

Category I Proposal for Study Abroad Program

Program: Migration Studies in Morelia, Mexico
Sponsor: Northwest Council on Study Abroad (NCSA)
CIP#: 050107

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Brief Summary (Abstract) of Program:

The Migration Studies Program in Morelia is intended to prepare students to pursue either advanced studies or professional roles that link them to Spanish-speaking communities or clients. A locally-provided core of Spanish language and Mexican culture coursework creates a framework for a professionally-oriented curriculum taught by U.S. professors. The U.S.-sourced courses deal with issues of North/South migration, and the impact of that migration on individuals, communities and community institutions. Coursework taught by U.S. faculty members includes both didactic instruction and supervised fieldwork experience.

Brief Background History of Program:

Year started: 2001
Student/Faculty participation (numbers): Attached
Program evaluations: Attached

Proposed Start-up Date for OSU Participation: Winter 2004

2. **Type of NCSA program and AHA/NCSA participation (check one & briefly explain)**

- Traditional NCSA Program: Study abroad program developed, managed, and financed by NCSA/AHA with full NW faculty participation and reimbursement provision (i.e., AHA/NCSA assume all fixed costs of program and risk exposure to student under-enrollment).
- Angers-NCSA Type Program: Study abroad program developed through NCSA affiliation with an already established foreign university program (e.g., CIDEF at Université du Catholique in Angers) and limited NW faculty participation with reimbursement; AHA/NCSA assume minimal fixed costs and financial risk.
- NCSA-Lite Program: Study abroad program developed, managed, and financed by a NCSA member institution with no provision for NW faculty participation except on a

self-financed basis; AHA/NCSA assume no fixed costs of program and no financial risk.

3. Academic Features of Proposed Program

A. Association with host foreign university or academic institution?

- Yes Institution: Universidad Latina de América (UNLA)
 No

B. Foreign language instruction? Multiple levels of Spanish List titles of courses offered; thematic/disciplinary concentrations

The Psycho-sociology of Mexicans
Social, Political, and Economic Problems of Mexico
TESL Teaching Practicum

Examples of courses taught by U.S. faculty include:

Comparative Education (education, graduate level)
Migrant Life Between Michoacán and Pacific NW (literature)
Politics of Development (political science/economics)
Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (sociology)
Nutrition and Society (nutrition/family science)

Courses taught in English? Foreign language?

Content courses are taught in English. Spanish language instruction in Spanish. Students with advanced Spanish may direct enroll in UNLA courses.

Course syllabi? Available on request **X Attached with Application**

Eligibility of students? Prerequisites?

All students in good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 2.7 are eligible. Students must submit a written application and complete a personal interview. Selection is based on seriousness of purpose, academic achievement, and individual stability and maturity. No prior Spanish is required, although it is strongly recommended.

Class composition: Only U.S. students **X Mix of U.S./foreign students**

Academic terms and calendar dates:

- Quarter terms Dates: Sept.22-Dec.1; Jan.5-March 15; March 23-June 1
 Summer terms Dates: July 21-Aug. 10

Credits: NCSA equivalencies **X Transcript/certificate**

4. Faculty Instruction

Qualifications of Program Site Faculty

All site faculty are employed by UNLA in accord with their institutional standards. Faculty teaching in this program must be able to convey their instruction in English as well as Spanish.

Northwest NCSA Faculty Participation - Scope and reimbursement?

NW faculty must prepare and teach a 6 credit hour course (term system) that includes 40 contact hours of classroom (didactic) instruction and a minimum of 20 hours of supervised fieldwork. The fieldwork component involves developing relationships within the local community, relying on assistance from UNLA faculty. NW professors must have some working knowledge of Spanish in order to engage and evaluate students as they fulfill the expectations of this course.

Supporting institutions receive NCSA-level reimbursement.

On-Site Administration: Program Coordinator/Advisor

Victor F. Vargas Anguiano—Lic. Vargas is a sociologist and senior-level UNLA administrator. He has lived in many parts of the world, but grew up in Pátzcuaro, a Purépecha village in Michoacán. He coordinates all academic components of the program.

Claudia Gonzalez—Lic. Gonzalez oversees homestay accommodations, assists with excursions and other planned activities, and meets with students almost daily to assist with problems.

Audrey Don Moore—Ms. Moore is the director of language programs and instruction at UNLA.

5. Accommodations

Housing: Homestays Residence halls Other _____

Meals: Students receive full board with their homestay families.

6. Costs

Program Fee (tuition)

Housing

Meals

Other fees

Total/term PLEASE SEE ATTACHED BUDGET

7. Deadlines: 65 days prior to the start of the program

8. Other Information on Site/Locale

Approximately two-thirds of all Mexican immigrants in the Pacific Northwest derive from the State of Michoacán. Morelia is the capital city and a gem of Colonial architecture. It is surrounded by villages that retain living vestiges of four linguistically diverse indigenous populations, most of which provide migrant workers to the NW.

Universidad Latina de América is a private university that occupies a spacious campus on the periphery of Morelia. The ethos of the campus, as well as its academic standards, are infused by the Jesuit background of its President, although UNLA is non-sectarian. Issues of social justice, economic development and community service are prevalent campus themes.

Most American students must use public transportation to get to campus. Students report that this is a positive aspect of their enculturation.

9. Summary of Program's Distinctive Features and Benefits for NCSA

The Migration Studies program is being developed with two primary assumptions in mind: First, the regions around Morelia and the Pacific Northwest are inextricably linked economically; second, these economic ties result in employment opportunities as well as community needs. Accordingly, the Morelia program operates at two levels. One level is primarily academic, exploring the social and economic impacts of migration on both sending and receiving communities. The other level is that of professional development, preparing students for employment in areas where the abilities to understand and communicate with Hispanic clients are useful.

This program has the long-term objective of developing a cadre of NW professors whose interests revolve around a common theme, and who therefore contribute to each other's research activities. Moreover, it is hoped that UNLA faculty will form part of this growing body, leading to research projects that form North/South cooperation on issues that affect both regions mutually.

10. Attachments: Current Budget