Students will take one of two courses:

**SPAN 003 Intermediate Spanish**

This intermediate Spanish course offers a highly interactive review of grammatical structures, vocabulary building, pronunciation practice, and a strong emphasis on developing communicative ability and cultural awareness. Students will work individually and collaboratively to develop increased proficiency in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, while developing a cultural literacy and understanding of the world from a Latin American perspective. In addition to real-life experiences in the target culture, students increase their linguistic and cultural proficiency through readings, films, and music. Prerequisite: SPAN 002 or the equivalent. *This course satisfies the Language Requirement and the Community Engagement requirement of the Core Curriculum.*

**SPAN 004 Continuing Intermediate Spanish**

This continuing intermediate Spanish course encompasses classroom instruction and community engagement participation in the Central American capital city of San José, Costa Rica. The course offers a highly interactive program of listening and speaking, a review of grammatical structures, continued vocabulary building, reading and writing practice, and an exploration of readings about the culture and the people of Costa Rica. Students will work individually and collaboratively to develop a cultural literacy and understanding of the world from a Latin American perspective. In addition to real-life experiences immersed in the target language and culture, students increase their linguistic and cultural proficiency through readings, films, and music. Prerequisite: SPAN 003 or the equivalent. *This course satisfies the Community Engagement requirement of the Core Curriculum.*
PROGRAM DESIGN
This program presents students with the opportunity to learn language and culture immersed in the Spanish language and living with the people of San José. Students and instructors study, travel, and work together in schools and other youth programs in service of underprivileged children of San José, Costa Rica through our partnership with International Studies Abroad. Students will work, individually or in pairs, in schools or other community programs, according to individual student interests and language ability. Dr. Moore will oversee community engagement assignments, guiding students through fieldwork, group discussions, journal writing, and a reflective essay project.

Mastering a second language requires the learner to comprehend the ways the different cultures that speak this language create meaning. The only way to understand and communicate effectively in this new language is to embrace and internalize the diverse worldviews it represents and reflects. In order to facilitate this understanding and internalization, we will immerse in the language and culture of Costa Rica. Students will live with Costa Rican families, learn local dances, learn to cook local cuisine, work with local children in San José, and enjoy excursions through the biologically and geologically diverse wonders of Costa Rica, with her magnificent volcanoes, beaches, and tropical rainforests. Although this course is only three weeks in duration, the intensive nature of the language instruction and the opportunity to work daily with the underprivileged children of San José will help students to develop a deeper intercultural connection and a better appreciation of their own, vital role in our global community.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: Minimum 15, maximum 30

TRAVEL ITINERARY: The proposed dates for the program are July 31 – August 21, 2016. Students will travel individually to San José, Costa Rica, arriving on the same day. They will be picked up by shuttles provided by International Studies Abroad and will be taken to their home stay locations.

HOUSING: Students will stay with local families in San José (shared rooms). Homestays include 2 meals per day (breakfast and dinner), and laundry service once per week.
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS:

- San José city tour
- Dancing lessons
- Cooking lessons
- Arenal (2 nights)
- Poás Volcano, La Paz Waterfall Gardens, and Doka Coffee Estate (day trip)
- Manuel Antonio National Park (1 night)

PROGRAM COST: The cost of the program is $4980. This includes tuition, fees, transportation in Costa Rica, housing with a host family, two meals per day, laundry, excursions (including hotel stays and meals), group meals, international health insurance, and on-site emergency support in Costa Rica. **The program cost does not include airfare or textbooks.**

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- **March 15** $2490 (50%) is due to the SMC Business Office.
- **April 15** The remaining $2490 is due to the SMC Business Office.