

**SIMMONS COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
SPANISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**

The growth in the number of organizations serving non-English speaking populations has brought about a sharp rise in the demand for bilingual social workers. In response to this demand, as well as our commitment to promote cultural competence — understanding the specific cultural, language, social, and economic nuances of particular individuals and communities — Simmons offers a special Spanish language program that focuses on social work and human services.

SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES

S.W. 476-2 Clinical Social Work with the Latino Population {*Prerequisite: fluency in spanish*}

Studies typical and unique problems affecting Latinos in the U.S., including demographic characteristics, ethno-history and culture, stress sources and the utilization of services. Personal experience is analyzed in the context of theoretical social science frameworks. More culturally competent methods of practice will be explored. The course is offered on Tuesday evenings in the Spring semester, is taught in Spanish and offered for bilingual clinicians.

S.W. 474-1 or 474-2 Conversational Spanish for Social Work and Human Services

Taught by language instructors from the Berlitz Language Center, students are given the opportunity to develop conversational Spanish skills. There are twelve levels of proficiency in the Berlitz system ranging from beginning Spanish to fluent. Social Work specific vocabulary is introduced at levels 3 and 4 enabling students to learn useful vocabulary and phrases for their work. Classes are offered at SSW in the Spring, Summer and Fall on Wednesday evenings.

For current rates, tuition and registration information please contact Elba Cleland SSW or the Administrative Assistant at (617) 521-3938.

SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAMS

Students interested in studying abroad, have the opportunity to enroll at:

- 1 The Center for Bilingual and Multicultural Studies in **Cuernavaca, Mexico.**
- 2 The University of Costa Rica in **San Jose, Costa Rica**
- 3 The Instituto Internacional Euskalduna in **Hato Rey, Puerto Rico**

Students live with host families and can participate in cultural excursions to learn about social services in the respective countries. Students have the option of a 19, 24 or 32 night stay. The Costa Rica program is 7 weeks.

For students who cannot travel abroad, we offer an intensive two-week program in Boston that immerses students in conversational Spanish.

INTENSIVE STUDY ABROAD SPANISH PROGRAMS

A new study abroad program this year is in **San Jose, Costa Rica** at the **Universidad of Costa Rica**.

For more than twenty years, the University of Costa Rica has delivered an excellent program of Spanish courses to international students. These constitute the core courses of the program, which are taught by qualified professors from the School of Philology, Linguistics and Literature. All faculty members are native Spanish speakers who support their teaching strategies and methodology with adequate didactic materials and technological resources.

These courses have been designed for non-Spanish speaking students who wish to acquire a level of competence in Spanish that will meet their oral and written communication needs in a fast and effective manner. Students learn the language through an integral approach to significant aspects of the Spanish-speaking culture in general, and the Costa Rican culture in particular, interacting with its historical and social contexts.

Upon arrival to the UCR, students are assessed on their language level and will be placed according to their proficiency in a corresponding course: Beginners, Intermediate, or Advanced. These courses (regular and/or intensive forms) consist of a total of ninety (90) contact hours, and students earn six (06) credits upon successful completion of the program.

PROGRAM I **JUNE — AUGUST**

The study abroad program at the **Instituto International Euskalduna** (a division of New England School of languages inc.) located in **Hato Rey Puerto Rico**. It is located in one of the city's oldest buildings, on the first floor for easy access. The program have the option of 5 language levels. Students options begins from a 19 day stay. Students can live with a host family and participate in cultural excursions.

PROGRAM I **MAY — JUNE**
PROGRAM II **JULY — AUGUST**

UNIVERSIDAD INTERNACIONAL CUERNAVACA, MEXICO

Simmons School of Social Work language immersion program at the **Center for Bilingual and Multicultural Studies in Cuernavaca, Mexico** provides students with the opportunity to live with host families, attend classes and participate in cultural excursions to learn about social services in Mexico. Students demonstrate increased proficiency in language skills at the end of their stay. Students have the option of a 19, 24 or 32 night stay. Students who wish to take the course for credit or as an elective must enroll in the month long option. CEUs can be given.

PROGRAM I
PROGRAM II

MAY — JUNE
JULY — AUGUST

*For current dates, tuition and registration information please contact Elba Cleland ,
Coordinator Spanish Immersion Programs (617) 521-2918 or 857-212-6593 cell.*
CEUs are given.

Quotes

“I loved my family, loved the food, I was able to learn a lot linguistically and culturally. Some very interesting experiences that I will never forget. Definitely go to Alcapulco. Many interesting people.”

{Alyson Franz, SSW '05}

“Going to school here in Cuernavaca is like going to school in a resort. Everything is pink stucco and swimming pools. There is a huge market where I bought a hand stiched peasant shirt. So far I have not been stung by a scorpion. My social work class is interesting and today I will meet a district attorney from Washington. Sunday I will be visiting the pyramids of Teotihuacan and perhaps next week I will go to Alcapulco.” {Andrea Gonzalez, SSW '05}

“Cuernavaca is the most beautiful city! There are huge gardens and fountains everywhere. Flowers drip from the trees, the walls, and the windows. Petals practically line the streets. Beautiful historical landmarks, pyramids, plantations and markets with arts and crafts.” {Andrea Gonzalez, SSW '05}

Journal Entries

{Andrea Gonzalez, SSW '05}

My host family is super nice. A single mother and her thirty year old daughter. We are always laughing and our meals last hours because we are all chatterboxes. They have a pool, two dogs and two cats. I swear my kidneys hurt from staying up half the night telling stories, making fun of people on t.v. (ahh, yes, a family of snark that loves pop culture. I am in Mexican heaven I tell you!)and dying of laughter. Last night we almost got into a traffic accident because we were laughing so hard that my host mother was having trouble driving.

I am being challenged in my Spanish classes and I am learning so much. I'm only in my fourth day of class, sixth day of living with my host family and my spanish has improved so much I am beginning to dream in Spanish. I'm shocked by how quickly I am correcting my own mistakes. My writing is getting somewhat better, but not as quickly as my speaking. Oh well.

My host mother (unlike many hostesses who serve American food to the American students) cooks all the traditional foods I remember from my childhood and so far I haven't gained any weight. All that fresh food without all those preservatives. Have I

mentioned the siestas? Cause we take one everyday. And it is lovely. Plus taking a siesta also means we have smaller dinners later on. The meal schedule in Mexico is very different. You have a big breakfast at 7:30 am, a huge lunch at 2:30 or so. Then you take your siesta. Then you have dinner at 7ish or 8ish. Dinner is usually kinda small- appetizers and a beverage. It takes a bit getting used to. I find myself really hungry at noon. But I've already got used to eating a small dinner.

Going to school here in Cuernavaca is like going to school in a resort. Everything is pink stucco and swimming pools. There is a huge market where I bought a hand stitched peasant shirt. So far I have not been stung by a scorpion. My social work class is interesting and today I will meet a district attorney from Washington. Sunday I will be visiting the pyramids of Teotihuacan and perhaps next week I will go to Alcapulco.

And the other good thing is that I haven't spent all my money yet.

In all these programs students have the option of a 19, 24 or 32 night stay. The Costa Rica program is 7 weeks.

For students who cannot travel abroad, we offer an intensive two-week program in Boston that immerses students in conversational Spanish.

**BERLITZ BOSTON
IMMERSION PROGRAM**

C529-2 Spanish Immersion— Boston: For students who are not able to travel abroad, Simmons School of Social Work offers an intensive two week program in partnership with **Berlitz Language International Center**. This two week program immerses students in conversational Spanish including social work specific vocabulary. The course is usually offered beginning the 1st or 2nd week of June.

For current dates, tuition and registration information please contact Elba Cleland, SSW or the Administrative Assistant at (617) 521-3938.

CEUs are given