Course Name: **IDS: Intensive Spanish Program to Ecuador**  
Course Number: **IDS 297**  
Credit Hours: **3 undergraduate + 6** (additional credit hours earned from Academia Latinoamericana de Español might fulfill SPN 202 and above, as approved by Department Head.)

**Course Overview & Objectives:**  
The purpose of this course is to present a series of orientation sessions in the spring semester 2015 to prepare students for life in Ecuador. Orientation sessions are scheduled for 3 hours each and focus on course specifics, culture, preparation for travel, geography, and the history of the country. Incorporated into each session is a period of intensive review of Spanish dealing with conversational clichés, numbers, verb review and selected vocabulary and expressions. There will be five 3 hour sessions conducted on campus at MSU on Sunday evenings during the second block of spring semester 2015. The laboratory portion of the course will continue weekly during the four week program in Ecuador, with the daily monitoring of the Program Director while in Quito.

**Program Fee:** $4,380  
**Program Fee Includes:** Roundtrip airfare, ground transportation to program activities and excursions, room and board, laundry service, Academia Latinoamericana program fees and books, all excursion expenses, tips; Study Away student fee and medical insurance. Separated costs not available.

**Program Fee Excludes:** Ground transportation in Springfield, passport, incidentals/misc personal expenses, and souvenirs. MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate credit. Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the MO resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

**Online applications are due by December 5, 2014. A nonrefundable deposit of $675 will be billed to your student account.** To apply, please:  
• Visit the Study Away website at [international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/](http://international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/)  
• Choose Apply Now  
• Search for a Program (under Apply for a Study Away Program)  
• Choose Simple Search  
• Type Ecuador under Program Name  
• Choose IDS: Intensive Spanish Program to Ecuador  
• Choose Apply Now

**Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid**  
Students may apply for the College of Arts and Letters Study Away scholarship. Applications are due to the Study Away office by April 10, 2015. Please see the scholarship page on the Study Away website. Additionally, students who receive financial aid may apply aid to this program. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at 836-5262 for more information.
**Course Schedule & Itinerary**

**Pre-Travel Class Meetings: TBA**
Students will meet during five 3-hour sessions during the spring 2015 (Sunday evening meetings) on campus. This way, students will be prepared for their experience in Ecuador.

**STUDY TOUR**
While in Quito, there will be a maximum of 4 students per class. The schedule for the intensive course at Academia Latinoamericana is from 8:30 to 1:00pm with 2 breaks and in the afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Students are given placement exams on arrival and are placed in one of five levels of Spanish ability. MSU students may be in class with other persons studying Spanish from other parts of the world. The courses, all in Spanish, cover the world. The courses, all in Spanish, cover  

- Culture – 2 lessons per day  
- Composition, reading and writing – 1 lesson  
- Grammar and Vocabulary – 2 lessons per day  

The school also offers an interesting program of cultural and free time activities. Among other activities, there is a cooking course and a dance course where they learn salsa, merengue and cumbia. The center also shows current movies, or films related to the culture and customs of the country.

**Course Credit & Requirements**
All academic credit from a Missouri State University course will be applied as Missouri State University credit and will be graded on the letter (A to F) scale. Grades from a foreign institution will be recorded as pass or non-pass transfer credit. The 6 earned credit hours in Quito will be transferred to courses in the Spanish program through the Modern and Classical Languages Department. Program Director will discuss with students the options for the transferable courses in our Spanish program (courses beyond SPN 201). Both parties, Program Director and student, will agree on which courses will earn transfer credit with the approval of the Department Head.

**Graded components:**
The final grade for this IDS 297 is based on the following criteria:
1. The student’s autobiography: 1 to 1 ½ pages, written in English, typed and doubled spaced.
2. The student’s passport copies. (This information is VERY important for the travel agent).
3. Pledges (will be explained in class).
4. Attendance to all class meetings.
5. The exam for orientations meetings, prior to departure to Ecuador.
6. The portfolio each student will be assembling while in Ecuador. The portfolio will be reviewed and graded by your Program Director during the last week of classes in QUITO. The content of the portfolio will be discussed during the orientation sessions.
7. Participation in the weekend excursions and after class activities, and your general interest in learning the language and culture of Ecuador.
8. REFLECTION: Two written assignments which students will write at the end of the program. Students will receive these assignments in ECUADOR during the last week of class. More weight will be placed on 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the above list.

**Required texts:** None. All instructional textbooks and materials are provided by the Academia Latinoamericana in Quito. A text for orientation sessions will be a South American guide book and printed informational material prepared by the Program Director, prior to the tour during the orientation meetings and while in Quito for after class activities and weekend excursions.

**Application & Payment Procedures**
Missouri State University students and others who are approved by the Program Director may apply.

**MSU Students:** A non-refundable deposit of $675 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Dec. 5, 2014). You will receive a second billing on Jan. 16, 2015 and a final billing on April 10, 2015, for the balance of the program fee ($3,705). MSU course tuition ($612) will be billed to your University account separately and is due according to the university payment plan.

**Visiting Students:** A non-refundable deposit of $675 must be paid through the Study Away Storefront on or before December 5, 2014. The balance of the program fee ($3,705) must be paid through the Study Away Storefront by April 10, 2015. MSU course tuition ($612) is also due by April 17, 2015 and must be paid at the bursar’s office or on-line through my.missouristate.edu.

In order to ensure participation in this Study Away program, each student must pay the entire program fee by May 7, 2015. Alternatively, a student may show proof of the financial aid that will pay for the fee. If a student does not pay the program fee, or does not show proof of financial aid that is sufficient to cover the fee, the student will be withdrawn from the Study Away program, dropped from the course, and his/her airline reservation will be canceled. Visiting students must also fully pay the tuition amount by May 7, 2015 in order to stay enrolled in the program. Estimated program fees are based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change. Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% if rates increase before or during travel.

**Cancellation & Refund Policies**
- Students who withdraw prior to April 10, 2015 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $675 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student must withdraw after April 10, 2015 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $675 deposit and non-refundable expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after April 10, 2015 will receive no refund.
- When the program begins, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and the Director of Study Away Programs at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. Non-payment of fees does not guarantee withdrawal.