Information for budgets for CONICET grants to support CONICET-University of Florida collaboration

Potential Study Plans for Graduate Students:

In order to maximize the experience of Argentine Ph.D. students who come to UF, students will be able to enroll in courses and obtain an interdisciplinary certificate (15 credit hours) through the Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD, see below). The certificate emphasizes conservation skills, as well as ecological and social aspects of conservation and management, but will have a great deal of flexibility in the courses that are taken to satisfy the certificate. Students also could simply enroll for any courses they wish to take as post-baccalaureate students with no plans to complete a certificate (though we would encourage students to do the certificate and become full participants in TCD, which has the Southern Cone as one of its regional foci). During some semesters, students may be taking English language training or working with UF faculty research groups and not formally enrolled in graduate classes.

For planning purposes, UF has 3 academic semesters: Fall (mid-August – December), Spring (January – early May), and Summer (late May – mid-August). Most courses are 3 credit hours and extend for a full semester (approximately 16 weeks). A full time course load for a semester is 9 credits, or approximately 3 courses. Most courses are taught Fall or Spring semesters, and UF faculty and graduate students frequently are traveling during the summer. Therefore, Fall and Spring semesters generally are the best time for visits to UF by students and other scholars.

Tuition costs for students enrolled in classes:

The University of Florida has differential tuition rates for students who are from the state of Florida (In-State Tuition) and from outside the state of Florida (Out-of-State Tuition), and UF has a special arrangement for students from Latin America. Students from Latin America who are enrolled full time (9 credits per semester) are eligible for In-State Tuition, if they receive a “book” scholarship of at least $500/semester from UF. TCD will provide these book scholarships for CONICET students who are enrolled full time.

Cost for full-time student for one semester (9 credit hours In-state tuition plus activity fees, with TCD book scholarship): $4978

Cost per credit hour each semester for students enrolled in less than 9 credits (Out-of-state tuition plus activity fees): $1314

Estimates of living expenses in Gainesville, Florida for 12 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room/Utilities</td>
<td>$6,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$4,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal (e.g., clothing, local transportation, etc.)</td>
<td>$1,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Supplies (may not apply to all visitors)</td>
<td>$1,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Information taken from:
These figures are based on the assumption that costs are for a student who is careful in the use of his/her money, does not plan to purchase an automobile and has no dependents. For example, cost of housing would be for an apartment shared with other students or post-docs.

**Health Insurance:**

All graduate students and visiting scholars at the University of Florida are required to have health insurance that meets the minimum standards of the University of Florida. Costs vary with the three insurance plans approved by UF and by the age of applicant. Cost of insurance per month is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSURANCE PLAN</th>
<th>25-29</th>
<th>30-39</th>
<th>40-49</th>
<th>50 and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CISI</td>
<td>$66</td>
<td>$176</td>
<td>$228</td>
<td>$301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISP</td>
<td>$47</td>
<td>$132</td>
<td>$187</td>
<td>$187</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More information on the plans can be found at [http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/ISS/insurancePlanDates.html](http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/ISS/insurancePlanDates.html) and [https://www.isoa.org/university_of_florida](https://www.isoa.org/university_of_florida).

**English Language Institute:**

If Argentina graduate students (or other project personnel) are limited by their English skills, we would encourage them to take advantage of UF’s excellent English Language Institute (ELI). If necessary, students could complete a course at the English Language Institute (which is good preparation for the TOEFL English exam) during one semester under the CONICET project and then follow up in subsequent semesters with courses related to natural resources. Argentine graduate students could engage with UF faculty and graduate students in their area of interest while enrolled in ELI. Course dates, application deadlines, and costs of ELI are listed at [http://www.eli.ufl.edu/](http://www.eli.ufl.edu/).

**Additional costs related to studies at UF:**

1) TOEFL exam

Students are required to take the TOEFL English language exam prior to enrolling in graduate classes at UF. Students would take this exam prior to coming to UF, or students enrolled in the English Language Institute could take it after completing their language training.

**More information on University of Florida’s Tropical Conservation and Development Program (http://www.tcd.ufl.edu/)**

UF’s Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program was established more than two decades ago in recognition that solutions to conserving biological diversity and improving human well-being require novel approaches that integrate knowledge and skills across academic disciplines and that strongly engage local
partners in design and implementation activities. TCD’s mission is to bridge theory and practice to advance biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource use, and human well-being in the tropics and throughout Latin America (including the Southern Cone). TCD’s main goals are:

- To train graduate-level professionals, particularly those from developing countries, to bridge theory and practice and learn across disciplines;
- To promote cross-national, integrative, comparative problem-centered research;
- To strengthen and expand learning and action networks.

TCD is not a degree-granting program, but rather offers an interdisciplinary certificate to graduate students. TCD draws on the participation of core faculty and more than 100 faculty affiliates across campus (http://www.latam.ufl.edu/people/affiliate-faculty); the TCD Program is housed within the Center for Latin American Studies, but geographically extends to Africa and Asia. At the heart of TCD is an innovative learning and action platform where students, faculty and collaborators interact to address multi-scalar and multi-disciplinary challenges. TCD’s approach builds on traditional disciplinary foundations, integrates past and present student experiences, and embraces collaborative learning and action with partners involved in the day-to-day realities of conservation and development. TCD encourages research and training activities developed in close collaboration with host-country partners.

Contact Lyn Branch (BranchL@ufl.edu) or Bette Loiselle (BLoiselle@latam.ufl.edu) if you need clarifications or additional information.