

# SUMMER IN THE RAINFOREST



Photo: Matthew A. Wyczalkowski

## PRIMATE BEHAVIOR & ECOLOGY

This field course is designed to give students an in-depth learning experience about primate behavior and ecology in a natural tropical setting. You will learn data collection techniques and socio-ecological theory, and will design and conduct your own independent research project. The course is equivalent to an upper-level university class in primatology, but with a greater emphasis on research design, field techniques, and data collection. There will be classroom lectures, presentations based on readings and projects, informal discussions out in the field, a series of group exercises in the forest, and an individual research project based on methodology and theory learned during the group projects, various readings and classroom lectures. Expect to be intellectually and physically challenged, but above all to have fun and an amazing summer in the rain forest!

## LA SUERTE BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATION COSTA RICA

**JULY 19 - AUGUST 14, 2014**

**La Suerte Biological Field Station** is a beautiful, protected, private sanctuary consisting of rivers, swamps, and lush tropical rain forests. In addition to three types of primates (white-faced capuchins, mantled howlers, and spider monkeys), the area is home to thousands of plant and insect species, as well as hundreds of species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

**Class Fee: US \$2095.00.** Includes registration, station/program fee, three meals a day, room/board, and transportation to/from the airport vicinity in Costa Rica. Cost does not include flight to Costa Rica or course credits. *To receive credit for the course, arrangements must be made at your home university.* Classes are tax deductible.

**Instructor: Katherine C. MacKinnon, Ph.D (mackinn@slu.edu)**

Dr. MacKinnon is an Associate Professor of Anthropology, in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, at Saint Louis University. She has done field work in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname and Zambia, and her research interests include infant and juvenile primate development, complexity in social behavior, ethics in field primatology, and conservation issues in Central and South America. Dr. MacKinnon has published on primate behavior and ecology, and recently co-edited the volume *Primates in Perspective* (2nd edition, Oxford University Press). She has taught several primate field school courses since 2000 in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.

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