

Study Abroad in Latin American Studies

Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, UC San Diego
Gildred Latin American Studies Building,
Room #1 Institute of the Americas Complex
http://cilas.ucsd.edu/undergrad/bachelor_arts.php



Latin American Studies encourages their major and minors to study abroad. Students will find programs in which to improve their Spanish language skills or integrate themselves into one of the many different cultures and countries in Latin America through the University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP), UCSD's Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP), or UCSD's Global Seminars.

"My time studying in Costa Rica was amazing. Immersing yourself in a different culture forces you to see the world from a new viewpoint and challenges what you thought you knew about it. I learned a lot from the professors and my fellow students, but I learned as much outside the classroom as I did inside."

--Elisabeth Suiter, Latin American Studies Major, '03.

Why study abroad?

Regardless of your future career choice, study abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education. Former UCSD Latin American Studies students are currently enrolled in graduate studies in such areas as public administration, political science and forced migration studies. They are in student affairs positions in higher education, working for nonprofit organizations around the world, and in such diverse fields as business, medicine, government, education...you name it!

Consider your value to an employer or a graduate program if you've:

- Participated in a different educational system and gained a new cultural perspective
- Increased your proficiency in another language
- Improved your critical thinking skills
- Expanded your worldview by experiencing another culture firsthand
- Developed self-confidence and independence
- Prepared for a career in an internationally competitive world
- Enhanced résumés and/or applications for graduate school

What are my first steps? You Must:

1. Attend a First Steps meeting at the International Center (call 534-1123)
2. Visit <http://pao.ucsd.edu/>
3. Start your research in the Programs Abroad Library
4. Meet with a Programs Abroad Advisor
5. Schedule a visit with the advisor in Latin American Studies (lasmal@weber.ucsd.edu or 858-534-7967)
6. Visit your college advising office

When should I study abroad?

While it is possible for Latin American Studies students to go abroad at almost any point in their academic careers, the particular quarter, semester, summer or year that you study abroad depends on your individual progress in your major and what courses you plan to take while abroad. Students are advised to take one to three upper division courses at UCSD before they leave. See Requirements section below for more information.



Indian dancers at the Cathedral at el Zócalo, Mexico City

What will it cost?

Study on EAP/OAP/GS can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. In some cases, it is less. EAP participants pay UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, EAP students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources. GS students are eligible for scholarships and summer aid.

OAP students may retain all or some of their funding while abroad, including special study abroad scholarships, but because of the variety of the programs found through OAP, costs for individual programs can vary greatly.

Check here for specific information about scholarships and financial aid:
<http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/funding.htm>

What happens when I return?

Students must bring all coursework material from their abroad program to the Latin American Studies advisor with a general petition for each course. The Faculty advisor of the program will review the petitions and make final approval on coursework – if courses are approved the information will be transferred to the appropriate colleges.

Where should I study abroad?

You will find coursework relevant to your major in Latin American Studies at many EAP study centers. [Course Catalog](https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx) (<https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx>) can help you find programs that meet your needs.

If you can't find a program, university or country that suits your needs through EAP, try OAP! Two sites that will help you in your search are <http://www.goabroad.com/> and <http://www.studyabroad.com/>.

Here are just a few of the fantastic study abroad programs available for Latin American Studies students:

OAP

- University of Belgrano (UB), Buenos Aires, Argentina (Provider: ISA) The UB is a private institution that was founded in 1964 to provide high-quality education, promote research and foster the social and cultural development of the community. The university is surrounded by parks and residential neighborhoods in the commercial center of Belgrano, a suburb in northeast Buenos Aires. The UB offers Latin American Studies classes in both English and Spanish.
- Latin American University of Science and Technology (ULACIT), San Jose, Costa Rica (Provider: ISA) Founded in 1987, the ULACIT upholds its commitment to academics by recruiting the brightest students in Costa Rica. The campus is conveniently located in downtown San Jose and provides students with the opportunity for authentic immersion in an academic setting with Costa Ricans as well as the advantage of the campus's modern facilities. Courses offered in Spanish Language and Latin American Culture.
- University of Granada, Spain (Provider: AIFS) Granada offers students a great climate and location. The University of Granada, founded by Emperor Charles V in 1526, is one of the most prestigious universities in Spain. Classes in Iberian and Latin American studies and culture are offered in both Spanish and English to suit varied levels of experience.

EAP

- Field Research Programs, UC Center, Mexico City. This experiential program is geared toward juniors and seniors who want to explore the "real" Mexico outside the classroom and focus their studies on a topic of particular interest to them. At the Casa de California during the early weeks of the program, EAP provides training to help students refine their ideas, design their research plan, and identify the Mexican professor/mentor who will guide their investigations at one of EAP's research sites in states such as Jalisco, Yucatán, Oaxaca, Chiapas or Michoacán (final site choice depends on the research topic).

- Mexico-US Comparative Program, UC Center, Mexico City. The Mexico-US Comparative Perspectives program is ideal for juniors and seniors of all disciplines who are interested in the connections between Mexico, California, and the US. The program is housed in the beautiful Casa de California, the University of California complex founded to foster more intensive academic collaboration between the two countries. Classes are taught by Mexican specialists who are dedicated to intellectual and cultural exchange between Mexico and California and interested in questions of national, political and cultural identity. Program courses take advantage of the historical richness of Mexico City to enhance the classroom experience. An academic excursion outside the capital provides additional perspectives on political, economic, and cultural questions. All courses are taught in English.
- Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Through EAP's program in Rio de Janeiro you may live and study in one of the world's most beautiful and exciting cities. The attractive PUC-Rio campus is in a secure location and near the city's southern beaches. If you wish to further immerse yourself in the life of this tropical capital, PUC-Rio organizes opportunities to volunteer in community service projects in other parts of the city.

"Although I was already literate in the language, my experience in the country of origin of my family, helped define me as an individual and value both the culture of my ancestors and the one I am a part of. This is especially valuable since I am a bilingual educator and work with students who struggle with the assimilation/maintenance cultural issue." - UC San Diego alumnus

Requirements

The Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies allows a maximum of six courses taken outside of UCSD to count towards major requirements and two towards the minor. You must complete LATI 50 (offered WINTER ONLY), Introduction to Latin American Studies, with a letter grade before studying abroad.

What classes should I take?

Latin American Studies' undergraduate advisor will help students select courses that can meet major and minor requirements.

EAP/GS students automatically earn UC credit for the work they complete abroad. However, application of credit to major requirements is subject to the discretion of the department. The EAP Course Catalog (<https://myeap.eap.ucop.edu/Galileo/Service/CourseCatalog/CourseCatalog.aspx>) lets you search courses taken by UC students over the last 3 years.

OAP students can earn transfer credit for the work they complete abroad, and application of credit to major requirements is also subject to the discretion of the department.

What about graduate students?

We encourage graduate students to study and research abroad.

Here is a link to our travel grant opportunities for graduate student.

For more information, visit

http://cilas.ucsd.edu/fellowships_grants/index.php



UC SAN DIEGO GLOBAL SEMINARS



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