics, history and Culture, Blacks in Central American governments, Contemporary Black literature, History of the Black experience in Costa Rica.
PHIL 3100 Comparative Classical Philosophy
3 credits (48 hours)
This course is an overview of the history and selected concepts in major eastern and western philosophical movements and systems from ancient to the middle age periods. Students will reflect on certain topics such as mind-body, concept of God, knowledge of self and others, predestination and free will, cause and effect and other fundamental ideas in classical knowledge.

PHOT 2100 Ecological Photography
4 credits (60 hours)
This course offers general and basic knowledge and skills about the possibilities and stages of digital photography applied to ecological exploration. Through practice exercises and field trips students will apply the information provided in lectures. Students will be able to consciously create and manipulate digital photographic images while exploring Costa Rican ecological systems.

PHOT 2130 Cultural Photography
3 credits (48 hours)
The course offers the acquisition of basic photographic skills as a means of cultural exploration. Through practice exercises and field trips aiming to apply the information provided through lectures, students will consciously explore Costa Rican culture through the creation of photographic images and essays. Students will be able to consciously create photographs that document aspects of Costa Rican Culture through Portraiture and Landscapes.

PHOT 2600 Digital Photography
3 credits (48 hours)
The course offers the acquisition of technical knowledge and skills in the capture and manipulation of digital photographic images. Students will apply the information provided in the lectures consciously through the creation and manipulation of digital photographic images.

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND COMMUNICATION

COMM 3200 Intercultural Communication
3 credits (48 hours)
This course addresses issues of diversity and commonalities amongst human beings, implications and applications according to each situation and professional context. Students will develop skills for intercultural competence.

SPN 1002 Basic Spanish Conversation
3 credits (48 hours) Pre-requisite one semester or the equivalent Spanish course required
This course is designed for Spanish as a Second Language students who have a basic morpho-syntactic, lexical-semantic and phonetic-phonological mastery of the language. Students must have the equivalent of one semester of college Spanish to take this course. Throughout the course, students develop their oral communication skills, enabling them to cope effectively and efficiently in everyday situations.

ECON 3403 Introduction to International Economics in Latin America
3 credits (48 hours) Pre-Requisite ECON 1000, or ECON 2010 and 2020.
Examines Latin American policies that affect the international economy, with attention to trade barriers, economic nationalism and regionalism, international political economy, exchange market intervention and international transmission of economic perturbations.

GEB 3350 Introduction to International Business
3 credits (48 hours)
An overview of cultural environment of international business and the institutions which affect business today. The Latin American perspective with regard to the U.S., Asia and Europe is examined: NAFTA, Mercosur, the EC and other common market areas and agreements.
**GEB 3500 Ecotourism: The Costa Rica Case**  
4 credits (60 hours)

The course will offer the chance to analyze this dynamic process from different socio-economic perspectives. It will discuss the economic importance of ecotourism for the Costa Rican national economy, the stimulation of grassroots, community ecotourism projects, and the role of ecotourism in securing environmental protection. The advances and limitations of ecotourism will be explored.

**MGMT 3030 Creative Leadership Skills**  
3 credits (48 hours)

Provides the opportunity to learn about and practice the skills required for managerial excellence. These skills include leadership, negotiation, conducting performance appraisals, delegation, effective communication, interviewing and making hiring decisions and effective human resource management.

**MKTG 3010 International Marketing Management**  
3 credits (48 hours)

This course is designed to give the student an understanding of international marketing in terms of both the challenges and opportunities. The course assumes that students are familiar with basic marketing terms and have a basic to mid understanding of marketing concepts. The course will examine the concepts related to international marketing, while students analyze case studies and propose ideas through assignments to attain the objectives of the course.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**HIS 3293 Costa Rican Health Care System and Tropical Medicine**  
4 credits (60 hours)

Costa Rica’s health care system is unique due to the fact that it’s socialized and has achieved excellent health indicators. The course focuses on the history and development of the public health care system within the context of the Costa Rican sociopolitical and economic situation. It also gives a strong emphasis on how the system actually works and points out not only the strongholds of the systems, but also its weak points. A third objective, of fundamental importance in order to understand this system, is the study of Costa Rica as a tropical country. Students will learn about the prevention and transmission of relevant tropical diseases.

**HHD 1020 Introduction to Physical Therapy**  
3 credits (48 hours)

This course will introduce basic concepts of human anatomy, an overview of the most common injuries and illnesses that require physical therapy, and an introduction to the different tools and methods used to treat them. The course will consist of lectures about the theoretical concepts, and also laboratory practice, which will allow the student a hands-on experience of the different techniques given during the lectures. At the end of the course the student will have general knowledge on various areas of expertise, and on techniques such as massage therapy, electrotherapy, and therapeutic exercises, among others.

**HHD 1050 Alternative Health Approaches**  
4 credits (60 hours)

This course will introduce basic concepts of alternative medicine. Also this course will explore, and evaluate alternative approaches and philosophies to personal health and wellness. Some of the topics included are: Homeopathy, TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) Acupuncture, Herbal and Nutritional Therapies, Massage, Chiropractic Therapy, Electromagnetic Therapy, Breathing Exercise and others.

**PSY 2200 Health Psychology**  
3 credits (48 hours)

The World Health Organization defines health as being “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. Based on this definition, the concepts of health and illness have changed. Nowadays, health care professionals have to tackle the health from a bio-psycho-social concept. For this reason, it is extremely important for health care professionals (doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, just to mention some) to have general information about Health Psychology,
which studies how biology, behavior, and social context influence health and illness. In this way, health care professionals can have an integral approach to the patients under their treatment. This will discuss some of the most common topics related with Health Psychology and pertinent to practice in the health care professions.

HISTORY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HIS 2302 Contemporary Latin-American History
3 credits (48 hours)
This course is a survey of the main events in Latin American History after its independence. Topics include the historical causes and effects of the independence, some of the main issues on social, economic and political problems and the main historical leaders in modern Latin America.

HIS 3290 Costa Rican Economic Development
3 credits (48 hours)
This course introduces the outstanding socio-economic and political features that have shaped and defined the history and development path of Costa Rica.

POL 2500 Human Rights in Latin America
3 credits (48 hours)
A particular emphasis will be given to the case of Costa Rica, giving the students an opportunity to explore the development of human rights in the following areas: women’s rights, children’s rights, HIV/AIDS, the CAFTA agreement and labor rights, indigenous groups and human rights, disability and age issues, and the prison environment.

POL 3100 Costa Rican Tradition: Peace and Democracy
3 credits (48 hours)
The general objective of this course is to discuss, with students, the social, economic and political issues of the process of construction of peace and democracy in Costa Rica and Central America (1948-2005).

POL 3220 Migration Issues: The Costa Rica Case
3 credits (48 hours)
This class studies the construction of migrants as others, the management of their image by media and elements pertaining to human rights and citizenship in the cases of immigrants in Costa Rica and opening the possibility to compare the United States as a host country. The objective is to visualize the construction of cultural identities, its effects on the intergroup encounters and societal perspectives on migration issues.

POL 3450 International Relations in Latin America
3 credits (48 hours)
The course will analyze the aspects of the Economic Integration, globalization and conditions for a successful integration between economies and the effects of free trade in the region as well as the effects of protectionism. There will be a special treatment on foreign investments and joint ventures in the Latin America.

POL 3560 International Politics in the Middle East
3 credits (48 hours)
This course examines the historical and actual events in The Middle East. The focus is to understand the background of conflicts in Iraq, Lebanon and The Palestinian Territories. The aftermath of the Middle East Peace conference of December 2007 will be closely followed. The objective of the course is to promote the interaction of ideas and arguments based on a balanced analysis of the themes. Students participate in various ways: writing essays, Internet research assignments, documentary movies, socio-dramas and debating actual topics.

POL 3740 Economic Integration in Latin America
3 credits (48 hours)
This course will analyze the beginning of the International Relations in Latin America and the most important historical facts that marked the politics in the region in the current era. The focus of this course is on the historic background of the region before independence and post-independence that helped to consolidate the American hegemony and the insertion of foreign investment, the North American imperialism and the Latin-American resistance.
LITERATURA Y LINGÜÍSTICA

SPN 1002 Comunicación Oral Básica
3 credits (48 hours)
Este curso está diseñado para estudiantes de español como segunda lengua que cuentan con un dominio elemental del idioma en los aspectos morfo-sintácticos, léxico-semántico y fonético-fonológicos, por lo que deben haber aprobado el nivel básico 1. A lo largo del curso, desarrollará su competencia comunicativa oral, que le permitirá desenvolverse de manera efectiva y eficaz en situaciones cotidianas.

SPN 3020 Lecturas Selectas de la Literatura Latinoamericana
3 credits (48 hours)
Estudio panorámico de autores, corrientes literarias o particularidades de género en la literatura Latinoamericana.

SPN 3050 Fonética y Fonología
3 credits (48 hours)
En este curso se aprenden métodos y herramientas de la lingüística descriptiva aplicada a la fonética y articulación.

SPN 3070 Introducción a la Traducción
3 credits (48 hours)
Una introducción a las herramientas teóricas y prácticas para el proceso de traducción del inglés al español. Los estudiantes aprenderán a hacer traducciones de textos sencillos de complejidad intermedia y avanzada tratando de mantener la mayor fidelidad posible con la intención y estilo del autor.

SPN 3520 Dialectología Latinoamericana
3 credits (48 hours)
Este curso explora una perspectiva socio-histórica de la lengua como un aspecto de estudio importante, para comprender el mecanismo lingüístico actual dentro de diferentes contextos sociales de habla. El enfoque de este curso es analizar la variedad dialectal que se refleja en los diferentes países latinoamericanos mediante rasgos: fonológicos, morfológicos y léxicos que toman en cuenta elementos culturales. Además, el curso pretende como objetivo primordial conocer y poner en práctica estrategias dialectales para fomentar elementos comunicativos auténticos que enriquezcan el uso del idioma español.

SPN 3560 Tópicos Selectos en Literatura Comparada
3 credits (48 hours)
El curso plantea los fundamentos de poesía, narrativa (cuento corto y noveleta) y drama, que servirá como marco teórico de discusión de textos representativos de esos mismos géneros. Los textos han sido seleccionados con base en sus recursos para establecer comparaciones, y en el grado de interés que pueden despertar no sólo a estudiantes de literatura, sino a estudiantes de español como lengua extranjera.

SPN 4110 Escritoras Contemporáneas Costarricenses
3 credits (48 hours)
El curso aborda la principal producción literaria femenina en Costa Rica. Se enfoca en el análisis de temáticas presentes en los diferentes textos y su relación con la realidad nacional.

SPN 4330 Tópicos Selectos en la Literatura Española
3 credits (48 hours)
Este curso es una panorámica de la literatura española, desde sus inicios hasta la primera mitad de la literatura contemporánea. Presenta una visión general de cada periodo en los que se ha dividido la literatura española, así como sus principales características. También se estudian los textos más representativos de los exponentes de cada periodo.

SPN 4390 El Cine y la Literatura Latinoamericana
3 credits (48 hours)
Este curso es un estudio de algunas producciones cinematográficas basadas en textos literarios de reconocidos escritores latinoamericanos. El curso se basa en el análisis y discusión de las principales características de la cultura, valores y temáticas de la realidad Latinoamericana presentes en dichas muestras literarias y cinematográficas.
ADVERTISING DESIGN COURSES

ADDS 304 Marketing I
3 credits (30 hours)
This course brings about aspects of marketing techniques, information systems, consumer conduct, buyer conduct, competitive advantage, and others.

ADDS 404 Communication I
3 credits (30 hours)
This program addresses punctual knowledge to understand the interrelation within communication and other sciences, like semiotics and Advertising Design. Students will deal with basic principles in the planning of the advertising campaign process where it is necessary to launch with a basic end of persuasion.

ADDS 603 Advertising Psychology
3 credits (30 hours)
This course focuses on the knowledge of the relationship between public, market, psychology, and processes such as motivation, perception, personality, as part of critical and creative methods of advertising strategies.

ARCHITECTURE COURSES

ARCH 302 Theory of Architecture I
3 credits (30 hours)
This course introduces fundamental concepts of contemporary thought related to the student’s capability to make diagnostics about the problems that they confront in real architectural space. This course develops the process of evaluation and theoretical maintenance of urban and architectural proposals through the critical reflection through process development and amplification of individual thought.

ARCH 305 Introduction to Structures
3 credits (30 hours)
Students will learn how to cope through experimentation, analysis and criticism to the ongoing interaction between different types of solicitations that generates a structural and mechanical organization. The objective is to establish a conceptual framework that sets the basis for determining the relationships between structure, function, form and context as determinants of natural and artificial structures.

ARCH 403 History of Architecture I
3 credits (30 hours)
This course is a survey of architectural design through the historical development of humanity. Students will reflect on the connection of ideological, aesthetic, and constructive aspects in different cultural spaces through the theoretical and critical revision of twentieth century designs and specific examples in Costa Rica.

ARCH 404 Enviromental Design
3 credits (30 hours)
In this course students will learn how to implement passive energy and climate controls in the most optimized and conscious way in the architecture design and the pursuit of comfort. Students will learn to become acquainted with the elements of weather conditions that affect buildings and develop in an architectural design, after bioclimatic analysis, the use of passive climate controls.

DIGITAL ANIMATION COURSES

DA 101 Design I
3 credits (60 hours)
This course introduces the basic principles in Design through the analysis and application of the theories of the visual alphabet: composition, proportion, scale, etc. Students will learn to understand them as a linguistic resource for the conception and projection of ideas. The course offers the necessary tools for the development of abilities in two dimensional representation using different techniques of expression in black and white, like the use of graphite and ink in diverse mediums with the goal of inciting experimentation and creativity.
DA 103 Introduction to Multimedia  
4 credits (60 hours)  
This course offers the basic tools necessary to be able to begin to express their thoughts in three large areas: Digital art, digital animation, and interactivity. Addresses and exercises concepts like timeline, frame, script, creation, and editing of bitmap images. The course introduces themes related with editing, creation, and post-production of videos.

DA 104 Aesthetics and representation  
3 credits (45 hours)  
This course is an exposure to the fundamental aspects of the evolution of philosophical thought with attention given to detailed models of history (classic, modern, contemporary) in their relation with the concepts of space and representation offering the student basic instruments to develop an appropriate conceptual and critical reflection on their field of professional work.

DA 105 Artistic Literature  
3 credits (45 hours)  
This course addresses literature as a form of particular artistic expression and explores it in this specialization as an alternative for the construction of speeches of high symbolic content. The study and interpretive decoding of universal literatures master works favors the humanist formation within the student. Provides idea-aesthetic essential for the cultural and imaginative development, which is required in the professional field of digital animation.

DA 203 Animation 1  
4 credits (60 hours)  
This course introduces the basic principles of animation through specific exercises about the expressive possibilities of movement apparent in the animated drawings (fabrication), the language, style, time, rhythm, (gesticulations), sound, and the personality of the characters utilizing the digital technology to accelerate the learning process.

DA 204 History of Animation I  
3 credits (30 hours)  
This course is an introduction to the study of animation through the technical, aesthetic, and social analysis, which determines the development of artistic methods. The course analyzes the particularities of this industry through the recognition of the pioneering studies developed in the U.S.A. in the first half of the 20th century, the evolutionary process throughout history placing emphasis on stylistic definitions, and criteria of the preferences of public spectators.

DA 205 Basic Principles of acting  
3 credits (45 hours)  
The fundamental concepts related to the field of interpretive art and essential tools for the foundation of a professional of audiovisual production. Brings about themes like the role, the specific functions of the director and actor, and analyzes the dramatic text as a point of interaction within both components of the creative proposal. The course reflects on the importance of the script and the director’s accurate presentation of strategies that make feasible an organized production with efficiency of resource investment both economic and temporal.

DA 405 Art and Civilization  
3 credits (45 hours)  
This course establishes the coordinated fundamentals for the development of different forms of artistic expression from its origin until the contemporary era. The course analyzes the cultural process through the relations between image, design, and thought systems centering attention on symbolic models, which allow the establishment of historical guidelines as they appeared. The elected themes favor the recognition of the dialogical relations between the western culture and Latin America, this as an enrichment and the actualization of the focuses for the reflection on the most recent artistic practices.
DA 504 Costa Rican Culture
4 credits (60 hours)
This course is a general and integral panorama of the Costa Rican culture from its origin until the contemporary era through the evolutionary analysis of different branches of artistic production: literary, plastic, musical, and scenic. This course sets out from a perspective that favors the reflection upon the evolution of these artistic processes through fundamental themes to understand the local culture as a case of identity and the characteristics of the definition and application of cultural politics through history.

INDS 203 Color Workshop
4 credits (60 hours)
This course deals with the fundamental theories and the perception of color through the analysis of psychological, symbolic, and semiological attributes and the application of these concepts to interior design. This course favors the generation of creative and original proposals for the solution of projects, which categorize the communicative potential of colors in relation to the function of spaces that qualify.

INDS 303 Aesthetic Psychology
2 credits (30 hours)
This course deals with the general aspects of the theory of perception as a cognitive construction from the world in which we live, emphasizing the principles of interior design as a strategy to generate pleasing environmental experiences, security, or motivational inspiration. This course focuses on the environment as a scenario of communication and social interaction, and as a system of symbols and emotional dispositions of a space as text. The course is oriented towards the reflexive and creative capacities of future interior designers in their relationship with potential clients.

INDS 304 History of Interior Design I
4 credits (60 hours)
This course analyzes and reflects on different stages of the historical development of private life (from the primitive community to the Middle Ages) assuming the definition of living as social space. The main theme corresponds with references to occidental cultures and will bring about the comparative study of the results of important centers of Oriental societies, pre-Hispanic with views that favor student knowledge and the amplification of cultural and aesthetic concepts. The course offers the necessary interdisciplinary perspective using, as fundamental sources, the History of Art, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology of Art, Theory of Design, Culture and Architecture theories.

INDS 305 Materials I
2 credits (45 hours)
This course offers the student theoretical and logical definitions, techniques that are fundamental for the recognition and utilization of different materials of construction (concrete, lumber, metals, transparent materials, lights, etc.) in the planning and implementation of an interior design project. These practical duties favor respective reflection and the application of these materials to a functional aesthetic point of view.

INDS 903 Landscaping and Environment I
2 credits (30 hours)
This course introduces the principle theories and history of scenery and the component elements of environmental setting. From the theoretical practices this course incites the respect toward the environment, natural resources, and the particular environmental culture where the student will develop their design projects. This course studies the relationship of environments (interior and exterior), the significance of mankind’s quality of life, and the way that these are interrelated elements within the professional execution of this specialization. This course will train the students in the design of a garden and the correct application of plant life that is required for a specific design project. The selection of plants and greenery is essential in the formation of a cohesive and precise project of design.
PHOTOGRAPHY COURSES

PHOT 303 Conceptual Image
3 credits (45 hours)

This course studies the creation of projects in which the visual message must be pre-establish concepts. The success of projects is achieved by the correct use of signs, symbols and icons. It addresses the use of conceptual images in the different branches of photography: editorial, documentary, advertising, art, and photography and the relationship between public spaces.

PHOT 305 Latin American Culture
3 credits (45 hours)

This course deals with the fundamental guidelines of Latin American thought through the representative exponents of literary productions. This course evaluates Latin America’s development from colonial time to the contemporary era emphasizing the benefits of narratives as essential resources for the bringing about of cultural reflection around the region with a construction of the students own imagination.

PHOT 404 History of Photography I
2 credits (30 hours)

This course introduces the history and evolution of photography from its origin (1839) until 1920. Through the knowledge and evaluative analysis of works and representative authors of this chronological segment this course will bring about the reflection on the development of the technical particularities of photography and its significance from the documental and cultural point of view.

PHOT 604 Costa Rican and Latin American Photography
2 credits (30 hours)

The course analyzes the history of development of photography in Latin America with emphasis placed on Costa Rica, taking notice of the most significant guidelines in its evolution while evaluating its significance in the historical context of world photography. Students will study works produced by Latin American artists and Costa Rican correspondents of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This course covers the recognition of the photographic image as an expressive resource of high cultural representation and brings about the historical investigation and the updating of the theme in the Latin American and local arena.

PHOT 704 Art Theory studies
2 credits (30 hours)

Art Theory addresses general and specific aspects of the visual image. Students will learn categories and notions of theoretical discourse in relation to the problems of reflection, reception and production of art. There will be analysis and discussion of controversial issues such as relationship between art, philosophy, historical concepts of culture, the legitimacy of the artistic and aesthetic criteria and languages strategies focused on the autonomy of art.

PRODUCT DESIGN COURSES

PRDS 303 Industrial Design History
3 credits (45 hours)

This course introduces characterizes the design of a product from its social and economic origin and its communication with the technological advances and techniques. The course stresses the vision of the design process not only from the designers’ perspective but also with the participation of other agents that make the materialization of the design possible, its industrial development, commercialization, and its final uses.

PRDS 305 Technology I
4 credits (60 hours)

This course introduces a general vision of the characteristics, properties, and applications of the most utilized materials; their methods of transformation and their use for production within the products design business.
PRDS 403 Ergonomics I
2 credits (30 hours)
This course focuses on the study of ergonomics as a central factor in the development of a product, space, or environment; as well as a part of a system that integrates subjective and cultural factors, technology, and aesthetics.

PRDS 404 Theory I - Semiotics
2 credits (30 hours)
This course presents general and specific aspects of semiotic visualization in design. Semiotics is used as a theoretical prism of unique history in order to create the essential conceptualization for the formation of the student's intellect and high creative registration.
INTERNSHIPS

Universidad VERITAS coordinates with different NGO’s and companies to offer Internship opportunities. Students who would like to experience the labor environment in Costa Rica can apply during their Junior or Senior year to work for 8, 12 or 16 weeks in a project related to their field of study.

Internships are not remunerated

The company and a VERITAS faculty member will evaluate interns during and at the end of the placement in order to obtain university credits. By the end of the internship the intern will have to do a presentation about the experience outcome.

The main objective of the program is to promote the cultural and professional exchange among Costa Rican companies and international students. Students can apply for the Internship program for Summer, Fall and Spring Semesters.

AREAS

Education
• Day Care Center
• Orphanage
• Public School

Business
• Arquitecture
• Law Firm
• Travel Agency/Hotel
• Administrative Office

Health
• Clinical Rotation
• Physical Therapy

Marketing
• Graphic Design
• Film Production
• Marketing Office

Political Science
• International Affairs
• Public Relations

Social Work
• Day Care Center
• Orphanage
• Elderly Care Center

ELEGIBILITY

Interns and Service Learning candidates must be enrolled at Universidad VERITAS for credit and must have a minimum of a HIGH INTERMEDIATE level of Spanish (or higher if the placement requires it). Universidad VERITAS and the employer will determine student eligibility for internship assignments. Criteria may include grade point average, major field, experience, language skills, among others. To qualify for an Internship: Students must have taken at least five courses in the field of studies related to the internship program they solicit, 3 of which must be upper division (Junior/Senior). It is highly recommended that students take at least one Intensive Spanish course (4 weeks) at VERITAS prior to the internship to refresh language skills and become acquainted with the country before the internship begins. Students must also be in good academic standing (2.6 or better).

ACADEMIC CREDITS

1. Students may stay for a maximum of 4 months in a given internship assignment. Credits will be assigned by each sending university based on the total hours/weeks of the internship, the complexity of the internship assignment and the student's accomplishments -not merely length of time spent.

2. Internship Credit: Students must work a minimum of 30 hours per week in the internship assignment in order to receive “Internship” credits. Satisfactory completion of the internship is determined by: Check-in Meetings, Internship Journal, Application Project or Work Experience Portfolio, Supervisor's Performance Evaluation and Final Presentation of work experience.

3. Credit limits are determined by the sending institution and not by Universidad VERITAS. Students may also combine research or work assignments in their internship experience as the research hours needed to complete an Independent Studies course at Universidad VERITAS (student must also complete 20 to 30 course contact hours with the assigned faculty member depending on the Independent Studies course).

4. Credit should be awarded during the semester that the internship is completed.