

Mexico



STUDY ABROAD AT

Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara

California State University, Sacramento Study Abroad Program

Founded in 1935, the **Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara (UAG)** is the oldest private institution of higher education in Mexico. It has a current enrollment of over 15,000 students. UAG offers 50 undergraduate programs, 20 master's programs, 3 doctorate degree programs and 33 areas of graduate specialization. Facilities include a large cafeteria, a bookstore, a copy center, a travel agency, and public telephones. The university is located in the beautiful city of Guadalajara, capital of the State of Jalisco. The university also has a major press, and its newspaper competes effectively with other city newspapers. Guadalajara offers many cultural opportunities, a nice climate, and an excellent intercity transportation system. Surrounding Guadalajara are a number of towns known for their artisans' work.

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. For students with Spanish proficiency, resident credit at this university is offered for Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara courses in the following fields of study at the **undergraduate** level: Accounting, Biology, Business Administration, Civil Engineering, Communication Sciences, Computer Engineering, Computer Systems Engineering, Economics, Education, Electronics Engineering, Electronics and Communications Engineering, Food Engineering, Graphic Design, Industrial Design, Industrial Engineering, Information Sciences, Interior Design, International Affairs, International Finances, International Marketing, International Trade, Law, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Medical Electronics Engineering, Preschool Education, Psychology, Public Administration, and Tourist Business Administration. At the **graduate** level, courses are offered in: Administration, Computational Science, Education, English-Spanish Translation and Interpretation, International Business Accountancy, Internet Technologies, Manufacturing Systems, Math Education, Philosophy, Quality Control Systems and Renewable Energy.

For the student who wants to learn Spanish from the beginning level or improve Spanish language skills, this is an excellent program. UAG, through its Spanish and Latin American Culture program, offers the following:

Eight levels of intensive Spanish language courses (each four weeks in length), semester courses for advanced Spanish students (covering same material as the intensive levels V through VIII), culture courses (most taught in English), and Spanish courses for specific purposes (business and medical fields).

SPANISH PLACEMENT EXAMINATION

Upon arrival to UAG and after attending the orientation, students will be given the Spanish placement examination in the language laboratory. The exam lasts about an hour and a half and includes an oral interview. Results of the test will be used in planning the students' class schedules. Students who exempt Spanish may take all their classes from the regular programs offered to the Mexican students. Students who place in level V (Advanced Level) will take Spanish instruction in a semester course (which includes levels V and above) as well as schedule two or three other regular classes. Students who place in level IV or lower will spend their full semester studying intensive Spanish through the various levels. The levels classes are small in number, having no more than 15 students.

HOUSING

There are no dormitories on the UAG campus. Students who are interested may apply for a host family. Living with a host family has a great number of advantages and is encouraged. The student who lives with a host family has more opportunity to practice the Spanish language, learn about Mexican culture, experience a different way of life, and gain insights and guidance from the family with whom he/she is living. The UAG Departamento de Intercambio Universitario has a listing of approved families and will place students in appropriate families according to answers given in the homestay application. The cost of the homestay is about US\$375 per month for a shared room and about US\$450 for a single room, including meals. Most homes are a bus ride from the university, giving students the opportunity to learn the bus system and a way to move around in the city. Students who choose not to apply for a host family will need to make their own housing arrangements.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Departamento de Intercambio Universitario at UAG has a well-trained professional staff to assist international students in making the transition to life in Guadalajara. They will help students with items, including orientation, registration, host family housing, the language placement test, and extra-curricular activities.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

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. **Applicants who want to take courses in Spanish in their field of study must have completed two years of college Spanish or the equivalent. There is no Spanish language requirement for applicants who want to study Spanish through the language levels.** 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, 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 each semester for undergraduates and 12 units per semester for graduates.

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

CALENDAR

The Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara operates on a semester system calendar similar to that of this university. The spring semester begins around mid-January and ends around mid-June. There is a two-week spring break during March/April. The fall semester begins around mid-August and ends around the middle of December. The intensive Spanish courses operate year-round, except for the spring break, a week in August and two weeks for Christmas vacation. Since each of these courses is four weeks in length, students are able to complete four of these intensive courses during the semester. An orientation will be held for new international students usually a few days before the start of classes.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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 its university. (Please note that equivalency of courses falls under the jurisdiction of the academic department.) The Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara has agreed to waive non-resident tuition, 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. UAG uses a host family program to house international students. Expenses for a semester at UAG are estimated at the following: usual undergraduate fees - \$2,450 (graduates would pay the graduate fee), room and board (shared room) - \$2,075, airfare - \$680, insurance - \$200, incidentals (including local transportation, books, clothing, entertainment) - \$ 1,500. Total \$6,905. The estimated expenses for an academic year are about \$13,130. 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 costs to obtain a passport and a student visa are not included in this estimate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

You should consult these resources for further information:

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

The Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara home page: <http://www.uag.mx/>

Spanish and Latin American Culture program (including information on the intensive Spanish courses):
<http://www.uag.mx/spanish/options.htm>

UAG information (in Spanish) with links to regular department course information:
<http://www.uag.mx>. Click on “Escuelas y Facultades”.

Graduate course information: <http://www.uag.mx/questudiar.html#postgrados>

The UAG catalogs available at the Office of Global Education (Ask for list of Spanish Literature courses taught in Spanish open to international and Mexican students. These courses are not listed on the UAG website and are not always offered. Check with the Office of Global Education concerning availability for a specific semester.)

For information on Guadalajara and Mexico, visit:

<http://www.allaboutguadalajara.com>

<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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