

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Tier One Scholars - Spanish Language Immersion
Posted 4/4/13 - V.V. Tran

Q. How do I register for the language immersion courses?

A. The Study Abroad Office will register you in the appropriate classes and you will not need to pay UH tuition for those courses.

Q. How will credit hours be awarded?

A. The Spanish immersion courses will be coded as UH courses so the credit hours will count towards your 30 hours Tier One Scholarship requirement. Your grades from the program courses will also be included in your GPA calculation. For study abroad trips that take place anytime during the UH Summer IV session, you can specify whether you want the courses to be coded for Summer enrollment (current academic year) or Fall enrollment (following academic year). Winter mini-session courses will be coded for Spring enrollment.

Q. What happens if I exceed 18 hours during a semester?

A. If you exceed the maximum credit hours per semester (typically 18 or 19 hours), you will need to petition for a course overload with the department of your major. Approval is typically given since most courses will be taken during campus break times or outside the normal semester.

Q. What are the program costs? Do I also pay UH tuition?

A. You do not have to pay UH tuition since Kukulcan and Sol Education Abroad are affiliate programs. You will be required to pay two fees to the Study Abroad Office for a (non-refundable) total of \$150. The actual program costs vary depending on provider, program duration and location but are typically between \$2,000 and \$3,500. The program fees will have to be paid directly to Kukulcan and Sol Education Abroad as explained in the info sheets. You will also be responsible for arranging and paying for your own travel to and from the program country. Round trip airfare to Mexico and Costa Rica is typically between \$600 and \$700. Airfare to Argentina and Spain is typically between \$800 and \$1,200 depending on the time of year, when you book your flight and the airline provider. You may also need to arrange and pay for additional transportation (to and from the airport) in your program country.

Q. Can I request my Tier One Study Abroad Stipend for the Spanish immersion trip?

A. Yes, the Spanish immersion programs qualify for the Tier One Study Abroad Stipend of \$2,000. You should also bring your stipend request form to your Study Abroad advising session with either Maria Saldana or Parul Fernandes so you can obtain the required signatures.

Q. Can I still participate in the Spanish immersion classes if I didn't take Spanish in high school?

A. Yes. There are classes at the different levels of proficiency that will be best suited to your needs – including beginners.

(see next page for more FAQs)

Q. Will the Spanish courses count towards my Spanish major or minor or other degree requirements?

A. Yes. The courses offered in the Kulkucan and Sol Education Abroad programs are equivalent to the UH Spanish major and minor courses. You will still need to complete the course equivalency forms along with some additional documents as instructed by the Study Abroad advisors. You may also be able to get credit for additional, non-language courses, which will be determined by the Study Abroad advisors.

Q. Can I specify another Tier One Scholar as my roommate?

A. Yes. The programs have single and double occupancy placements with the host families. If you choose double occupancy, you can request a specific roommate or you can leave the roommate option open and one will be selected for you.

Q. Can my Tier One friends and I plan a group Spanish immersion experience?

A. Yes. With the flexibility of the general programs, you can plan for a 3 week or 5 week study abroad that leaves on any Monday. You and your friends can also participate in any of the other programs together as schedules permit. When traveling as a group, you can also take advantage of group pricing for more economical airfare and other out of pocket costs incurred in the program country.