



BOUNTIFUL BELIZE

The country of Belize is home to incredible biodiversity. Its crystal-clear waters, swaying seagrass beds, and lush jungles offer critical habitat for bats, birds, unique mammals, and a host of marine life. On this field course, you'll investigate the diversity of these rich ecosystems both in the rainforest and on the coast.



YOUR FIELD WORK

Alongside our scientific partners at a research station in the Maya Mountains, you'll contribute to terrestrial research projects including neotropical bat surveys and herpetology studies. From there, you'll head to the spectacular Belizean cayes, where you'll collect data on the second largest barrier reef in the world.



CULTURAL IMMERSION

Despite being a challenging field-based course, there will be time for leisure activities and fun! When not conducting research, you can join a guided night walk through the jungle, improve your snorkeling abilities in the warm Caribbean waters, or engage in a traditional Sambi drum circle with local Belizeans.



BELIZE TROPICAL ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN BELIZE

- Meet your instructor team
- Head to your home base at the Toucan Ridge Ecology and Education Society (T.R.E.E.S.) research station

DAYS 2-4: EXPLORE THE RAINFOREST

- Dip your toes into freshwater stream ecology
- Prepare and conduct bat mist-netting surveys
- Gain insight on the local amphibian and reptile species on a night walk

DAYS 5-7: INVESTIGATE & PROTECT THE BARRIER REEF

- Travel from T.R.E.E.S. to the Belize Barrier Reef and arrive at Tobacco Caye, your spectacular island home
- Snorkel the Caribbean waters and explore the barrier reef through active exploration and observation, deepening your understanding of this diverse ecosystem
- Collect data on coral reef health and conduct tropical fish population assessments to support conservation efforts

DAY 8: IMMERSE YOURSELF IN BELIZEAN CULTURE

- Immerse yourself in the local culture by joining a traditional Sambi drum circle and revel in the rhythms of local music
- Commemorate your hard work and savor your final day in Belize with a celebration

DAY 9: DEPART FROM BELIZE CITY

Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
9 Days	20	30	marine & freshwater ecology, rainforest ecology, conservation







