

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FALL 2025

How often is this program offered?

Starting in Fall of 2025, we will offer our program every other fall. Our next cohort will be in Fall of 2027. We won't offer this course during Spring semesters.

How many students are accepted into the program?

Our cohorts consist of 10-15 students.

Will priority be given to Biology majors?

Yes, this program is designed for Biology majors and taught by UR Biology faculty. But we can consider EES majors, depending on demand.

What are the requisites?

1) We require students to have successfully completed both semesters of the first general biology series: BIO 110 & BIO 111, or BIO 112 & BIO 113. Some students may have taken a combination of courses (BIO 110/BIO 113 or BIO 111/112), which also works well. We cannot make exceptions for students that have taken only one semester of general biology.
2) Students must have a GPA of 3.0 as required by the Center of Education Abroad and the Biology Department.

What are the dates for ROC Galapagos in Fall 2025?

Students are required to arrive in Quito by Friday Aug 8. Please see the detailed Fall document schedule provided in the ROC Galapagos website. No exceptions for later arrivals, per regulations from our partner institution USFQ.

Fall 2025						
Monday through Friday 9:00AM to 12:00PM*						
Mainland			Galápagos			
Aug 11 - 15	Module 1 Aug 18 - Sep 5	Module 2 Sep 8 - 26	Module 3 Sep 29 - Oct 17	Break Oct 20 - 24	Module 4 Oct 27 - Nov 14	Module 5 Nov 17 - Dic 5

What are the specific modules offered for Fall 2025?

Week-long immersion in Spanish (Aug 11-15) (1 credit)*

MODULE 1- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) (3 credits)*

MODULE 2- Tropical Ecology (3 credits) *

MODULE 3- Behavioral Ecology (4 credits) **

MODULE 4- Evolutionary Ecology (4 credits) **

MODULE 5- Evolution and Conservation Genetics (4 credits) **

*Taught in the main USFQ campus in Cumbayá (mainland Ecuador) by USFQ faculty

**Taught in San Cristóbal Island, in USFQ's Galapagos Satellite campus, by UR faculty

How do modules work?

Our program consists of five modules, two taught by USFQ faculty and three taught by UR faculty. We teach only one module at a time and consists of three weeks with weekends off. The UR modules which are intensive equivalents to some Bio courses on campus.

How do credits apply?

This program is designed for UR's Biology majors. Each of the two USFQ modules are 3 credits + 1 credit Spanish (7 credits total), which will count as college credits. The UR modules, each count as 4 credits (12 credits total) and will appear as biology credits directly on your transcript.

How do UR modules count towards my major?

This depends both on your major and which classes they've already taken on campus. Please check the list of equivalencies below according to your major. We will ask students accepted into the program to confirm with their major advisor how our Galapagos modules (taught by UR faculty) will count.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER EQUIVALENCIES ACCORDING TO TRACKS

UPBM Track	Use Towards Major	overlap
BS BMG	1 diversification and 1 genetics elective	BIO 205
BA BIO	1 Group 'A' and 3 diversification electives	BIO 263, BIO 205, BIO 260
BS BEB	1 advanced elective, Ecology requirement, 1 diversification elective	BIO 263, BIO 260, BIO 205
BS BMB	1 diversification	
BS BCD	1 diversification	
BS BBC	1 diversification	
BS BNS	1 diversification	
BS BCB	1 advanced elective, 1 diversification	
BIO minor	3 diversification electives	

Can I swap out of a UR module to take a USFQ module when in Galapagos?

No, our program is designed so students only take the modules taught by UR faculty.

Do I need to know Spanish?

No, although we do recommend that you immerse in the language! USFQ will offer a five-day introductory when ROC Galapagos students arrive to provide a primer to Spanish.

Can the Spanish immersion offered during arrival count towards my UR Spanish credits?

Per consultation with UR's Language Department, the one credit immersion course cannot count towards UR credits.

Does financial aid transfer?

Yes, this program is designed for financial aid to work as if students were on campus

What are the application and pre-departure steps in Spring of 2025?

- 1) Students first need to apply via the Center for Education Abroad's portal during February.
- 2) Dr. Uy, the program's academic director, will select students to interview in early March.
- 3) Before Spring break, Dr. Uy will then notify accepted students and we will have several pre-departure sessions before the semester ends.
- 4) USFQ will instruct students to apply their portal.