



Universidad  
Nacional  
de Córdoba



Prosecretaría  
de Relaciones  
Internacionales

## FROM CÓRDOBA TO PATAGONIA

### Biodiversity and Ecosystem in Central and Southern Argentina

#### **Course Description**

This is an intensive course that offers a training instance in the care and protection of the environment in two key regions of Argentina: the Province of Córdoba, recognized for its numerous protected natural areas, and Patagonia, recognized for an ecosystem of unique formations through world level.

The academic modality with which this course is taught is not only theoretical, but fundamentally practical and in the field of "experiential learning." The classes will be led by professors with recognized experience in this matter from the National University of Córdoba. Park rangers from the Provincial University of Córdoba and guides specialized in academic tourism will also play a critical role in leading the course.

In addition to teaching theoretical and practical classes, the course includes visits to nature reserves - from the first week -, camping in the National Parks of Córdoba, and travel to the coastal area of the provinces of Patagonia.

As part of the education in biodiversity and ecosystems, students are expected to participate in environmental remediation tasks required by the protected areas, in which the process of remediation is carried out.

The course is taught in English, though the immersion language and technical-scientific vocabulary is in Spanish from Argentina.

Optionally, students can take an introductory Spanish course.

#### **General Objectives**

That at the end of the course the student:

- has broadened their ecological awareness and acquired conceptual and practical tools to understand the importance to preserve and remedy areas threatened by the action of man;
- is able to transfer the knowledge acquired to their everyday environment so that it is a multiplying agent of change;
- has acquired training to participate in management projects and conservation of protected areas;
- can understand nature in a holistic sense from a geographical, climatic, and ecological standpoint and its relationship with

- humanity;
- recognize natural areas of Argentina (especially in the Central and Southern zone), internalize their problems, and get involved in current solution strategies.

## **Audience**

University Bacculaureate students interested in the problems of care and preservation of the environment.

## **Contents**

### **Unit 1**

- Ecoregions of South America (before and now). From the Cordillera to the Amazon.
- Biodiversity, what is it? Ecological organization levels. Diversity in different ecosystems of Argentina.
- Nature interpretation exercises. Work of recognition of different elements on a large scale through the use of maps.
- Review of readings, news and dissemination material related to ecoregions (for example: deforestation, fires, advances in the agricultural frontier, etc.)

### **Unit 2**

- Protected natural areas. Categorization of natural areas.
- Regulation and management through the National System of Protected Areas.
- Environmental problems of Argentina and Córdoba. Concept of environment as a Humanity to Nature relationship. Exploitation of Natural Resources throughout history. Environmental public policies.
- Exploratory reading of the information available on official sites on the Protected Areas of Argentina with special emphasis on the Center and South of the country.

### **Unit 3**

Patagonia. Introduction to Patagonian ecosystems.

## Schedule

Days	Activity	Location
1 and 2	Arrival. Accommodation. Recognition of the vicinity. Reception in University City. Delivery of welcome kit.	City of Córdoba
3 to 7	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Theoretical-practical classes (includes snack break at 11:00)	UNC
4	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Visit to the Gral San Martin Nature Reserve	City of Córdoba
6	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Visit to Biocórdoba: Circular Economy School	
8 and 9	Free time	
10, 11 and 12	Camping in protected areas: Quebrada del Condorito National Park : <a href="https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/quebradadelcondorito">https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/quebradadelcondorito</a>	Sierras of the Province of Córdoba
13, 14 and 15	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Theoretical-practical classes (includes snack break at 11:00)	UNC
16	Displacement to Patagonia	In travel
17 to 24	Accommodation in various areas; excursions, classes: <a href="https://chubutpatagonia.gob.ar/">https://chubutpatagonia.gob.ar/</a>	Province of Patagonia
25	Displacement to Ezeiza Airport	In travel

## Assessment

Professors will continuously evaluate students and their understanding and grasping of concepts.

In addition to the partial evaluations, a final evaluation is foreseen in which each student will generate content with audiovisual material developed in the course, incorporating both theoretical and practical content. Said audiovisual material will be uploaded to a YouTube channel generated ad hoc (it can have a podcast format, videos, shorts, etc.)

## Personnel in Charge

- Two teachers to dictate the contents in the classroom, visits in the city from Córdoba and for camping in the Parque Nacional del Condorito.
- A teacher for the trip to Patagonia.
- A tour guide specialized in academic tourism.
- Rangers of the areas visited.
- Administrative staff.

## **Includes:**

- Accommodation in family houses: includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- The excursions include accommodation, breakfast, lunch and dinner, tickets to museums and transfers.
- Córdoba Trelew / Trelew Buenos Aires air.

## **Proposed activities in Patagonia:**

### Day 01:

- Arrival in Trelew and transfer to Puerto Madryn.
- In the afternoon, visit and tour the Pampa Azul Ecocentre and visit the Punta Loma colony.
- Lodging at Hotel La Posada <http://www.la-posada.com.ar>.
- Dinner at the hotel (starter + main course + dessert + a non-alcoholic drink).

### Day 02:

- Excursion to Peninsula Valdes (390km – 10 hours long) [VIDEO](#).
- Whale watching on board in the morning.
- Lunch in Puerto Pirámides at The Paradise (half-carte menu with a drink).
- Visit to Caleta Valdés to observe the geographical accidents and marine fauna.
- Lodging at Hotel La Posada <http://www.la-posada.com.ar>.
- Dinner at the hotel (starter + main course + dessert + a non-alcoholic drink).

### Day 03:

- Full day tour of Punta Ninfas (190 Km – 9 hours duration) [VIDEO](#)  
Note: the only thing in the video that would not be seen in January are the penguins.
- Exclusive visit to Estancia El Pedral to observe sea lions and elephant seals on completely virgin and pristine beaches.
- For lunch we will schedule a box lunch.
- Lodging at Hotel La Posada <http://www.la-posada.com.ar>.
- Dinner at the hotel (starter + main course + dessert + a non-alcoholic drink).

### Day 04:

- In the morning snorkeling with sea lions.
- Half a day free to have lunch on your own in one of the inns on the beach.
- Around 2:00 p.m. departure to Trelew to visit the Egidio Feruglio Paleontological Museum.
- Tour of Gaiman where we will have the traditional Welsh tea.
- Lodging at Hotel La Posada <http://www.la-posada.com.ar>.
- Dinner at the hotel (starter + main course + dessert + a non-alcoholic drink).

### Day 05:

- At mid-morning, visit El Doradillo Beach to watch whales from the coast

and have lunch on the beach. [VIDEO](#)

- Free afternoon.
- Lodging at Hotel La Posada <http://www.la-posada.com.ar>.
- Dinner at the hotel (starter + main course + dessert + a non-alcoholic drink).

Day 06:

- After breakfast, transfer to Trelew to take the flight to Buenos Aires.