

■ About Oaxaca:

The state of Oaxaca is located in southern Mexico and is one of the most beautiful regions of the country, with lush rainforests, beaches and mountains. With one of the largest Indigenous populations in Mexico, Oaxaca is populated by 15 distinct Indigenous language groups, of which the Mixtecs and Zapotecs are the most prominent. In 1987, UNESCO declared the colonial capital, Oaxaca City, a World Heritage Site. During the colonial period, Oaxaca was the second largest center in New Spain, evident today in the magnificence of its churches and monasteries. The mixture of Indigenous and European cultures is still seen in the work of the region's goldsmiths, potters, artists, chefs and musicians, as well as in its exuberant fiestas and colorful markets.

■ Homestay and Location:

You will spend two weeks living with host families in Oaxaca city. When on excursions away from the city of Oaxaca you will stay in a hotel accompanied by Nahual Institute staff. Oaxaca City is a Spanish-colonial city of narrow streets, lovely cafes, art galleries, museums and superb colonial architecture. The atmosphere is at once relaxed and energetic, remote and cosmopolitan. Oaxaca is known for its exquisite hand woven tapestries, wood carvings and pottery. In the center of town is the zócalo, or central plaza, and the cathedral. Nearby is Santo Domingo Church, the most splendid of Oaxaca's churches. There are many fascinating places within day-trip distance of the city, notably the ruins at Monte Albán, Mitla, Yagul and Cuilapan.

■ Orientation:

Oaxaca is easily accessible by air and also by bus from Mexico City. An orientation meeting will occur at 5 pm on the first day of the program. You will be required to arrive in Oaxaca City by August 1, 2005 to join your fellow students and the Nahual Institute staff. The group will go together to check into the hotel and gather for dinner and the orientation meeting.

■ Faculty

The Mixtec Language and Culture Program in Oaxaca is an interdisciplinary collaboration between the Nahual Institute for Global Studies, the Mixtec Language Academy and the Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS). The program courses are team-taught by faculty from United States and Mexican universities.

■ Program Price:

The program price is US \$2,675. This includes tuition and fees, transcripts, housing, hotels, meals, on-site staff, airport reception, excursions, entry fees, experiences, orientation and study abroad health/accident insurance. Airfare to Guatemala and incidental expenses are not included.

■ How To Apply:

The program is limited to 30 students. To apply, send your application to the Nahual Institute for Global Studies, P.O. Box 800, La Jolla, CA 92038. For more information or to download an application, visit our website: www.nahualinstitute.com or email us at: info@nahualinstitute.com.

ABOUT THE NAHUAL INSTITUTE:

The Nahual Institute for Global Studies offers unique cultural education programs for university students. The Latin America Programs are study abroad opportunities especially designed to incorporate US academic standards with resources from the most respected academic institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our programs are unique because a portion of your tuition is designated for the Nahual Foundation Scholarship Fund. These scholarships are available to students from the host country to enable them to further their research and studies.

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NAHUAL INSTITUTE *for*
GLOBAL STUDIES



Latin American Studies

Summer 2005

3 Week

Study Abroad Program
in Oaxaca, Mexico

Mixtec Language
and Culture

Undergraduate and Graduate Study

August 1-21, 2005

6 Semester Units



Sample Daily Schedule

- 9:30 - 10:30** Lecture: Oaxaca before 1521
The Aztec and Nahuas (CIESAS Faculty)
- 10:35 - 12:05** Lecture: The Spanish culture and colonial rulers in Mesoamerica: Who were they?
(Nahual Institute Faculty)
- 12:05 - 1:30** Lunch: "comida típica"
(typical Oaxacan food)
- 1:30 - 4:30** Field trip: Tour and lecture of colonial sites in Oaxaca.
(Nahual Institute Faculty)
- Evening:** Optional cultural events or free time

■ The Mixtec Language

Join the Nahual Institute for Global Studies on a unique educational and cultural experience with the Mixtec people of Oaxaca, Mexico. From 1940 to 1980, the Mexican government's national "integration policy" was imposed on the country's Indigenous peoples. Seeking to "unify" the language and culture of all Mexicans, the government permitted educational instruction only in Spanish, and Indigenous peoples were punished and ridiculed for speaking their native languages. This caused a tremendous deterioration of all native languages throughout the country. Many Indigenous people, forced to speak only Spanish, lost their ability to speak Mixtec.

Since 1980, Indigenous movements critical of the government's assimilationist policies have appeared on the national and international scene, demanding respect for their cultures and languages, as well as political and economic autonomy.

In 1990, a number of Mixtec community members living in the towns surrounding Oaxaca expressed an interest in having workshops to re-teach the Mixtec language in communities where the language had been lost. Dozens of community meetings and workshops were held in the Mixtec speaking regions of Mexico (Oaxaca, Puebla, Guerrero) to discuss the linguistic history and geography of the Mixtec language.

Out of these actions, the Mixtec Language Academy was created, based in Tlaxiaco, Oaxaca. Here, you will receive intensive Mixtec language instruction by native Mixtec speakers who are professors at the university level. The program includes four hours of classroom instruction, four days a week, given by the founders of the Mixtec Language Academy. To enhance the language learning experience, the program includes visits to open markets, artisan centers, local Mixtec villages, and cultural celebrations.

■ Guest Speakers and Field Trips

- Artists from the Ruffino Tamayo School of Art
- Grassroots community organizers
- Members of the Rosario Castellanos Women's Center
- Linguists from the Mixtec Language Academy
- Mixtec and Zapotec priests/priestesses
- Bilingual Spanish-Mixtec elementary/middle schools
- Indigenous marketplaces and villages
- Colonial and ancient Indigenous ruins

■ Courses Offered

Mixtec Language

- Receive beginning-level Mixtec language instruction
- Learn the history of the Mixtec Language Academy and the development and evolution of the language reclamation process
- Visit bilingual Spanish-Mixtec elementary/middle schools

Mixtec History, Culture and Migration

- Learn about the pre-Columbian history of the region with visits to archeological sites
- Examine the struggle to maintain cultural traditions and ethnic identity during and after the Conquest
- Experience local festivals and celebrations and learn about rites of passage in the Mixtec culture
- Learn about women's struggles and gender identity in the Mixtec Culture
- Understand the effects of the global economy and immigration on Mixtec people and culture

■ University Credit

This program is designed to help you work towards the graduation requirements of your home institution in the major fields of Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Women's Studies, Native American Studies, Latin American Studies, and related areas. Courses offered by the Nahual Institute are designed to meet the transfer requirements of your home institution. Detailed course descriptions are available to help you and your advisor or department chair evaluate your transfer credit.

■ Program Instructors

- **Ignacio Ochoa, M.A.**, a native of Quirigua, Guatemala, is adjunct faculty at the Center for Latin American Studies and the International Security and Conflict Resolution Program at San Diego State University (SDSU). A former Jesuit scholar from Central America, he holds Master's degrees in Latin American Studies and Philosophy, and has worked in Indigenous, rural, and refugee communities in Panama, Colombia, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador and Mexico. Mr. Ochoa has taught courses at San Diego State University, the Harvard University School of Business, Northeastern University, and the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA).

- **Marcos Abraham Cruz Bautista M.A.**, a native of San Juan Mixtepec, Oaxaca, is licensed in Ethno-linguistics and holds a Master's degree in Education from the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Mexico. He is a professor in the Mixtec Bilingual Program at the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional in Tlaxiaco, Oaxaca, and is one of the founders of the Mixtec Language Academy.

- **Juan Julian Caballero, M.A.**, a native of San Antonio Huitepec, Oaxaca, is licensed in Ethno-linguistics and holds a Master's degree in Education from the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Mexico. He is a doctoral student at the University of Leiden, The Netherlands, a professor and researcher at CIESAS (Centro de Investigación y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social) in Oaxaca, and one of the founders of the Mixtec Language Academy.

- **Margarita Dalton, Ph.D.**, is an author and the Director of CIESAS (Centro de Investigación y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social) in Oaxaca. Dr. Dalton did her undergraduate studies at the Legon University in Ghana and has completed her graduate studies in History and Anthropology at Barcelona University in Spain.

