

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Capstone International Academic Programs

MEXICO

Summer Overseas Study

May 9 - May 23, 2010



Social Services in Mexico



Faculty-Led

Group Program

Academic Credit



ALABAMA
INTERNATIONAL

<http://studyabroad.ua.edu>

Social Services in Mexico

The School of Social Work
The University of Alabama
May 09 - May 23, 2010

PROGRAM/COURSE DESCRIPTION

This program (course) will expose students to social services as delivered in the Mexican culture. In support of the mission of the School of Social Work, the program will focus on services to the poor and underserved. The purpose of the program/course is to prepare students to work with the fastest growing immigrant population in the United States. Students will live with Mexican host families, engage in Spanish language instruction (based on level of proficiency), participate in seminars on Mexican culture, social services, and other important social aspects, such as the influence of religion in the culture. Services across the lifespan will be examined.

This program/course is offered in partnership with the Cemanahuac Educational Community located in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. The first week will be spent in Buena Vista de Cuellar, Guerrerro, Mexico, a rural town in the mountains southwest of Cuernavaca. The second week will be spent in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, a city of about 1 ½ million people located south of Mexico City. Each week students will participate in Spanish language classes (5 days). Language classes are taught by native Spanish speakers and classes will contain no more than 5 students. No Spanish language credit will be earned but participation is required.

Field trips are planned to social services agencies in and around these two cities. The final weekend will be spent in Mexico City touring cultural sites, including an art tour.



COURSE PREREQUISITES

The course will be offered annually in interim semester. Who may enroll in this course? Undergraduate social work majors with at least 6 credits completed in social work; graduate social work students entering their second year or those students entering with advanced standing in interim 2010. Students in related majors may enroll with the permission of the Program Director, **Dr. Csikai**.

Course number: **SW 457/SW 557** Section: 870,
Credit hours: 3.

TRAVEL TO MEXICO

Group travel is arranged for travel for the program. The group (with the instructor) will be flying roundtrip from Birmingham, AL to Mexico City. From Mexico City, the group will travel by van to Buena Vista de Cuellar to begin the course. Students will be furnished with departure information in informational mailings well prior to departure. All participants must possess a valid passport. Please be advised that airfare is not included in the program cost. Students will be provided with travel information and are responsible for purchasing airfare.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Housing is provided by host families and is pre-arranged by Cemanahuac. Families are Spanish-speaking and in most cases there will be more than one student per family. Most meals are provided by the families.

HOW TO APPLY

Students should complete and submit an Overseas Study Application Packet for consideration of acceptance into the overseas study program of your choice. Application packets can be downloaded from <http://studyabroad.ua.edu>.

Students will be notified of acceptance into the program via email. Capstone International will give students a "Permit to Join" form that must be taken to Student Receivables to make payment. Students are not considered a part of the program until payment has been made. Students must meet financial deadlines to remain in the program.

Application deadline is January 15, 2010 (or until capacity limit).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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AL in Mexico Program Director

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PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Total Cost of Program: \$1,900.00

Payment Schedule

January 15, 2010	\$600.00
February 12, 2010	\$650.00
March 12, 2010	\$650.00

The Summarized Cost and Payment Information can be found online at <http://studyabroad.ua.edu>.

Airfare is not included. Given the current state of air travel, it would be wise to purchase a trip cancellation policy when you purchase your airline ticket.

If space remains available, late applications will be considered.

*** The University of Alabama reserves the right to modify the program or its costs as necessitated by changes in the international economic situation or to cancel the program if necessary. ***

COST INCLUDES

- Tuition for 3 credit hours
- International Student ID Card (ISIC) with International Student Insurance (see Quicklinks on studyabroad.ua.edu - click on International Student Insurance Card)
- "Where in the World is Big AL?" T-shirt
- Excursions and entrance fees
- Homestay accommodations
- Meals with homestay family

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Airfare
- Meals while in Mexico City (May 22)
- Meals purchased during international travel days (May 9 and May 23)
- Transportation to and from Birmingham airport
- Personal expenses
- Phone calls

TENTATIVE COURSE ITINERARY

Sunday, May 9 - arrive Mexico City; travel to Buena Vista, settle in with host families

Monday, May 10 - Begin Spanish language classes (M-F 9AM-1PM)

Tuesday, May 11 - Centro de Salud; crafts and activities

Wednesday, May 12 - Factory tour; IMSS health clinic; music with Nacho

Thursday, May 13 - Crafts and activities

Friday, May 14 - Free afternoon to visit market

Saturday, May 15 - Travel to Cuernavaca; walking tour of Cuernavaca

Sunday, May 16 - Teotihuacan trip

Monday, May 17 - Spanish language classes (M-F 9AM-1PM); Lecture by Susan Smith: Health Care Issues in Indigenous Communities

Tuesday, May 18 - Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos - Orphanage

Wednesday, May 19 - Lecture by Dr. Nelly Salgado: Rural Health and Social Work

Thursday, May 20 - DIF center for older adults; Casa Tatic (VAMOS)

Friday, May 21 - Lecture on traditional medicine with curandera demonstration, dinner at La Hacienda

Saturday, May 22 - Art trip, Mexico City; Stay overnight in MC; Hotel Gillow

Sunday, May 23 - Depart for U.S.