

**Course Approval Form: Field Research Experience Abroad–Costa Rica!**  
**(Direct USF Credit) - Summer 2018**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

U#: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

The course below is considered “direct USF credit” as students will be registered in the course by the Education Abroad Office. **USF Students:** The form below to be completed only by the ***academic advisor in a student’s major*** except where indicated in the shaded box. **Non-USF Students:** Education Abroad Advisor Signature of Student’s Home Institution. **\*\*Students should receive the required department approval and then have their academic advisor complete the form.**

**ONCE YOU RECEIVE THE REQUIRED SIGNATURE(S) BELOW, UPLOAD THE FORM TO YOUR PROGRAM APPLICATION.**

Questions? Contact the Education Abroad Registrar: [EA-Registrar@usf.edu](mailto:EA-Registrar@usf.edu).

Course Title	USF Course	Hours	Grad Req.?*	Pre-requisites	Required Department Approval Signature Dr. Banner, <a href="mailto:ebanner@sar.usf.edu">ebanner@sar.usf.edu</a>
Field Research Experience Abroad	PCB 3346C	3.00	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	BSC 3453 or instructor’s permission	

\*Grad. Req.: Does this course meet a graduation requirement (elective hours, within major course, FKL, etc.)? Courses that do not satisfy a degree requirement may not be considered for funding. Only student’s ***major*** advisor may sign.

**Required Academic Advisor Signature**

*USF STUDENTS:* To be completed student’s Major Advisor; *NON-USF STUDENTS:* To be completed by the Education Abroad Advisor of the Student’s Home Institution.

Print Name

Department

Phone

Email

Signature

University (if not USF)

\*By signing this document, I affirm that the student has informed me of his/her plans to study abroad with USF and understands how the above credit will count towards their degree.

Advising Notes:

## Directions for students completing course approval form -- Direct Credit Programs and FAQ:

### Directions

1. Select courses you wish to take on the program based on the instructions on the form.
  2. If a course has a listed pre-requisite that you have not completed, they must obtain special approval by the department listed in the shaded box. The department's representative (advisor, undergraduate coordinator, chair, etc.) signs off allowing the course. *\* If student does not wish to take that course, they may skip this step.*
  3. Student meets with their academic advisor to have the form reviewed at least one month before their program's application deadline (please refer to the program website for more information). Advisors will indicate if courses listed will count towards graduation requirements and discuss degree completion and excess credit hours with the student.
  4. Academic advisor signs off indicating whether the course counts towards graduation requirements. This signature indicate that they have spoken to the student about how the class may impact their degree and excess credit hours.
  5. Student reads and signs conditions on the form.
  6. Signed course approval form is submitted to the USF Education Abroad Office ([EA-Registrar@usf.edu](mailto:EA-Registrar@usf.edu))
  7. Your form will be added to your application with Education Abroad and reviewed for acceptance. Certain programs require additional items for acceptance, please see program website for further information.
- **Students should schedule to meet with their major advisors once the credit has been returned to USF.**
  - PLEASE NOTE: Students planning to take courses towards minors should coordinate communication between the minor and major advisor. The major advisor should still be the individual signing the form, though they may need confirmation from the minor advisor.

### FAQ

#### **Q: What does "Direct Credit Program" mean?**

**A:** This means that the credit offered on this program is through USF (led by our faculty, reviewed by our departments, etc.). You will be registered for the credit by our office prior to starting the program and will see that registration OASIS / Canvas—just as if you were taking the class on campus.

#### **Q: What if I want to change my classes?**

**A:** If you change classes you must notify your Education Abroad Advisor and your Academic Advisor. Please note, you are subject to the same withdrawal and late registration policies as you are on campus so changes to courses after the program date may result in late registration fees or W grades.

#### **Q: How does this impact my GPA at USF?**

**A:** Students have three GPAs at USF: 1. Institutional (courses taken at USF), 2. Transfer (courses that are from outside USF), and 3. Overall (average of institutional and transfer). Grades earned on this program impact your institutional and overall GPA.

#### **Q: Can I take these courses pass (S) / fail (U)?**

**A:** S/U grades are possible as per regular campus policy. This is a contract between you and your faculty member and should be agreed to prior to beginning the course.

#### **Q: Will this count for my degree at USF?**

**A:** Please see your academic advisor. This course counts towards USF residency.

#### **Q: Will this count for financial aid?**

**A:** Every student's financial aid situation is different. Different awards have their own requirements. You will need to speak to a USF financial aid advisor for your specific situation. Be sure to tell them you are on a "**direct credit program**." Aid will likely not disburse until after the beginning of classes abroad. Please speak to USF University Scholarship and Financial Aid Services for details ([www.usf.edu/finaid](http://www.usf.edu/finaid))