

Spiritual Exercises

Students do not leave their spiritual formation behind while participating on our program. Daily Mass will be provided in Spanish in the University chapel, and participants will have the opportunity each day for the common praying of Morning and Evening Prayer and the rosary in Spanish.



Focus on Results

Ours is a rigorous program, focused on producing real results of greater Spanish knowledge and comfortability listening and speaking in the foreign language. We do our best to encourage a truly immersive experience, urging students to test their new skills by conversing and praying in Spanish. This is one of the main reasons our program has been sought after by over fifty dioceses and religious orders for over twenty-five years.

"I commend your efforts to learn Spanish so that you might be of greater service to the Spanish-speaking community of the Church in the United States. Equally important is your commitment to learn of the riches of Catholic culture and the way in which it can serve to enhance the life of peoples here and prepare them for eternity. May God richly bless your endeavors."

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI),
to IIC Spanish Language and Culture Program participants



"(We recall) those hard-working missionaries, who under the motherly gaze of St. Mary of Guadalupe evangelized these lands of Mexico through their self-sacrificing labor as witnesses to the Gospel.... Just as they had to face the challenge of what we call today the 'evangelization that went into the making of Latin America' so you also have before you a great challenge: the new evangelization."

Pope John Paul II
Mexico City
May 12, 1990

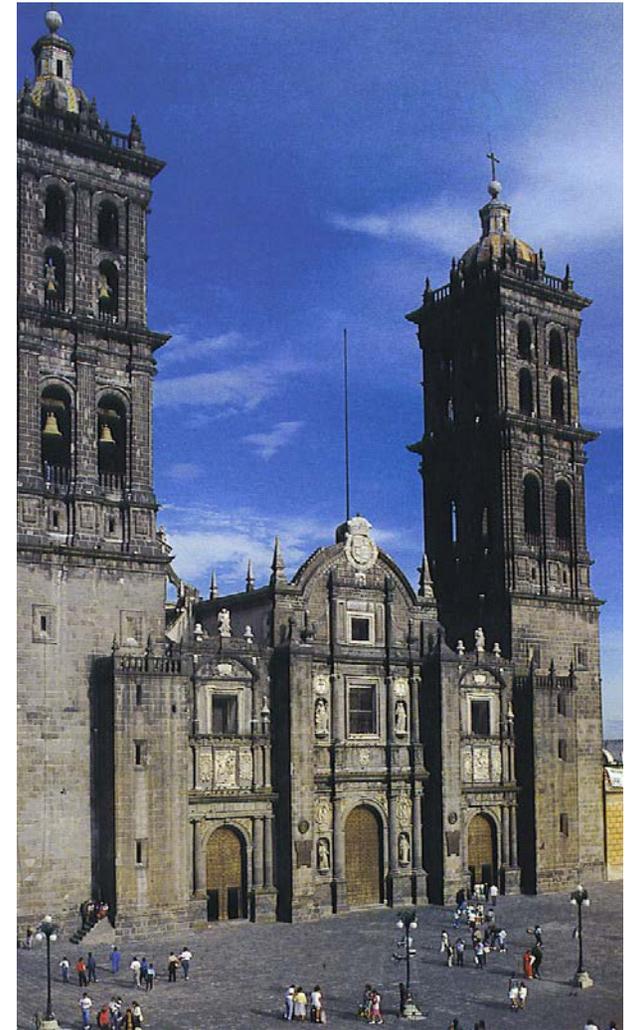


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Learn Spanish & Experience Hispanic Culture

June 1 - July 13, 2019



SPANISH INSTRUCTION FOR PRIESTS,
SEMINARIANS, AND RELIGIOUS

The majority of Catholics in the United States will soon be Spanish-speaking. After Census 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that by the year 2050 one of every four Americans (24.5%) will be Hispanic/Latino.

The Church in the United States, as has been her custom, will minister to these Christians in their native tongue and with respect for the traditions they bring with them from all parts of Latin America.

The purpose of the International Institute for Culture (IIC) Puebla program is to provide priests with the language skills and cultural sensitivities to minister effectively to Spanish-speaking Catholics.



Time & Cost

June 1 - July 13, 2019

\$6,000 for Language Instruction, Language Books, History and Cultural Instruction, Tours, Room and Board. Participants are responsible for travel expenses to Mexico City. We suggest approximately \$800 to \$1,100 for personal expenses (toiletries, dining out, souvenirs, etc.).

Accommodations

The program is conveniently located on the campus of the *Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla* (UPAEP), a first-rate institution of higher learning hosting over 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

Program participants will live and study on the campus, or be placed with trusted families by the University for home-stay immersion, and have access to the University's splendid dining services and recreational facilities, as well as the campus Chapel.



Location

A city of two million, Puebla rests on the route which Cortes followed to the Aztec capital, Tenochtitlan, today Mexico City. It is one and a half hours from the Mexican capital over mountain roads passing by the great volcanic peaks of Mount Iztaccihuatl and Popocatepetl.

Language Instruction

UPAEP runs language immersion programs year-round for students from many countries studying in various disciplines and professions. Our program participants will have the benefit of this expertise, as classes will be taught by the University's excellent



faculty. Class groupings will be based upon prior Spanish knowledge, but kept small in order to ensure an ideal student-teacher ratio.

Lectures in History & Culture

A unique feature of our program is weekly lectures on the history and culture of the Spanish-speaking Americas, provided from a Catholic perspective. These lectures are provided by the University, in Spanish with an interpreter.



Cultural Tours

Historical, art and architectural excursions will take place in and around Puebla. There will also be tours to Cholula, Mexico City, the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe and monasteries dating from the time of the initial evangelization.

“The program’s praiseworthy integration of language, history, culture and spiritual exercises recommends it highly for all of the participants.”

~ Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S., former Nuncio to Mexico