

Dominican Republic

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) Adviser to review program-specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for a UCEAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application, and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA websites. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA Adviser for this program.

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Videos



[Study Abroad in the Dominican Republic! \(Community Public Health Program\)](#)



[Studying Abroad in the Dominican Republic Week 1](#)



[Studying Abroad in the Dominican Republic Week 2](#)

Community Public Health (Summer)

Language Prerequisite

Students on this program are required to have 2 years of university-level Spanish prior to departure. Students can fulfill the requirement as listed in the application instructions.

CIEE is UCEAP's partner organization that offers this program. CIEE may require an additional CIEE-specific evaluation form to assess the applicants' language abilities if clarification on your Spanish language abilities or background is needed.

Academics

You are required to take a minimum of 9 semester units, which consists of 3 required courses. Each course is worth 3 units each.

- Pre-Professional Health Care Issues
- Community Health Practicum- the practicum places students in local clinics to get hands-on experience in health care.
- Advanced Spanish Conversation and Grammar

Students with Disabilities

You may find accessibility and accommodation in the Dominican Republic very different from what you experience in the US. The law provides for physical access for persons with disabilities to all new public and private buildings, but the authorities do not enforce this provision. Social acceptance of persons with disabilities in public is not as common as in the US. Accessible facilities, information, communication/access to services, and ease of movement are limited in most parts of the country. Large resorts and Santo Domingo may have some generally accessible infrastructure, but not to the same level available in the US.

Review how to request disability-related accommodations on the [I am a Student with a Disability Page](#).

LGBTQIA+ Students

Threat to safety in the LGBTIQ community is moderate. Societal tolerance ranges from intolerance to mixed tolerance.

Attitudes are generally conservative throughout the Caribbean. LGBTIQ individuals in the Dominican Republic may face cultural discrimination, and the government does not legally recognize same-sex unions.

Review tips and resources for [LGTBQIA+ Identifying Students](#)

Resources

UC Berkeley Alum Slidedeck

[View a slidedeck](#) from a UC Berkeley alum who studied abroad in the Dominican Republic with UCEAP.

Center for Latin American Studies

Being informed about the history and current affairs of Dominican Republic and Latin America, can lead to a more fulfilling study abroad experience. In addition to keeping up with Spanish language study prior to departure, you are also highly encouraged to attend lectures and events put on by the [Center for Latin American Studies](#) at UC Berkeley. You can join [CLAS email](#) list for event reminders.