

Course Description:

This course accompanies students' intercultural immersion experiences during the fall and spring terms and may also integrate with students' summer immersion experiences. At the beginning of a program experience, each student is tested for his or her level of language proficiency. Students at an introductory or basic level are enrolled in the 293 course, through which they have individualized tutoring each week. Tutoring, assignments, and exams are as individualized as is possible, to maximize student learning. Students studying during the semester experience will be enrolled in two courses (of the same number), for a total of 6 credits. Students must bring the text appropriate for language study at their home institution, which will be further explained below.

Outcomes and Objectives:

Students who participate in the courses, in combination with their language immersion and family home stay experiences, will:

- Advance their language proficiency in a manner at least commensurate with taking two additional on-campus language courses
- Develop a deeper understanding of local and regional politics, life, and culture, through use of local news and events as part of the course subject matter;
- Advance listening comprehension, reading capabilities, and oral and written expression.

Basis for Grading:

- Midterm Exam, 35%
- Final Exam, 35%
- Quizzes, 30%
 - The midterm and final exam include written and oral components.
 - Each section of each exam takes approximately one hour.
 - The tests examine comprehension and listening, speaking, grammar and vocabulary, and reading comprehension.
 - Exam grades are given as percentage correct out of 100.
 - Quizzes are given continuously throughout the semester to ensure students are keeping pace with their studies
 - Quizzes may be given at any time, and are most frequently drawn from the relevant text the student is studying.

Texts:

The default text series utilized for the Bolivia semester or summer experience is the same series utilized by West Virginia University. Students representing other home institutions are strongly

encouraged to bring the text that they would be using for their next two levels of study at their home institution. This policy is designed to maximize student gains from the semesters, as home institution exams to determine next appropriate level are frequently designed in light of expected curriculum at the home institution. Therefore, these courses work to incorporate as much of the home institution curriculum as possible.

Course Schedule:

Students have six hours of direct contact language instruction per week, in addition to their ongoing language immersion and home stay experience. The six instructor contact hours are set based upon the students' service placements and the schedule of their other courses. Six instructor contact hours are assured for 12 weeks during the semester.

- Students are evaluated for placement purposes during week 1.
- The midterm is taken during week 6.
- Quizzes occur sporadically.
- The final is taken during week 12.