

W&M Summer Program in Palugo, Ecuador Summer 2027

Estimated dates (subject to change): July 3 to July 24, 2027

GEO will work with the host institution/onsite partners to confirm dates in fall 2026, resulting in possible changes from estimated dates.

Size of Program: recent enrollments have varied from 9-14 students

In light of COLL300, programs are designed to be accessible to as many eligible students as possible. *Group size is determined based on an overseas partner's ability to accommodate and support groups. This program has a maximum capacity of approximately 15 students.*

Host Institution: The Farm - NAHUAL

**Overview of
Program**

One W&M faculty member serves as program director (PD) and teaches one three-credit course in the program as well as a 1-credit preparatory course in Spring 2027.

One other W&M faculty (Teaching Faculty) will teach one 3-credit course.

On-Site courses and credits: Students take two 3-credit courses, for a total of 6 credits. Students receive W&M grades and credits for these courses; courses may not be taken pass-fail.

Prerequisites: None

Housing: Students will live on a sustainable farm with basic accommodations.

Excursions/Activities: Typically, each week will have 4 days of classes and activities at the farm and 3 days of visits to different communities in places. Some excursions could include: Quito Old Colonial Town, San Clemente community, Otavalo Indigenous Market, Ashanga Project, Cayambe-Coca Ecological Reserve and Papallacta hot springs. Some of these outings may involve hiking and bike riding. This is a high altitude location (7700 feet).

COLL300

All W&M programs teaching undergraduate students are expected to meet COLL 300 requirements. Course content will not be the only or the main consideration when evaluating the COLL 300 designation; other aspects of programs such as activities and excursions will also be considered.

Academic experiences include the course, assignments, course-related excursions, guest speakers or local faculty, engagement with members of the local community, and co-curricular cultural activities connected to the objectives of COLL 300.

The approved language for COLL 300 is as follows:

"COLL 300 courses explore the diverse perspectives and socio-cultural values of people and communities of countries outside the geographical boundaries of the United States, and/or within the geographical boundaries of the United States for the study of sovereign Native nations, indigenous communities, and five US territories or sub-national entities.

COLL 300 directly connects students with people, places, and ideas that enhance their comprehension of different ways of thinking and being in the world. Students synthesize their knowledge, their emerging expertise in framing questions for analysis, and their communication skills to engage global issues in a self-reflective, cross-cultural way.

Students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of how people across cultures and societies experience the world
- make connections between those perspectives and course content
- analyze how cultural and societal differences manifest globally
- reflect on their own identity as global citizens COLL 300"

COLL 300 experiences will ideally join students with people, places, and ideas (all three).

COLL 300 courses should have a self-reflective assignment built into them. (Approved by FAS March 2021.)"

W&M-taught Courses in Recent Years [all 3 credits]

HISP 231: Spanish for Cultural Immersion

HISP 389: Joyful Struggles: Stories of Inspiration

Qualifications for Program Directors

Faculty members who expect to continue teaching at William & Mary in 2026-27 are eligible to apply, and will need be available on campus during fall 2026 and spring 2027 to work closely with Global Education Office (GEO) staff on program preparation, and to participate in the fall study abroad fair and fall/spring information sessions, summer program open house, and orientation sessions, and recruiting events. In addition, Summer 2027 Program Directors will need to be on campus in fall 2027 to meet with the future Program Director and participate in recruiting events.

Because the position of Program Director represents a full-time commitment, faculty members selected as PDs may not undertake any other teaching assignment, onsite student research projects, or research appointment during the time the program is in session.

Required: site-specific course. Courses must be linked to the local or regional setting of the program, but are not generally restricted to any given discipline.

Required: proficiency in Spanish

Preferred: in-country or regional experience.

Preferred: research/teaching interests relevant to the program.

Qualifications for Teaching Faculty

Required: Courses must be linked to the local or regional setting of the program, but are not generally restricted to any given discipline.

Preferred: in-country or regional experience.

Preferred: research/teaching interests relevant to the program.

W&M Faculty Compensation

Program Direction:

Program director compensation covers preparatory work, on-site program direction, and post-program duties, and teaching. (Salaries are calculated based on the duration of the on-site program – from the day students arrive through on-site student housing move-out).

Meal supplement and housing are provided for an additional 2 days on request.

PD salary for 5-week plus program (with an onsite 3-credit course and spring 1- credit course) and based on general enrollment: estimated to be around \$18,117. Depending on exact program dates and possible adjustments to overall A&S summer teaching rates, this figure is subject to change. The quoted rates are based on estimated 2026 expenses. All monetary amounts are subject to change.

Housing:

Program Director and Teaching Faculty will have housing at the farm, in basic accommodations.

Airfare: lowest economy-class direct flight available for purchase before the end of March 2026.

Meal supplement: One-third of the US State Department's M+IE per diem. For specifics, please see the US State Department's Office of Allowances website at http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp.

Virginia state regulations require family members who accompany you to Cambridge or on any of the group activities to make their own arrangements and cover their own expenses. In addition, due to the full-time commitment of the program director to the program, including handling emergencies at all hours, it is expected that 24/7 care for dependents and family members by someone other than the PD be arranged by the PD at his/her own cost.

**W&M
Program
Director Role
and Duties**

Following is a general overview of the PD's duties:

- Assist GEO in sharing information with students interested in your course and program
- Teach a 1-credit preparatory course in spring 2027.
- Maintain contact with providers in the host country.
- Assist students with the visa application process (if applicable).
- Review and complete responsibilities as outlined in the program director handbook.
- Serve as primary program contact with the Global Education Office.
- Work with GEO staff to make all group reservations (for group travel, meals, activities not arranged by host institution).
- Determine budget and courses in conjunction with GEO staff.
- Collaborate with the GEO staff to coordinate, organize and/or plan excursions.
- While on site, teach, care for students, and administer the program logistics and finances.
- Ensure that courses are site-specific, explicitly linked to the local or regional setting of the program in line with COLL300 expectations.
- Remain in residence and available for the length of the program; it is expected that the Director will accompany students on their group excursions and that, with the exception of these excursions, s/he will be in residence at the program location for the entire duration of the program, including weekends.
- Provide financial oversight including tracking receipts that will be submitted upon return.

- Submit to the Global Education Office (GEO) and International Studies Advisory Committee (ISAC) a thorough report on the summer program (template will be provided).
- Complete responsibilities in order to satisfy COLL300 requirements.

Detailed information regarding the PD's duties is available in the *W&M Faculty-Led Summer Programs Director's Manual*, which may be obtained from the GEO.

**W&M
Teaching
Faculty Role
and Duties**

In addition to teaching a 3-credit course, Palugo program teaching faculty play a vital role in the living learning community. Responsibilities include: living on the farm; be involved in planning and participating in group excursions; being part of the administrative team, as requested; serving as a back-up to the Program Director to be on call in case of emergencies; teaching at least one session of pre-course, as agreed with the Program Director.

**Application
Deadline and
Requirements**

Applications must be submitted online by 11:59pm on March 26, 2026. Details can be found at <http://www.wm.edu/offices/revescenter/studyabroad/faculty/summerprograms/index.php>

**Program
Director**

PD selections will be announced in June 2026.

**Selection
Process**

The ISAC evaluates all proposals and selects program directors.

Program directors will be selected based on the following criteria: overall quality of course proposal; site-specific nature of course; synergy with other courses offered; expertise of the candidate; evidence of teaching effectiveness.

There is no preference for candidates who have recently directed or participated in this or other W&M faculty-led programs.

Applicants may submit joint proposals, and these will be considered by the ISAC. However, the committee may choose to appoint only one applicant from a joint proposal. In applying to direct and/or teach on the Palugo program, all applicants agree to go if selected, regardless of whether they have submitted individual or joint proposals and regardless of whether both/all members of a joint proposal are selected to direct/teach.

The ISAC will consider feedback from the Reves Center with regard to applicants who have directed prior W&M summer programs.

In addition, given the distinct responsibilities of the Program Director position, university administrators may contact appropriate offices (Provost, Dean, Title IX Coordinator) for information relating to the applicant. The applicant will be given the opportunity to respond to or explain any negative information thus obtained.

**For more
information**

Further details are provided in the *W&M Faculty-Led Summer Programs Director's Manual* available upon request. You may also contact Sylvia Mitterndorfer, Director of Global Education, at smmitt@wm.edu.