

# LAS NUBES SEMESTER ABROAD

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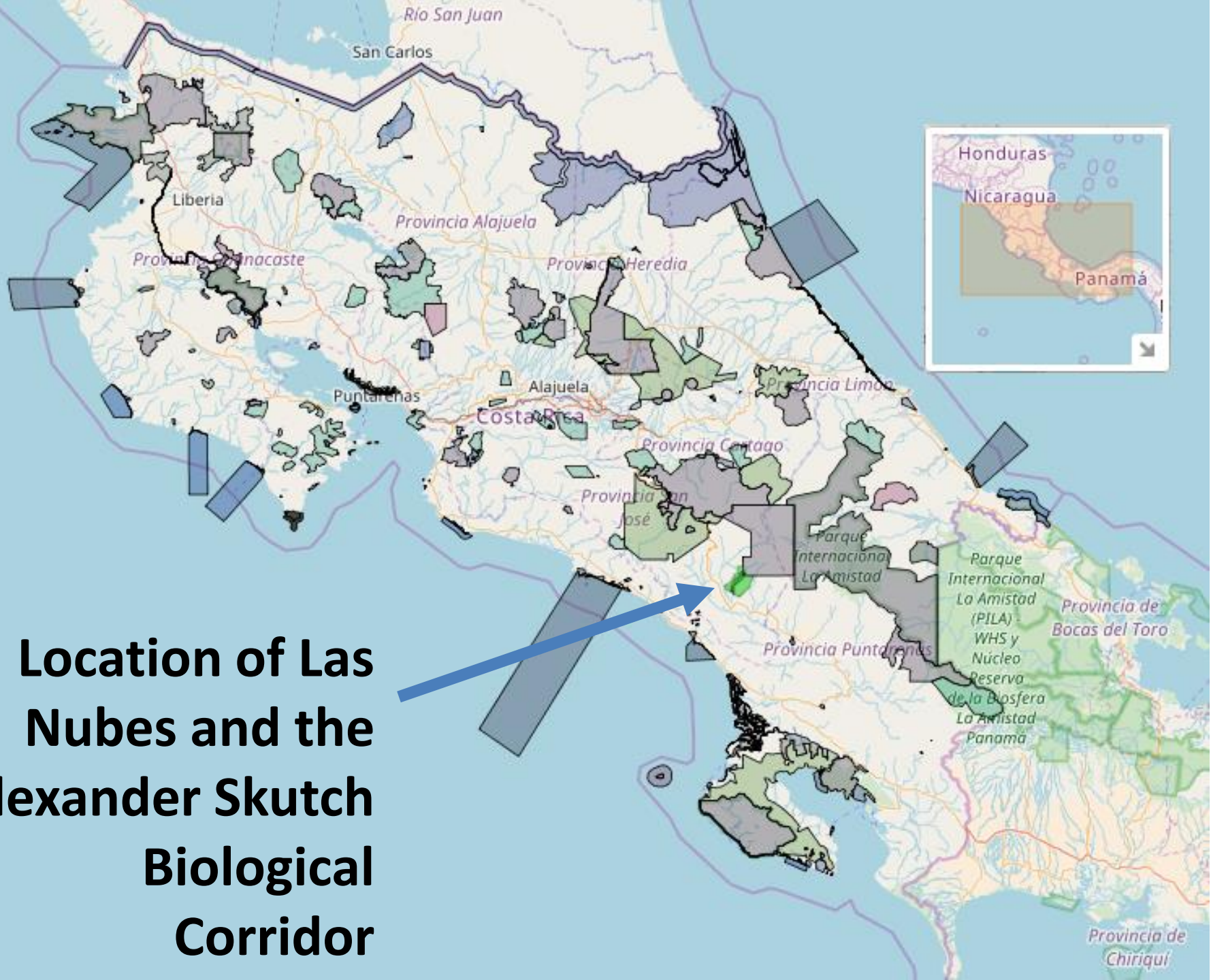
**INFO SESSION**

October 23, 2018

HNES 142

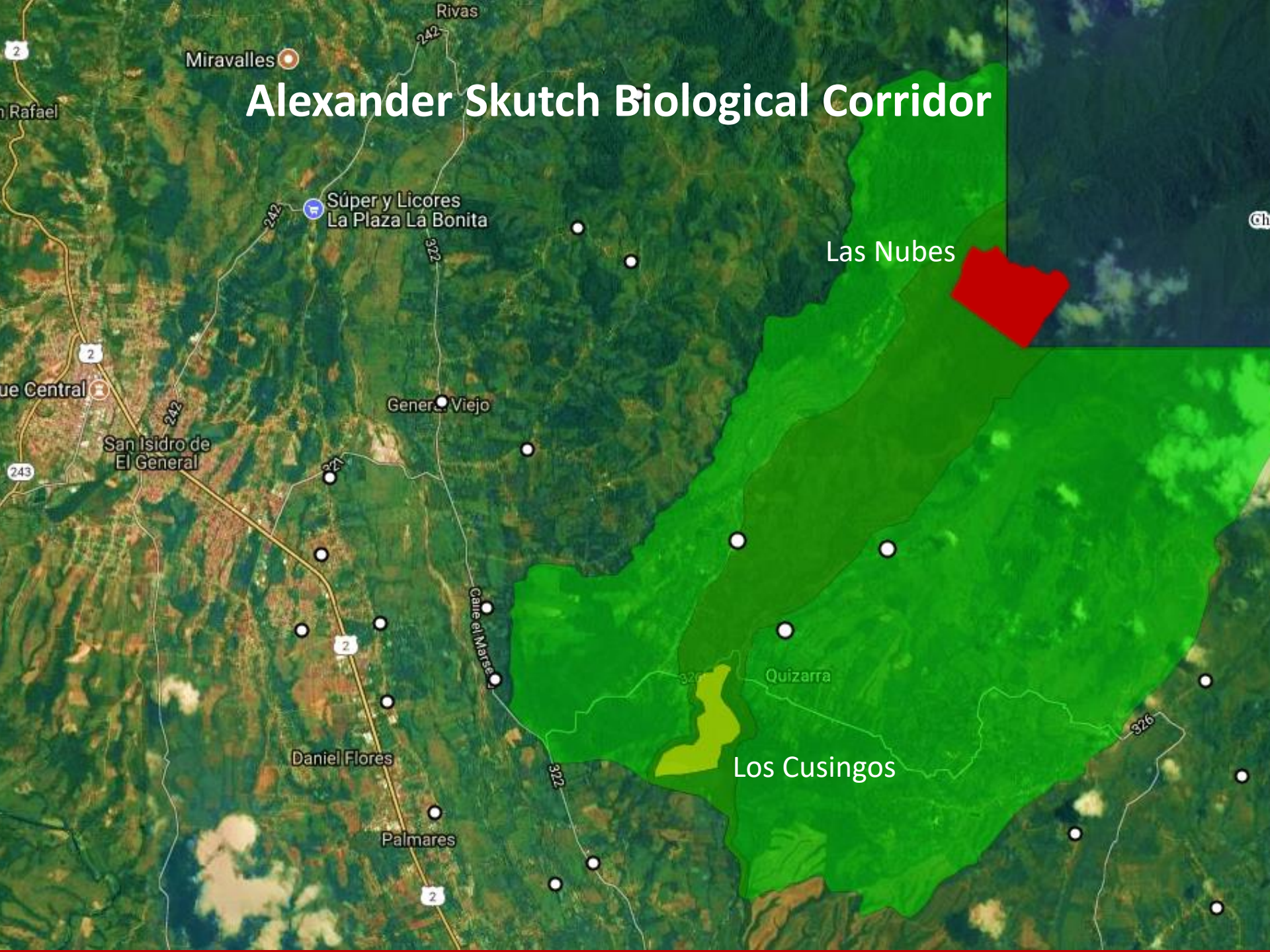
# Agenda

- Intro
- Course Info & Fees
- Calendar and case scenarios
- Important Dates
- Requirements
- Disability and Accommodations



**Location of Las Nubes and the Alexander Skutch Biological Corridor**

# Alexander Skutch Biological Corridor



# GL/SP/COMS 4608: Narratives in/of Costa Rica. Individuals, Communities, and their Voices

Instructor: Alejandro Zamora

April 29 - May 8, 2019

This course centers on the nature and function of narratives as they relate to the construction of subjects, communities and nations. Students analyze local narrative environments, including fiction and non-fiction, community narratives and life stories. Students are also given the option of creating their own narrative based on their experience abroad, while reflecting on the act of telling/writing as an act of (self) knowledge production and its potential for building archives of memory, articulating communities and fostering empathy.

- ✓ The course will be taught in English, but students majoring in Spanish will have to complete their assignments in Spanish to receive major credits.
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Visits to local bookstores, libraries, and local organizations and communities; San Jose, San Isidro

## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on April 28 (Sunday) at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on May 9 (book your flight after 2 PM)



# ENVS 4810B: Environmental Arts and Food Sovereignty

Instructor: Deborah Barndt

May 10-19, 2019

This workshop offers students the opportunity to experience environmental arts that are integral to struggles for food sovereignty in Costa Rica, and to work with key artists on community-engaged artistic productions: mobile murals proclaiming small farmers' rights against corporate agriculture and youth art projects in a community permaculture garden. The course culminates with artistic participation in the annual Alexander Skutch Festival.

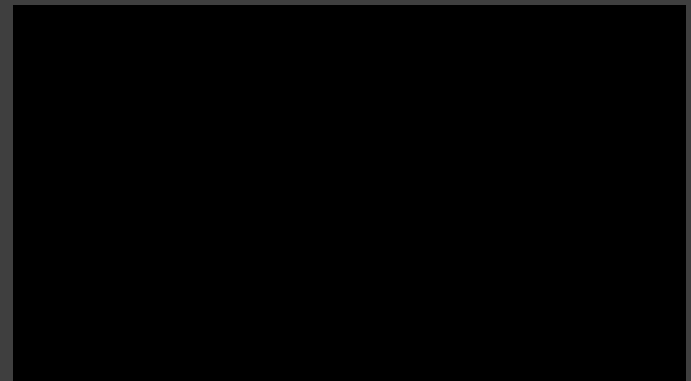
- ✓ There are no prerequisites
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Field visits and production sites: Farmers' Market, San Isidro; Longo Mai.

## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on May 9 at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on May 20 (book your flight after 2 PM)



# ENVS 4120: Natural History: Environmental Education in Costa Rica

Instructor: Leesa Fawcett

May 21-30, 2019

Experiencing, appreciating and recognizing the biodiversity of the tropical forests in the Las Nubes area, while considering the community and environmental education of the region is the intention of this course. By studying the beliefs, theories and practices of naturalists (e.g. Darwin, Alexander Skutch and contemporary Costa Rican scholars), we will critically interpret differing historical narratives and images of nature. In the field, with close observation, students will describe and document the lives of mammals, amphibians, birds, plants, and insects in the Las Nubes area, the greater corridor, and its watershed. The over-arching course goal is to continue to build place-based eco-social knowledge and to translate that learning into critical environmental education initiatives and citizen science for the surrounding, interdependent human and more-than human communities.

- ✓ There are no prerequisites
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor; Dominical, Sierpe

## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on May 31<sup>st</sup> (book your flight after 2 PM)



Photo: Helen Davidko (2017)



Photo: Jessica Buckley (2018)

# ENVS 4446: Protected Area Management

Instructor: Sheila Colla

June 1-10, 2019

This course will investigate the ecological, cultural and social components involved in protecting habitats to maintain biodiversity. Based at Las Nubes Eco Campus, case studies, readings and field trips will explore various governance issues including conflict, stakeholder interests and collaborations. Measures of successful conservation management will be discussed, including the use of biodiversity indicators. Students will be involved in the design and data collection of local protected area biodiversity monitoring schemes for a variety of taxa through group projects. Some prior knowledge of ecology is expected.

- ✓ No prerequisites, but some prior knowledge of ecology is expected.
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor

## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on June 11<sup>th</sup> (book your flight after 2 PM)



Photo: Helen Davidko (2017)



Photo: Helen Davidko (2017)



# EDUC TBA: Education for a Sustainable Future

Instructor: Steve Alsop

June 12-21, 2019

This course provides an introduction to the theory and practice of education for environmental sustainability. It traces approaches from its origins in outdoor, experiential and environmental education to contemporary expressions as an interdisciplinary approach that explores relations between education and social, economic, cultural and environmental justice. The course seeks to attract students with an interest in education and the possibilities and shortcomings that associated policies and practices might offer/foreclose. It draws from selected readings and experiences in Las Nubes to explore ESF (Education for a Sustainable Future) as an open-question for examination within selected social-ecological contexts within Costa Rica and Canada.

- ✓ There are no prerequisites
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Corridor; San Isidro

## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on June 22<sup>nd</sup> (book your flight after 2 PM)



# ENVS 4810A: Conservation and Development for Social-Environmental Sustainability and Well-being

Instructor: Felipe Montoya

June 22-30, 2019

In the current times, characterized by innumerable social-environmental crises, it is necessary to explore initiatives that contribute elements to possible solutions. Costa Rica has been considered an international beacon of “Sustainable Development,” partly because of a number of arguably successful social and environmental initiatives. In this course we will engage directly with a diversity of initiatives in Costa Rica at different scales (State, Indigenous Territory, Rural Community, Family Farm, Co-operative, NGO, Grassroots Organization, Local Business, among others) that attempt to bring together elements of environmental conservation and social-economic development in order to achieve improved wellbeing and sustainability. These cases will provide material for discussion and analysis through diverse epistemological lenses, to provide students with a more informed, critical and inspired theoretical approach and praxis to urgent social-environmental issues.

- ✓ There are no prerequisites
- ✓ Locations: York University Eco-Campus at Las Nubes; Alexander Skutch Biological Corridor; Aradikes, Salitre; Boruca

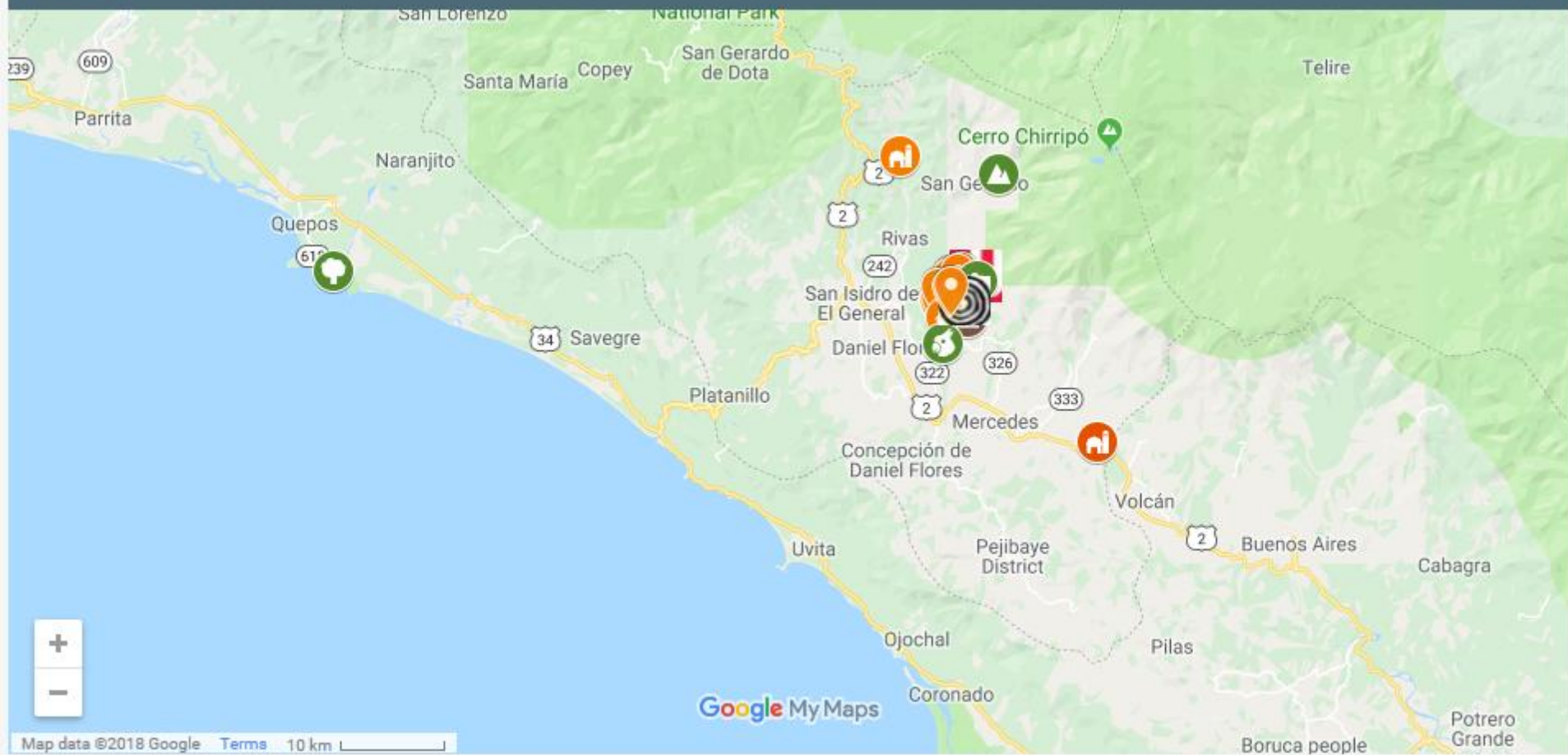
## Arrival:

We will pick you up at the San Jose Airport (SJO) on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 PM (must arrive by 2 PM)

## Departure:

We will drop you off at SJO on July 1<sup>st</sup> (book your flight after 2 PM)



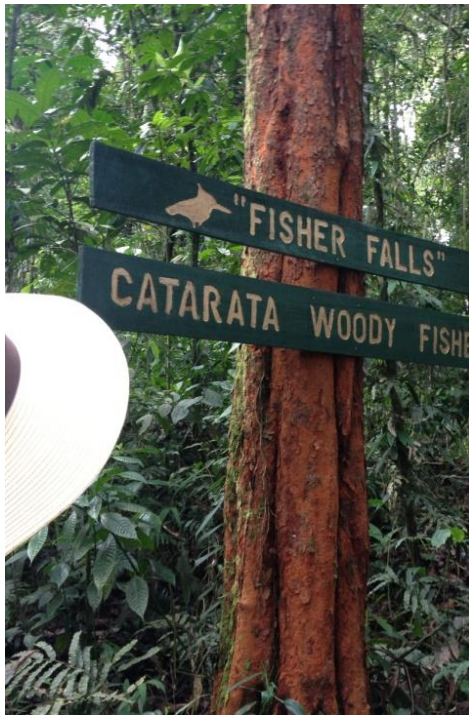
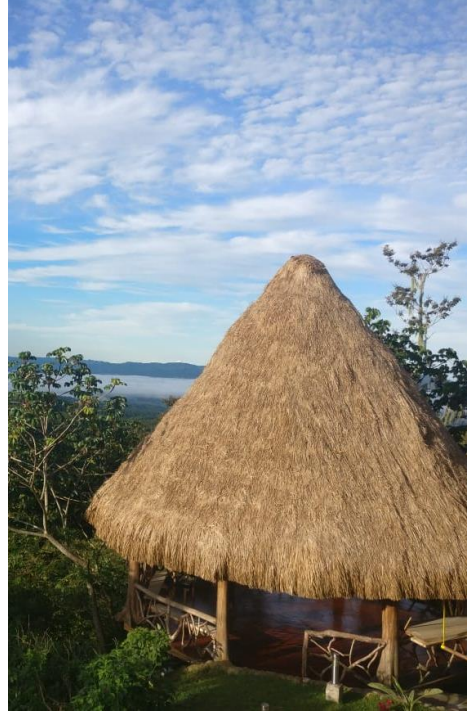


Map data ©2018 Google Terms 10 km

Source: [https://www.google.com/maps/d/embed?mid=1\\_Z\\_PYbt358IUO-M6p-n0-4nck4](https://www.google.com/maps/d/embed?mid=1_Z_PYbt358IUO-M6p-n0-4nck4)

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Edit



Las Nubes Biological Reserve



# Coopesantos Wind Farm



Cloudbridge |



# Los Cusingos (COBAS) Bird Sanctuary



# Alexander Skutch Festival

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## Local Arts and Crafts



# Farms in COBAS

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# Coopeagri Sustainable Coffee

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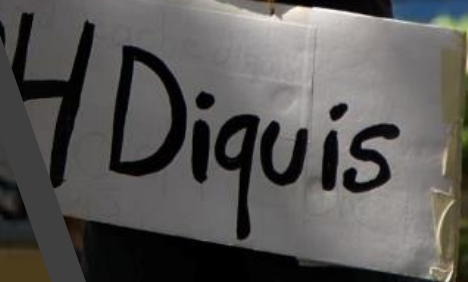


PINDECO

# ARADIKES

- ARADIKES a non-governmental organization that represents four indigenous groups (The Bri Bri, Brunca, Cabecares and Teribes) in six territories of the Buenos Aires area. ARADIKES's mission is to strengthen indigenous communities in the struggle to defend their rights through grass-roots associations.
- ARADIKES also strives to promote environmental conservation and micro-enterprise economic development.

FRENASAPP





Boruca

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# Bri Bri Territory & Salitre



Uvita

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Dominical

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Sierpe

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# Course Fee

For 1 course: CAN\$1,200

For 2 courses: CAN\$2,200

For 3 courses: CAN\$3,100

For 4 courses: CAN\$4,000









For 5 courses: CAN\$4,500

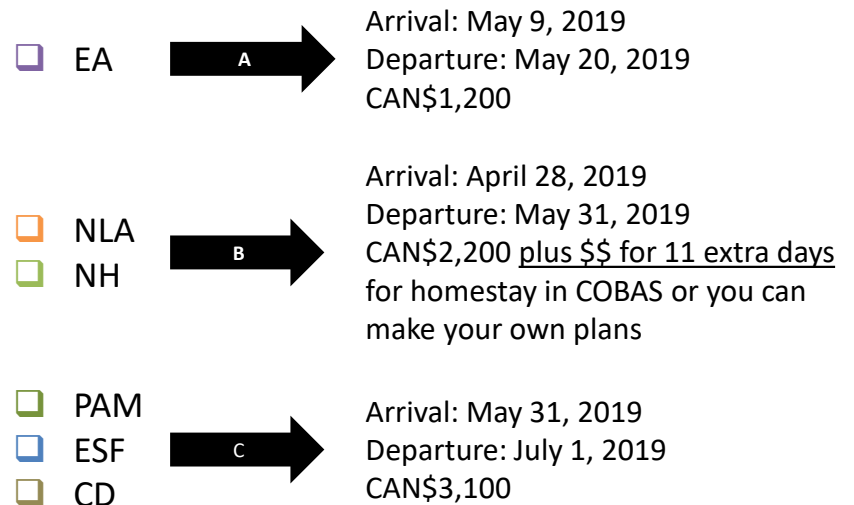
For 6 courses: CAN\$5,000

- Course fees\* include all in-country transportation, room and board, as well as park entrance fees that are part of course programs. Accommodations include a mix of homestays with local families, lodges and hotels.
- Students are responsible for paying their own airfare and getting travel insurance, as well as any personal expenses. Air fare approx. \$500 - \$800 ([York International Mobility Award](#))
- **LA&PS students can apply for [funding](#) to cover the course fees.** For more information contact Harj Singh, International Engagement Coordinator (harj78@yorku.ca)
- Course fees do not include regular York tuition.

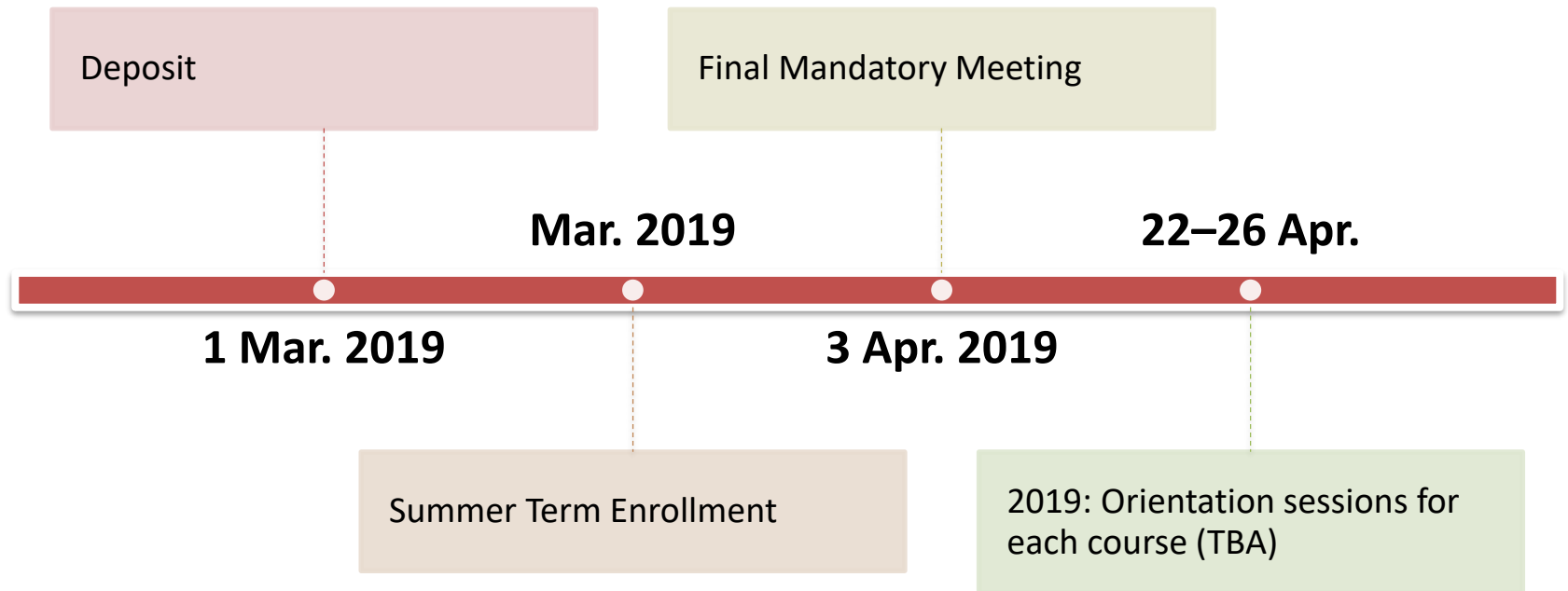
# Possible Scenarios

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
APRIL /MAY	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
MAY/ JUNE	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
JUNE	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
JUNE/ JULY	30	1					

-  Travel day
-  Narratives in/of Costa Rica: Individuals, Communities, and their Voices
-  Environmental Arts and Food Sovereignty in Costa Rica
-  Natural History: Environmental Education in Costa Rica
-  Protected Area Management in Costa Rica
-  Education for a Sustainable Future
-  Conservation and Development for Social-Environmental Sustainability and Well-being
-  **Alexander Skutch Festival**



# Important Dates



# Requirements

## Undergraduate Students

Fill out the eligibility form (<https://fes.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=97966>).

## Graduate Students

Check with your program director (electives)

Request to enroll in an undergraduate course  
(<https://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2014/08/course-grad-undergrad.pdf>)

ENVS 4446 – *Protected Area Management in Costa Rica*: all students should have basic familiarity with ecology

# March 1, 2019

## DEPOSIT

- CAN\$100 per course.
- Non-refundable
- Cash
- You can pay:
  - At the end of an information session, or,
  - On March 1: at Bev's office (HNES 139F) during business hours (8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.)
- Those who have not check their [eligibility](#) on the Las Nubes website will not be able to pay the deposit nor enroll in any of the courses.

Courses are capped.

# March 2019

- York University official Summer registration starts at the beginning of the month.
- Notification by email.
- We will send reminders.



# April 3, 2019

## Final Mandatory Meeting

- 12-1:30 PM, HNES 142.
- Things to pack
- Risk assessment forms (links on the website)
- York International's Mobility Award form and instructions
- **Full course fee** must be paid at the meeting. Payments are payable to York University by money order, a certified bank cheque or cash.  
No personal cheques. No exceptions.

# April 22-26, 2019

- Several classes will have an orientation session during this week.
  - ENVS 4810A (no session)
  - Other courses TBA
- Download papers and materials for sessions and to take to Costa Rica
- Spanish workshop (free) – Spanish Resource Centre at Glendon

# Disabilities & Accommodations

Contact:

**Josephine C. Zeeman**

Director, Office of Student & Academic Services

Faculty of Environmental Studies

[josecamp@yorku.ca](mailto:josecamp@yorku.ca)



# ADVISORY

- Physically and emotionally demanding
- Will encounter spiders and other critters
- Side effects may include:
  - Life transformation
  - Paradigm shifts
  - New passions
  - New understandings
  - New questions
- May not want to come back to Canada!!