

# College of Charleston Summer 2010 Study Abroad Program Panama

## Program Dates:

Maymester 2010

## Program Fee:

**\$1,995\***

(\*subject to change and does not include tuition)



## Program Courses:

**BIOL 341: General Ecology**

**BIOL 341 Lab: General Ecology Lab**

## Program Information:

This combined lecture and lab course in Ecology is a core Biology course and is required for Marine Biology majors. The proposed program will be offered in Maymester 2010, with approximately 0.4 weeks spent in Charleston and 2.6 weeks in Panama. The lecture portion of the course will focus on fundamental ecological concepts and terminology, with Caribbean/Central American examples whenever appropriate. The main incentive for the study abroad is to offer a significant portion of the laboratory in a tropical setting. The basic format of the lab consists of natural history labs, independent research projects, and class field experiments that demonstrate common ecological methods of data acquisition and analysis. A wide variety of terrestrial and marine habitats will be examined including coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, sandy beaches, rocky shores, wet and dry caves, tropical rain forest, and cloud forest.

Field work will require hiking and snorkeling; optional activities will include SCUBA and tree climbing (with rope system for canopy research). Students will also gain exposure to a diverse local culture and will have opportunities to learn about archaeology and Panamanian history.

## Program Director:

**Dr. Craig Plante, Biology Department, [plantec@cofc.edu](mailto:plantec@cofc.edu), 843-953-9187**

Dr. Plante is a Professor in the Biology Department and has taught General Ecology for 14+ years. He is also a faculty member in both the Masters in Environmental Science and Marine Biology Graduate Programs. In this capacity, he has taught Marine Ecology and Benthic Ecology and has contributed to graduate level courses in Oceanography, Deep-Sea Biology, and Environmental Biology. Dr. Plante has directed this program the past several summers.

## To Apply:

For information and to apply, contact **Julie Swigert**, Study Abroad Coordinator, Center for International Education, [swigertj@cofc.edu](mailto:swigertj@cofc.edu), 843-953-7823.

The Program Fee of **\$1,995** includes a non-refundable application fee of \$50 (CofC students), round-trip airfare and all ground transportation, lodging, lab fees, most meals, medical insurance, and excursion fees. **TUITION FOR THE COURSES IS NOT INCLUDED.**

Application and a deposit of \$550 are due by **March 5, 2010**. **SCHOLARSHIPS OF UP TO \$1500 ARE AVAILABLE TO COFC STUDENTS FOR STUDY ABROAD. ELIGIBILITY IS BASED ON DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED AND ACADEMIC MERIT (APP. DEADLINE FEB. 26, 2010).**