**Moorpark College Offers Study Abroad Opportunity in Quito, Ecuador**

*Program takes place during the fall 2020 semester*

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: James Schuelke   
805-378-1499

Fax: 805-378-4013

**Moorpark, Calif. (December 17, 2019) -** Students and community members who wish to enrich their education by immersing themselves in Ecuador’s culture and language are invited to participate in Moorpark College’s new study abroad program in Quito, Ecuador. The 15-week program will be Aug. 24 – Dec. 6, 2020 and is in partnership with [don Quijote](https://www.donquijote.org/), a leading Spanish language school with more than 30 years of experience.

Students can expect a life-learning experience while they study Spanish, live with a local family and explore the natural beauty of the Andes Mountains. They will also experience the culture of Ecuador and interact with local residents.

The program’s participants will enroll in Spanish language immersion and anthropology classes. Additionally, students have the opportunity to take online Moorpark College classes for the fall 2020 semester while studying in Quito. (All courses are UC and Cal State transferable.) Participants may also take service-learning courses with the option of volunteering in a local elementary school, residential facility for the elderly or local hospital.

The program includes two full-day excursions to Otavalo, the most famous indigenous market in Ecuador, and Quilotoa, an emerald lagoon located inside a volcano crater.

Full-time students are eligible for financial aid and scholarships. The program is limited to 40 participants and registration closes Feb. 20, 2020.

For more information, contact Professor Helga Winkler at hwinkler@vcccd.edu or Professor Ashley Vaughan at avaughan@vcccd.edu.

**About Moorpark College**

Moorpark College is one of three colleges in the Ventura County Community College District and annually serves more than 14,000 students. Founded in 1967, Moorpark College is fully accredited and has the highest six-year completion rate within the California Community College System. The Campaign for College Opportunity named Moorpark College a 2019 Champion of Higher Education for the Associate Degree for Transfer Pathway. It is also a designated Hispanic-Serving Institution. The college’s signature career/technical programs include nursing, radiologic technology, biotechnology and journalism. The college’s America’s Teaching Zoo is the only associate’s degree exotic animal training program in California. To learn more, visit [MoorparkCollege.edu](file:///\\ad\fs\do\chancellor_office\Administrative%20Officer\Press%20Releases\Moorpark%20College\MoorparkCollege.edu) or follow @MoorparkCollege on social media.

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