Mexico
UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document
This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for an EAP 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 website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit our website.

All Mexico Programs:
U.S. Citizens: All U.S. citizens need a passport to study abroad in Mexico.

Mexican Citizens: Students who are Mexican citizens have no restrictions on applying to UCEAP-Mexico programs. They do not need visas to study in Mexico.

Non-U.S. Citizens: UCEAP supplies visa forms and information only to U.S. citizens applying to study in Mexico. International students should contact the Mexican consulate to inquire how to apply for a visa to study in Mexico. The UCEAP Office will not supply any special assistance to non-U.S. citizens applying for visas.

Verification of Language Prerequisites for Mexico City Programs: All students must have academic verification of language acquisition at the college level (grades on college transcripts, AP, IB, or SAT test scores). Students who do not have academic verification, but believe they have equivalent knowledge, will have to take a language test under the auspices of the Spanish Department at UCB.

Finishing Language Prerequisites before departure: You can take prerequisite language courses the semester or summer before departure for the program, if the timing works out with the start date of the program—you must begin on time. However, you won’t be cleared for participation on the program until the language courses are completed, and their completion is verified to the Mexico adviser by an email or postcard from your instructor or proof of the grade on an official transcript. Students are required to attain a grade of B or better in all college-level language courses.
The best way to find out if any Mexico program is a good match for you is to talk to student alumni of the programs. Email the Mexico Adviser to ask for email addresses of students who have completed the program in the recent past.

**Contemporary Mexico, UC Center Mexico City**

This program is for students with any level of Spanish language who wish to study Spanish, history & culture in a five-week period. Summer students take similar courses during a 5-week period as the Field Research, UNAM and Leadership & Social Justice students, however, they are tailored to a different mix of students who are perhaps not fluent in Spanish and will only be staying for the summer. There are three language sections of Spanish offered for beginners, intermediate and advanced/native speakers. Contemporary Mexico, a history/political science course, is taught in English, as is the Cultural Adaptation seminar, which works toward understanding of experiences and cultural differences that students encounter. Excursions to the Pyramids, the Xochimilco floating gardens and to the Bellas Artes Concert Hall for a folkloric dance performance happen throughout the program.

**Field Research, UC Center Mexico City, Fall or Spring:**

Pay careful attention to the start date of the program: the program starts during the summer around the first of July. It is not possible to arrive late to the program because of a job, internship or other summer school coursework commitments. This program offers a set menu of courses. It is not possible to take any additional courses or substitute any other coursework. The first three courses, Intensive Spanish, Contemporary Mexico and Research Methodology, are offered in the first five weeks of the program while the students are in Mexico City. The fourth course, the Field Research Project, is offered during the last 9 weeks of the program while students are at the field research sites. It is possible do to a field research project in almost any field of study. **Extension to Spring UNAM Program:** Fall FRP students can extend to the Spring UNAM semester if they have a 2.85 or higher cumulative GPA.

**National Autonomous Univ. of Mexico (UNAM) Fall, Year, Spring:**

Pay careful attention to the start date of the program: the fall and year programs start during the summer around the beginning of July. It is not possible to arrive late to the program because of a job, internship or other summer school coursework commitments. There is a mandatory Intensive Language Program for the first five weeks of the program. Students will be tested when the program starts and placed into an appropriate level of Spanish. It isn’t possible to access the ILP course descriptions from the Course Catalog if looking at UNAM courses. Go to the Field Research section of the Course Catalog and look for Spanish 112 through 116. Fall semester students can extend to stay for the following Spring Semester.

**Leadership in Social Justice and Public Policy in Mexico City and Sacramento - Year Program** is a combination of a the UNAM Fall Semester and a Spring Semester in Sacramento, CA at UCCS, the UC Sacramento Center, where students do an internship and take courses. This leadership program has a focus on Latinx and US/Mexico bi-national issues, starting with coursework at the top University in Mexico and a bridging Leadership course, followed by a semester of political science coursework and an internship experience in the U.S. In Spring semester internship placements are tailored to students' backgrounds, skills and career goals. While the internship is progressing the student will take the Calif. Policy Seminar, an independent study course in political science theory. Also during the semester the student will meet with a mentor who will supervise the preparation of an extensive paper relating the internship and experiences in Mexico to the concepts, literature and theory of political science.

**Summary of LSJ Classes and semester-unit equivalencies:**

- **Summer Spanish Language:** 2.7 units
- **Summer Contemporary Mexico:** 3.0 “
- **Su & Fall: Leadership Development:** 3.0 “
- **Fall: Four 4-unit courses @ UNAM:** 16.0 “
- **Spring: Internship in Sacramento:** 6.7 “
- **Spring: California Policy Seminar:** 2.7 “ - an independent study course in political science
- **Spring: Supervised Thesis Paper:** 1.3 “ - supervised major paper relating internship to poli sci theory
- **TOTAL UNITS for the YEAR:** 35.4 units
Global Health in Mexico – Summer in Oaxaca City

This is a relatively new program offered by UCEAP. This program allows you to interact with communities of Oaxaca City to better understand social conditions that affect local health. It operates in Oaxaca City close to the downtown area and is run by Child Family Health International and the Becari Language School. The program includes a Spanish Language for Health course, a practicum in the health field, a homestay with an Oaxacan family, cultural activities and site visits to local communities. The practicum experiences take place at a local teaching hospital, health clinic, and/or service organization involved in education, gender justice or environmental issues.

The courses:
Issues in Global Health Equity (Anthropology/Health Sciences) – 3 sem. units
Spanish for Health – 1 sem. unit
Health & Community Practicum – 3 sem. units
TOTAL: 7 sem. units