

Course Schedule

This course will meet weekly on Tuesdays on campus from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the spring 2008 semester as well as in Costa Rica from March 8-16.

The instructors will schedule a meeting in fall 2007 in order to discuss the logistics, equipment, immunizations and code of conduct for the travel seminar.

Preliminary Travel Schedule

Subject to change

- March 8:** Flight: Albany, New York, to San José, Costa Rica. Transport to Monteverde. Orientation. Settle into Los Llanos Field station (<http://www.mvinstitute.org/newsite/llanos/lodging.html>.)
- March 9:** Quaker Meeting in Monteverde or bird walk. Sack lunch at Quaker meeting house. Walk to Hummingbird gallery. Slide show. Orientation walk through woods and pastures with Martha Campbell. Talk on history of landscape and people followed by slideshow at her home. Evening lecture: Environmental History of Monteverde by Instituto Monteverde staff.
- March 10:** Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve ALL DAY HIKE. Field observations for altitudinal transect. Dinner at Monteverde Institute. Evening Lecture: Global warming and amphibian extinctions by Dr. Alan Pounds.
- March 11:** Children's Rainforest/Bajo del Tigre. Hike and field observations for altitudinal transect in Bajo del Tigre. Santa Helena; Orchid garden. In Monteverde: tour cheese factory, visit CASEM, a Coffee Cooperative. Evening lecture: Introduction to Bats by Dr. Richard La Val with guided walk through "The Bat Jungle."
- March 12:** Butterfly Garden with Presentation and Tour Santa Elena Reserve. Hike from Santa Helena reserve to San Gerardo Field station accompanied by Mark Wainwright. Evening lecture is an orientation by Mark Wainwright. Accommodations in San Gerardo Field Station (http://www.acmcr.org/biological_stations.htm.)
- March 13:** Field orientation walk. Field problems. Night hike.
- March 14:** Finish field problems. Work on field notebooks and explore. Hike to Sana Helena Reserve. Lecture: Tropical birds and the Bellbird conservation project by Monteverde, Costa Rica March 8-16 2008





Skidmore College

Tropical Field Ecology

FACULTY

PROFESSOR MONICA RAVERET RICHTER
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PROFESSOR CHRISTINA GRASSI
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MONICA RAVERET RICHTER is an associate professor of Biology. She studies foraging behavior and social insects, and has extensive field experience in the tropical forests of Central America and Brazil. Dr. Raveret Richter lived in Costa Rica for over two years conducting research and teaching. She has served as visiting research faculty and field instructor for the Organization for Tropical Studies' Tropical Ecology graduate course and for the International Rain Forest Educators Workshop in Tortuguero, and lectured at the Universidad de Costa Rica and for the University of California's Education Abroad Program in Monteverde. She teaches courses in ecology, behavior, and conservation ecology, and has co-taught the Tropical Field Ecology Travel Seminar since its inception.

CHRISTINA GRASSI is a visiting assistant professor in Anthropology. As a primate ecologist, Dr. Grassi researches and teaches about interactions between non-human primates and their environment. She has conducted extensive field work in the tropical rainforests of Southeastern Madagascar. In addition, her work has important conservation implications for lemur and other primate species, and offers both human and non-human perspectives on conservation. She teaches courses in both Anthropology and Environmental Studies and co-taught the Tropical Field Ecology Travel Seminar in 2006.