

OU in Puebla Faculty-Led Short-Term Study Abroad Programs

Call for Proposals – Winter Session 2022-Summer 2023

The Office of Education Abroad at the University of Oklahoma seeks proposals from OU faculty members for faculty-led short-term study abroad programs at our Study Center in Puebla, Mexico.

OUP offers a unique study abroad opportunity to students and faculty in Puebla, Mexico. This is one of the most guided-immersive experiences that OU offers abroad. Hosted at a local university, OUP can host programs in all fields of study, including laboratories, experiential learning opportunities, visit to migrant communities, talking to local artists, businessmen, entrepreneurs, inviting local speakers, among other great activities.

Located in one of the best-preserved colonial cities in Mexico, in a safe environment, and a couple of hours away from Houston with a daily flight and being on the same time zone as Norman, Puebla is an ideal place to spend few weeks or an entire semester. Excursions with students include Mexico City, a beach destination such as Cancun, Playa del Carmen, or Huatulco, the city of Oaxaca and multiple site visits including Teotihuacan, the Frida Kahlo Museum, Xochimilco, the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico City, Tulum, among others depending on each semester.

Co-teaching with a local faculty is a recent option that has been added to the academic mix at OUP. This experience is suited for everyone, including non-Spanish speakers given the presence of OU staff on site.

Programs can be offered in the following terms:

Terms

Winter Session 2022

Spring Break 2023

Summer 2023

General Requirements

- OU Regular Faculty Member or others as approved by the department and the College of International Studies
- Ability to stay in-country(ies) for the duration of the proposed program
- Ability to teach a course that is applicable to a large population of students
 - Department-specific course with a wide pool of potential applicants
 - Gen Ed course available to a wide range of majors, if applicable
- Ability to accompany students on site visits throughout the program
- Willingness to comply with international health, safety, and risk management policies
- Willingness to co-lead the program with either another faculty member or an OU staff member
- Willingness to plan and participate in recruitment activities in order to reach the minimum enrollment targets.

Program Process and Design

There are various stages in proposing and building a program. To assist new faculty who have not been through the process, a guideline can be found [here](#). The Education Abroad and Puebla staff will be assisting faculty throughout these stages. There are a variety of program models possible, depending on the goals for the program. The proposal form will ask you to select 2-3 learning goals for your program. We encourage you to reach out to us if you would like to discuss potential program models and opportunities while planning your proposal.

Faculty-led programs are typically taught in English (with some exceptions for language study) and are relevant to the country or region. The course can be open to any discipline or a specific subset of major(s) if there is a wide enough pool of potential applicants. Programs are organized into summer session blocks- May, June, and July and usually range from 2-4 weeks. 2-3 week programs can offer 3 credit hours and those that are 3-4 week are required to offer a minimum of 6 credit hours.

Selection Criteria

- Competitiveness
 - How many programs are being offered in Puebla, term, general education category, and/or academic subject area?
 - Is there a sufficient student applicant pool for the program to make?
- Programs that have run successfully in the past are given preference, although some new programs will be selected each year.

- Preference will be given to innovative or collaborative new programs that can expand access to study abroad in terms of student demographic and course topic.
- Preference will be given to faculty with previous experience teaching, studying, researching abroad, or familiarity with Mexico.
- Student Demand
 - Is the program attractive to the OU student body?
 - Is it feasible to arrange the proposed program within an appropriate budget?

Proposals can be submitted on an individual basis or as a coordinated course(s) proposal between two faculty members. Faculty members should be willing to engage in student recruitment and pre-departure preparation and be able to adjust to the inevitable challenges of teaching and travelling abroad with college students.

Faculty will collaborate with the Office of Education Abroad and the OU in Puebla team to provide the highest standards of excellence for their program, especially in the areas of health, safety, security and risk management.

Proposals can be submitted on an individual basis or as a coordinated course proposal between two faculty members (preferred). Individuals can use [this Google sheet](#) to coordinate with other interested program leaders.

Submitting a Proposal

Proposals should be submitted via [this Wufoo form](#). The following are required components of the proposal:

- Cover letter summarizing your course proposal and articulating how it meets the general requirements and selection criteria
 - Include any country-specific experience or connection
 - Include potential applicant pool and at least two recruitment ideas
 - Include at minimum a list of sites to visit related to the course or country content. Please also add cities outside of Puebla to be included in your itinerary if you wish to plan these as day trips or overnight stays. Guidance from the OU in Puebla staff on cities to visit will be provided if needed.
- Two paragraph course synopsis or draft syllabus including suggested reading list
- Please indicate whether or not your course(s) will be taught in-load or overload. We encourage faculty to teach courses in-load, as it provides a more sustainable financial model and makes programs more affordable for students.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Brief letter of support from Department Chair or Dean

The deadline for proposals is March 20, 2022. Late submissions will only be accepted in extraordinary circumstances.

The College of International Studies will make the final selection and will announce the selected proposals in April. The Office of Education Abroad and OU in Puebla team will assist faculty leaders in creating a detailed program and budget over the summer.

Contact

For questions or support during the proposal process please contact Kaydee Dyer, Assistant Director of Operations in Education Abroad, at kaydee.dyer@ou.edu.

