

## United Nations' mandated University for Peace - Costa Rica Summer School and NGO Work Experience 30 June to 25 July 2014









### Live, work and study in Costa Rica!

This is a <u>once in a lifetime</u> opportunity for UTS students to learn about issues of human security at the United Nations' mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and work with Costa Rican NGOs!

### **Program highlights**

- Two weeks of Masters level lectures on issues of human security from UPEACE academics – i.e. from human rights and food security to terrorism and peace-building.
- Two weeks of work experience with a local Costa Rican NGO working on dynamic community development projects
- Home-stay accommodation with a local Costa Rican family





## Who can apply?

This fantastic opportunity is open to **10 UTS:BUILD students** with:

- A desire to work in international spheres (i.e. politics, diplomacy, international aid or policy, etc);
- A desire to develop their professional skills and knowledge in working with local community development NGOs;
- A current GPA of 1.5 or over;
- An easy going, flexible, independent character with a willingness to take initiative to learn;
- A willingness to work hard and adapt to different surrounds and difficult work environments;
- Strong team working skills.







### **The University for Peace**

The University for Peace (UPEACE) is 25 Km out of Costa Rican capital, San Jose, and was established by the UN General Assembly and Costa Rican Government in 1980 as a hub of learning on issues of peace and conflict.

The UPEACE experience is an opportunity for students to prepare academically for a rapidly changing world; a world where conflict and post-conflict situations require transformative solutions to build and maintain a peaceful future for our generation and the next to come.

Focusing on three main areas – International Law and Human Rights, Peace and Conflict Studies, and Environment and Sustainable Development – UPEACE is also about diversity. It's Masters level programs attract students from 50 countries worldwide from multiple nationalities, languages, ethnicities, academic and professional backgrounds.

Visit <a href="https://www.upeace.org">www.upeace.org</a> or watch <a href="this clip on YouTube">this clip on YouTube</a> to find out more.





### Program info – tailored program insert Laura's info

The University for Peace has created a tailored program for UTS:BUiLD students. The program includes:

#### Two weeks

Academic lectures by leading University of Peace and visiting lecturers on topics including:

* International law	* Climate change	* Human rights	* Food security	<ul><li>* Sustainable urban &amp; rural development</li></ul>
* Insurgency	* Terrorism	* Peace-building	* Migration & refugees	* Environmental sustainability

#### Two weeks

Working with a local Costa Rican community development NGO so that you can put the knowledge acquired during lectures and seminars into practice and gain international not-for-profit work experience. The participating NGOs include:

<sup>\*</sup> Parque La Libertad

<sup>\*</sup> ASOPROLA

<sup>\*</sup> Keköldi Indigenous Association

<sup>\*</sup> Bribripa Kaneblo Indigenous Association



### **U.Peace's Partner NGOs**

**Parque La Libertad** is a space to bring communities together, especially teenagers to engage them in artistic and cultural activities.

La Amistad de ASOPROLA is an organic production centre and social enterprise hub located in the South Pacific at the main entrance of La Amistad International Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Here visitors learn about how a community applies environmentally friendly practices of reuse and recycling in all of its production activities.

**Keköldi Indigenous Association** was established in 1994 to protect the forest, promote improvements in the reserve's inhabitants' quality of life, defend the land and promote sustainable development. Currently the association has 25 affiliates of the Bribri and Cabécar ethnic groups. Conservation efforts: include: reforestation, conservation of the green iguana, purchase of land for conservation, conservation of the local indigenous culture.

**Bribripa Kaneblo Association** is located in southern Costa Rica. The organisation is made up of indigenous Bribri who preserve and practice their language, customs and traditions. Bribris represent the largest indigenous group in Costa Rica, with part of their territory located within La Amistad International Park. Through this initiative, the Association seeks to strengthen the cultural values of its people, promoting the ancestral practices of living in harmony with nature that the Bribri have been known for throughout the centuries—and today would like to share with the world.







### Program fee inclusions and exclusions

#### Included with program fee:

**In-country support:** In-country orientation and airport pick-up.

Accommodation: Accommodation with a host family near the UPEACE campus where you will be immersed in the Costa Rican culture, language, food, etc. (includes Wi-Fi internet connection).

One day tour that includes: A visit to one of the active volcanoes in Costa Rica, visit to La Paz Waterfalls, a butterfly sanctuary, aviary (humming birds) and wild-life sanctuary (monkeys, wild cats, snakes), a coffee tour and a visit to an ox cart factory.

**Transport:** All transport to and from your home-stay accommodation and the university campus and the NGO work placement.

Insurance: Travel and medical insurance through UTS Travel Insurance Policy

#### Not included:

Airfares: Return flights from Sydney to Costa Rica.

Visa: Visa expenses

Other expenses: General personal expenses



### **UPEACE Program Fee**

The UPEACE program fee is USD\$4,333.50 and includes all inclusions on the previous page.

### **BUILD Abroad Travel Grants**

BUILD is offering 10 x \$2,500AUD BUILD Abroad Travel Grants for this opportunity at the University for Peace in Costa Rica. The grants will be awarded to the top applicants and paid directly to the University for Peace to cover part of the cost of the program.



## If your are successful...

### You are required to:

- Attend all pre-departure and post-trip debrief sessions.
- Represent UTS with distinction at all times during the program.
- Write a blog or maintain a written reflection during the program.
- Submit a summary of your reflection to BUiLD after you return.
- Complete feedback survey after you return.







### What next? Further info & applications

The program runs from Monday 30 June to Friday 25 July 2014.

To apply for this opportunity and the associated \$2,500 UTS:BUiLD Abroad Travel Grant please complete this online form and application statement.

Applications close midnight Sunday 13 April 2014

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