

Mexico



STUDY ABROAD AT

UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA

## California State University, Sacramento Study Abroad Program

Founded in 1943, the **Universidad Iberoamericana** is a private institution of higher education in Mexico. It has a current enrollment of over 11,000 students, who are taught by approximately 2,000 faculty members, assuring a high level of personal attention. UIA offers coursework in about 30 fields of study at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Facilities include three cafeterias, an audio visual center, laboratories and workshops for students in many fields, health services, a library containing over 300,000 volumes and subscriptions to 1,500 periodicals, a bookstore, an auditorium, and recreational facilities for soccer, basketball, tennis, and volleyball. The university is located on 20 hectares in the Santa Fe area of Mexico City. This capital city offers many cultural and sightseeing opportunities, such as the National Museum of Anthropology, the Ballet Folklórico, the shopping district of La Zona Rosa, magnificent parks, the Zócalo, and the floating flower garden of Xochimilco.

### COURSE OFFERINGS

Students wishing to experience Mexico's educational system while still enrolled at this university have an excellent opportunity through this study abroad program. This program is appropriate for students who have completed two years of college-level Spanish or the equivalent and would feel comfortable in a large city environment.

For students with Spanish proficiency, resident credit at this university is offered for Universidad Iberoamericana courses in the following fields of study at the **undergraduate** level: Accounting, Art History, Business Administration, Civil Engineering, Communication Sciences, Economics, Electronic Engineering, Finance, Graphic Design, History, Hospitality Administration, Human Resources, Information Systems, Interactive Design, International Business, International Relations, Latin American Literature, Law, Marketing, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Mechatronics, Nutrition and Food Science, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Software Engineering, Telecommunications Engineering, and Textile Design. At the **graduate** level, courses are offered in: Art Studies, Business Administration, Business Systems Engineering, Communications, Construction Engineering, History, Modern Literature, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Social Anthropology, and Sociology.

For the student who wants to improve Spanish language skills, the Spanish Language and Latin American Culture Program is an excellent program. It offers intensive Spanish language courses and complementary culture courses, some taught in Spanish and some in English. There are 180 classroom instruction hours in the daily Spanish language classes and 24 hours of field trip time. These 180 hours of classroom time are equivalent to three courses. Thus, students take two additional courses in areas such as art, history, literature and political, economic, and social analysis to complement the language courses. Course examples include U.S.-Mexico Relations, Mexican Business for the International Manager, Mexican Modern Art, and Pre-Columbian Architecture in Mexico.

### SPANISH PLACEMENT EXAMINATION

At the beginning of the mandatory orientation at UIA, students will be given the Spanish placement examination (access <http://www.uia.mx>, select "International Students" and "Requirements for Admission" for additional details). The exam lasts about three hours. Results of the test will be used in planning the students' class

schedules. Students who score at the beginning or intermediate levels must take classes in the Spanish Language and Latin American Culture Program. Students who score at the advanced level may take classes in regular departments and/or also participate in the Spanish Language and Latin American Culture Program. It is advisable that students scoring at the advanced level take an 8 UIA credit class of Advanced Spanish Language which would meet twice a week for a total of four hours per week with a professor.

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## HOUSING

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There are no dormitories on the UIA campus. Those students who are interested may apply for a host family. The UIA housing service will place students in host families two to a room with bathroom facilities. The cost of staying in a host family is about \$1,600 for one semester. Meals are not included in this price. Some housemothers may be willing to provide meals; however, this will incur an additional charge. Otherwise, students may be able to arrange kitchen use or may eat their meals at the cafeterias at UIA. Those students interested in having the housemother provide meals should indicate this on the housing form when applying for a host family. Single rooms may be arranged, when available; however, there will be an additional charge for a single room. For students arriving early (prior to the orientation) or leaving later (after classes have ended), there will be an additional charge per night. Students who decide to participate in the UIA host family program are committed to remain in the program for the entire semester session, as no refunds will be given. Students staying with a host family have the opportunity to be met at the Mexico City International Airport by a family member upon arrival as long as complete arrival information is received by UIA at least one week in advance. Students should plan their flight schedules to arrive during daylight hours.

Students who choose not to apply for a host family will need to make their own housing arrangements. For additional information, access the UIA home page, select “International Students” and “Housing Information”. Hotel information also is given at this site for those students who may need temporary accommodation while they are looking for more permanent housing.

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## SPECIAL SERVICES

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The Cooperation & Exchange Office of UIA organizes excursions for students, mostly on Saturdays. These mostly full-day tours are led by excellent guides and go to such places as downtown Mexico City, the Pyramids of Teotihuacan, Tula, Puebla, and Taxco. Students do have to pay for these excursions, if they wish to participate. Dates for the excursions are announced at the orientation at UIA.

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## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

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Applicants should have **upper division standing with a declared major or classified graduate standing** at this university by the time of departure, **good academic records**, and a **2.75** cumulative grade point average for undergraduates and a **3.0** for graduates or better at the time of the application deadline. **All applicants must have completed two years of college-level Spanish or the equivalent.** The applicant also should be prepared to accept the challenge of study in a country with an educational system different from our own. All applicants should check to ensure that they are on track for meeting the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR). In most cases for those students who want to take classes in the regular departments at UIA, the **lower division courses** of the appropriate field of study must have been completed prior to participation in this program. Applications will be accepted for **one semester or one academic year**. Students are required to be **full-time** while studying in Mexico and, thus, take the equivalent of 15 units during the semester for undergraduates and 12 units per semester for graduates.

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## CALENDAR

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The Universidad Iberoamericana operates on a semester system calendar similar to that of this university. The mandatory fall semester orientation takes place towards the beginning of August just before classes start. Fall semester classes end around mid-December. The mandatory spring semester orientation is held early in January right before classes begin. Spring semester classes end around the third week of May.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

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For information on scholarships for study abroad, you should register for and attend a scholarship workshop in the Office of Global Education.

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## FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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Students accepted to the program will **pay the usual California State University, Sacramento fees, remain eligible for financial aid** (except work/study), if otherwise qualified, and receive **resident credit** just as if they were attending classes at this university. (Please note that equivalency of courses falls under the jurisdiction of the academic department.) The Universidad Iberoamericana has agreed to waive non-resident tuition, approximately \$8,060 per year, making this a particularly attractive opportunity for participants. Students will pay for their travel to and from Mexico, room and board, books and incidentals. In addition, each student must have the required insurance during his or her stay in Mexico. UIA uses a host family program to house international students. Expenses for a semester at UIA are estimated at the following: usual undergraduate fees - \$2,450 (graduates would pay the graduate fee), room (shared room) - \$1,600, meals - \$1,250, airfare - \$650, insurance - \$200, incidentals (including local transportation, books, clothing, entertainment) - \$ 1,500. Total \$7,650. The estimated expenses for an academic year are about \$14,650. This estimate is given for planning purposes only and is subject to changes from currency fluctuation, inflation, and fee changes. Keep in mind that the cost to obtain a passport, a student visa, and registration with the Mexican government after arrival in Mexico are not included in this estimate.

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## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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You should consult these resources for further information:

The Office of Global Education home page: <http://www.csus.edu/oge>

The Universidad Iberoamericana home page: <http://www.uia.mx>

Information for international students is included on this site (Select "International Students".)

Courses offered within UIA regular departments: <http://www.uia.mx> (Select "Licenciaturas", the appropriate field of study, and "Plan de estudios". Scroll down to and select "Plan Ideal aqui". Click on course title to bring up description.) (Select "Posgrado" for information on graduate level courses.)

Courses offered within the Spanish Language and Latin American Culture Program: <http://www.uia.mx> (Select "International Students" and "The Summer Program for International Students". Highlight "Course selection for Spanish Language and Latin American Culture" for the intensive Spanish language courses and complementary courses taught in Spanish. Highlight "Course selection for classes taught in English" for information on the courses taught in English.)

Housing information: <http://www.uia.mx> (Select "International Students" and "Housing Information".)

Helpful information for international students: <http://www.uia.mx> (Select "International Students" and "Mexico City Information".)

Information on Mexico City: <http://www.mexicocity.com.mx/mexcity.html>

Information on Mexico: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com>

To obtain an application or to speak with a study abroad advisor, please call the **Office of Global Education** at **278-6686** or go to **Lassen Hall, Room 2304**. Applications, references, and transcripts should be sent to the address below. The **deadline** for materials to be received is **March 1** for the **fall** semester and **October 1** for the **spring** semester. Please note that there is an interview process for this application, also.

**Janis Silvers**  
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