



FAQs - Study Abroad Mexico & Costa Rica 2023 (Mexico City and Costa Rica)

Thank you for your interest in the University of Redlands' School of Business Study Abroad Program to Mexico and Costa Rica. We hope the following information will answer the majority of your questions, however feel free to contact Professor Michael MacQueen (Michael_macqueen@redlands.edu) (909) 748-8763 if you have additional questions or need more specific information about this program. Also, you can visit our website at www.redlands.edu/businessabroad for additional information.

General Information and Registration:

To secure your place on this program, a \$500 deposit is required. Please note that the deposit is applied toward your total trip cost and is refundable up to 90 days prior to departure. You will also need to complete a Registration Form and Acceptance of Study Policies Form (note there is one set of forms for **graduate students**, one for **undergraduates**, and one for **guests**; please complete the appropriate forms). Please enter your name on the Registration Forms exactly as it appears (or will) appear on your passport. On the Registration Forms, please make sure to place an "X" by the course you will be substituting for the study abroad course. The Registration Forms must be mailed or dropped off at the Dean's Office because we need an original signature (Note: if you complete the Registration Form with blue ink and scan it in color, you can email it to chris_mee@redlands.edu). The Acceptance of Study Policies form can be scanned or faxed to the Dean's Office (909.335.5233). If you would like to make a credit card deposit to secure your spot in a program, you can call Chris Mee at (909) 748-8748. Other acceptable payment methods include paying by check via mail or in person or paying cash in person.

FAQs:

- **Does the study abroad course substitute for one of my core classes?** Yes, study abroad substitutes for your international business course (or in some cases your capstone course).
 1. If you are an undergraduate student, you can substitute study abroad for your international business course BUSB 342 International Business **or** BUSB 485 Capstone: Analysis and Integration. (Note that as an undergraduate student, you may also be able to substitute study abroad for a needed elective course).
 2. If you are an MBA student, you can substitute study abroad for your global business course INTB-655 Global Environment for Business **or** BUAD-696 Strategy Capstone or the global business course within your emphasis:
 1. **Finance emphasis** will substitute for INTB-693W Global Finance
 2. **Location Analytics (aka GIS) emphasis** will substitute for GISB-692W Spatial Analysis for Global Business
 3. **Marketing emphasis** will substitute for INTB-694W Global Marketing
 4. **Global Business emphasis** will substitute for one of the following 4 courses:
 1. INTB-655 Global Environment for Business
 2. INTB-690 Global Business Operations
 3. INTB-693W Global Finance
 4. INTB-694W Global Marketing
 3. If you are an MSOL student, the course substitution is MGMT 636 Leadership Communication (Note: there is no capstone substitution for the MSOL program).

4. If you a MSIT student, the course substitution is BUAD-642 International Business and Marketing (Note: there is no capstone substitution for the MSIT program).
- **How much does this program cost?** The cost of each study abroad program is not usually finalized until approximately 3 months prior to departure. As an estimate, \$2,300-\$2,750 is typical for this program. Program costs may change due to currency fluctuations and fuel surcharges. **Note, this estimate does not include tuition (see next 2 bullet points).**
 - **What is included in the program travel cost?** All in-country transportation (air, train, bus, etc.), hotel accommodations (based on double-occupancy), tour fees and admissions, lectures, corporate site visits, tour guides and some meals. Students need to bring money for meals, souvenirs and for personal sightseeing excursions (Note that international airfare and any transportation costs, such as taxis, not associated with program activities are not covered. Students are also responsible for return air transportation from and to their home airport, as well as ground transportation to and from the foreign airport).
 - **What does the program travel cost NOT include?** The program travel cost does not cover your course tuition. Therefore, the cost estimate mentioned above is separate from the course tuition cost and you are still responsible for paying your tuition using whatever method you have been paying for your education (out of pocket, employer tuition remission, loans, grants, etc.). International airfare and any transportation costs, such as taxis, not associated with program activities are not covered. Students are also responsible for return air transportation from and to their home airport, as well as ground transportation to and from the foreign airport.
 - **Can I bring a guest?** Yes, we encourage our students to bring family members and/or friends (must be at least 16 years old). The travel costs will be the same for your guest, but your guest will not be required to pay tuition and will have the option of attending or not attending lectures/corporate visits.
 - **When are the program payments due?** A \$500 deposit (refundable up to 90 days prior to departure) is due to secure your place on any of our programs. The balance of the remaining program travel costs is split into two payments. For this program, the 1st payment is due approximately 5 months prior to departure, with the remaining payment approximately 45 days prior to departure. At any time, you may pay for the program in full or make larger payments to pay off the program sooner.
 - **Are travel scholarships available?** Yes, please click on the following link for more information. <http://www.redlands.edu/study/schools-and-centers/business/International-Programs/study-abroad-scholarship-opportunities/>
 - **Are there classes associated with the study abroad programs?** Yes. Several mandatory preparatory pre-departure sessions will be held prior to departure (one will be held on a Saturday on the Redlands' main campus and the others will be conducted virtually). We will notify you of the pre-departure session dates when the program has met the minimum number of participants. The first session usually meets approximately 45 days before departure and the next sessions are spaced approximately two weeks apart after the first. Guests may attend pre-departure classes, but these are not mandatory.
 - **Do I need health insurance?** Yes, if you do not have health insurance you need to purchase a two-week travel policy. There are many websites that sell travel health insurance policies (prices vary depending on your age). A Travel Release Form and Medical Release Form will be completed by you after registration, so please note that you will need to gather medical insurance information.

- **Are there any COVID related requirements?** Yes. Per university policy, in order to travel all participants will need to prove they have been vaccinated against the COVID 19 virus. In addition, a supplementary waiver will need to be signed by each traveler.
- **If the student withdraws from the trip, will s/he receive a refund?** The \$500 deposit is refundable up to 90 days prior to departure. There will be a certain point at which the other program payments made toward your study abroad course cannot be refunded. The School pays for the program costs in advance, and if a student drops the course with just a few months left before departure, s/he will not receive a refund. Please make every effort to travel once you have submitted your payments. If the University cancels the trip for any reason, the student will receive a full refund.
- **Will I need a passport and visas for the trip?** Yes, you must have a current passport that **does not** expire within 7 months from the return date of your preferred study abroad trip. Your faculty leaders will provide instructions on how to procure visas, if necessary. The sooner you reserve your spot with your deposit, the more time you will have to acquire or renew your passport and obtain your visas.