

# Knighly Adventures Abroad

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Quito, Ecuador



Advice to future study abroad participants: Travel over the weekends.



Complete this Sentence:  
If I could do it over, I  
would... speak less  
English!

Major(s): Environmental  
Studies & Spanish

Years/Term Abroad: Spring 2014

**Name of program and why you chose it:** Bilateral at Universidad San Francisco de Quito; strongly encouraged toward USFQ, plus it's the best classroom a girl could ask for considering my two majors.

**Describe the Housing Situation:** A house in central Quito with host mom, dad, brother, sister, & grandparents.

**Best Memory:** The ceviche on the beach with friendly stray dogs begging at the table in the surf and then all the shades of green up in the Andes were practically screaming Welcome to South America.

**How has this experience enriched your Bellarmine educational experience?** It's the best learning around, being thrown into the real world & gaining independence, flexibility, & patience right off the bat. Plus I knew I was never going to truly learn Spanish without having to survive in it.

**Greatest Challenge:** Balancing the study part with the abroad part, being both a tourist & a resident in a country spilling over with adventure.

**Experiences with Culture Shock or Reverse Culture Shock:** Reverse Culture Shock with returning home & the food being soooooo expensive in addition to having to pay tips & taxes after a semester of not.

**What you know now that you didn't know before going abroad:** Ecuador is SUCH an underrated country. I'm capable of pretty much.

This experience pays off more than I know right now.