




Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales
Instituto Filosófico Pedro Francisco Bonó
Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo
Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo

fall / spring / academic year   

anthropology / caribbean studies / history / independent study / internship / latin american studies / literature / philosophy / psychology / religion / sociology
spanish language / theology



program snapshot

- Spanish language courses of varying levels to help students significantly improve skills
- Optional development internship working with local organizations
- Opportunity to focus on a Caribbean Studies track
- Excursions to sites of cultural importance, including the colonial zone, Museo del Hombre, ecological preserves, and an overnight trip to the Samaná Peninsula
- Independent study option, non-credit volunteer opportunities, and peer advisors

what you'll learn

The goals of the Liberal Arts program are to provide advanced Spanish language students an opportunity to significantly improve their Spanish language skills in a local context through specially designed Spanish language courses, while gaining a critical appreciation of the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean from a social sciences perspective. These goals are achieved through coursework and the opportunity to work in a structured internship with a local grassroots development project, along with non-credit volunteer opportunities, cultural activities, and the chance to live with a Dominican family.

thoughts from abroad

El programa de CIEE en Santo Domingo está vinculado institucionalmente a la Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales. El programa está diseñado para estudiantes del área de ciencias sociales y humanidades con un alto nivel de español con el objetivo de profundizar los conocimientos de los y las estudiantes sobre el Caribe y la realidad dominicana, facilitar una experiencia intercultural y desarrollar las potencialidades en un marco de una sociedad en vías de desarrollo, con los retos que ello implica.

Los y las estudiantes pueden seleccionar asignaturas en las diferentes universidades e instituciones de educación superior, según sus necesidades y preferencias al lado de estudiantes dominicanos permitiendo una inmersión total en la cultura universitaria dominicana. Además de sus clases, los y las estudiantes viven con una familia dominicana y pueden realizar una pasantía en ONG's que trabajan directamente en comunidades y barrios populares. La pasantía sirve como actividad de aprendizaje, apoyo a las comunidades y promueve una mayor integración de los y las estudiantes al medio dominicano.

— María Filomena Gonzalez, Resident Director

About the Resident Director

María Filomena González, CIEE Resident Director since 1999, earned her B.A. from the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo and her M.A. in Latin American Studies from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma-Mexico City. She has taught history courses at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo since 1979 and El Bonó since 1992, among other Dominican universities. She has written history textbooks for the primary and secondary school systems in the Dominican Republic as well as adapted the social science curriculum to the large Dominican community in the Sixth School District in New York City. Her academic focus is early 20th Century Dominican history, and she has conducted oral history research on the rural struggle against the first North American military occupation in the Dominican Republic.

About Other CIEE Staff

Robin Young, Resident Coordinator and Internship Coordinator, is a native Californian and a past participant of the CIEE Study Center in Santo Domingo. She graduated with a B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology and Hispanic Studies from Lewis and Clark College, with a minor in Ethnic Studies. She moved to the Dominican Republic in 2007 to research domestic violence under a Fulbright Fellowship Grant. She has volunteered in Santo Domingo, California, and Oregon, focusing on women and gender issues and oppression theories. Robin works closely with students in their internship placements, cultural adaptation, and assists the Resident Director.

The administrative support staff of the CIEE Study Center in Santo Domingo includes Héctor López, Student Coordinator; Carmen Mateo, Housing Coordinator; Mayra Rodríguez, Spanish Language Coordinator; Emily Diaz, Administrative Assistant; and Erica Amparo, Secretary.

about santo domingo

Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic, is located on the southern coast of the island. With a population of 2,000,000, it is considered to be the main economic and political center of the country. The city, often called the "First City of the New World," is steeped in historical significance. There are numerous plazas and churches throughout the colonial district, which give a distinct flavor to the city. Santo Domingo is divided by a river, the Río Ozama, and is close to many beaches.

academics

Academic Program

The CIEE Study Center, established in 1998, gives students the opportunity to enroll in classes at El Bonó, UASD, and INTEC. In addition, FLACSO offers specially designed courses for CIEE students in Spanish language and cultural, literary, artistic, political, and social aspects of the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean as a whole. Students generally enroll in one Spanish language course and a variety of CIEE-FLACSO content courses, as well as in courses at the other host institutions. This arrangement permits students to combine the specialized, more personalized "think tank" atmosphere of FLACSO with courses offered through INTEC, UASD, and El Bonó.

The program is suitable for advanced undergraduate students with strong language skills and a background in the social sciences or in Latin American studies.

Caribbean Studies

For those students who have an interest in focusing their academic studies on the Caribbean region, the CIEE Study Center offers participants an opportunity to pursue a Caribbean Studies track of study. Students who pursue this track must enroll in the required core course taught at FLACSO, Social and Ethnocultural Identity of the Contemporary Caribbean; up to two elective courses taught at FLACSO; and up to three elective courses at CIEE-affiliated universities in Santo Domingo. These latter courses must focus on the Dominican Republic or the Caribbean region.

Academic Culture

Academic culture in Dominican universities is different from that of universities and colleges in the United States. Direct enrollment in Dominican universities is one of the richest opportunities not only for academic learning, but also for immersing oneself in the language, for meeting Dominicans, and for learning about Dominican culture and society. However, it also brings many challenges, which include adapting to and learning from a more formal academic culture and dealing with limited or hard-to-find materials.

CIEE students enrolling at INTEC can choose classes from the Faculties of Social Sciences and Humanities, with a smaller number of classes selected from the Faculties of Business and Natural Sciences. Students at INTEC tend to be middle- and upper-middle

class women and men from Santo Domingo. Classes range in size from 30 to 40.

Most of the 100 students at El Bonó are young men studying philosophy on scholarship as part of their training to become priests. The classes are small (20–30) and lecture-based.

UASD, a large public university, has an undergraduate population of 160,000 on its main campus in Santo Domingo. Classes tend to be very large and resources and infrastructure may vary from department to department.

At FLACSO, students will find that class content and structure is closer to U.S. universities, and that the atmosphere is more intimate and relaxed. Class size is from six to 18 students. A tutor is available at FLACSO to assist participants. At each institution, students can expect three to four contact hours a week for each class and should dedicate an hour of preparation for each hour of class.

Students are expected to rely on the advice of the Resident Director for their final course registrations during orientation, and any communication with home institutions is the responsibility of the student. The add/drop period varies from institution to institution. Students need to keep track of each institution's deadlines because after the deadline, course selections are final. There is a three-week break between the spring and fall semesters.

Nature of Classes

CIEE courses taught at FLACSO are for CIEE participants only. At INTEC, UASD, and El Bonó, participants enroll directly in host university courses and take classes with Dominicans.

CIEE Community Language Commitment

Students take part in the CIEE Community Language Commitment by speaking Spanish at all times (except in emergencies). This fosters a learning community that contributes to both Spanish language proficiency and understanding of Dominican society.

Grading System

Letter grades of A, B, C, and F are given without pluses or minuses. Students are assessed based on a combination of mid-term and final exams, papers, oral presentations, and small quizzes. Attendance is mandatory and incompletes are not accepted.

where you'll study

The CIEE program is hosted by the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO). Through FLACSO, CIEE students are eligible to take selected courses from the nationally recognized Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), and the Instituto Filosófico Pedro Francisco Bonó (El Bonó). See the host institutions box for more information.

living

Housing and Meals

Students live in Dominican homestays in middle-class neighborhoods throughout Santo Domingo. Housing and meals are included in the program fee. (All students receive three meals per day with their host family.) Weekly laundry and linen service is also provided.

Online Pre-Departure and On-Site Orientations

Students begin their study abroad experience in Santo Domingo before even leaving home—by participating in a CIEE Online Pre-Departure Orientation. Meeting with students online, the Resident Director shares information about the program and site, highlighting issues that alumni have said are important, and giving students time to ask any questions before leaving home. The online orientation allows students to connect with others in the group, reflect on what they want to get out of the program, and learn what others in the group would like to accomplish. The CIEE goal for the pre-departure orientation is simple: to help students understand more about the program and site, as well as their goals for the program, so that they arrive to the program well-informed and return home having made significant progress toward their goals.

The program begins with a mandatory one-week orientation on-site that introduces students to the culture of the Dominican Republic and the academic program at FLACSO,

and provides practical information about living in Santo Domingo. During the orientation, students receive academic advising and instructions for registration in classes at the universities to ensure the most appropriate course selection. Students are aided by peer counselors and are given information about local activities with Dominicans. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout the program.

Internet

CIEE has a limited number of computers available to students for academic purposes and has wireless Internet access at the CIEE Study Center office. In addition, there are numerous Internet cafés in Santo Domingo that CIEE participants can use for checking personal email, so it is recommended that students bring a wireless-enabled laptop.

culture

Cultural Activities and Field Trips

Each semester, two overnight excursions of cultural, ecological, and/or historical interest are taken. Educational excursions in the past have included an overnight to Caño Hondo in Los Haitises National Park to observe the humpback whales, to Jarabacoa to visit the Mirabal Sisters Museum, and to the Centro León in Santiago.

A trip to a market along the Dominican/Haitian border is also included as part of the coursework. One-day excursions are also offered to national reserves, such as Loma Quita Espuela, Ébano Verde, Las Dunas de Baní, and Bahoruco Oriental; a colonial sugar mill; a religious syncretic altar; and caves with Taino pictographs. Cultural activities in the city have included theater performances, classical music concerts, and visits to museums and baseball games.

caribbean studies

For those students who have an interest in focusing their academic studies on the Caribbean region, the CIEE Study Center offers participants an opportunity to pursue a Caribbean Studies track of study. Students who pursue this track must enroll in the required core course taught at FLACSO, Social and Ethnocultural Identity of the Contemporary Caribbean; up to two elective courses taught at FLACSO; and up to three elective courses at CIEE-affiliated universities in Santo Domingo. These latter courses must focus on the Dominican Republic or the Caribbean region.

eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75
- 5 semesters of college-level Spanish or equivalent
- Spanish language course within the past year recommended

duration

Fall
19 weeks: late July–early December

Spring
19 weeks: early January–early May

Academic Year
39 weeks: late July–early May

host institutions

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales

FLACSO is linked to other research and teaching centers throughout Latin America and was founded by UNESCO, the UN agency dedicated to education, culture, and science. Its internationally known faculty is also associated with one or more universities in Santo Domingo. These include:

Instituto Filosófico Pedro Francisco Bonó (El Bonó)

El Bonó is a Jesuit institute of higher learning specializing in philosophy and social sciences.

Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)

INTEC is a private university founded by a group of professionals and businessmen in the 1980s to promote academic excellence in the areas of social sciences, humanities, medicine, business, and engineering.

Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD)

With 160,000 students, UASD is the largest university in the Dominican Republic—and it the oldest, having been founded in 1538. This public university offers CIEE students courses in the humanities and social sciences.

costs

CIEE Fees

Fall 2009: \$11,100
Spring 2010: available 8/15/09
Academic Year 2009–10: \$20,000

The CIEE fees for 2009–10 include tuition, housing, all meals, optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, field trips, access to university libraries, admission fees to host university events, immersion activities including Dominican peer advisors, comprehensive student handbook, pre-departure advising, and a CIEE iNext travel card, which provides insurance and other travel benefits

Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2009)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 600
Personal Expenses	\$ 1,400
Books and Supplies	\$ 100
Local Transportation	\$ 400
Visa Fee	\$ 150
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 2,650

Check our website for current fees.



coursework

Program Requirements

All students take a total of five courses. Based upon the results of a Spanish language exam, students may be required to take Advanced Spanish I or II. Students who are required to take Spanish may take up to two additional CIEE-FLACSO courses and two direct enrollment courses at El Bonó, UASD, or INTEC. Those students not required to take Spanish may enroll in a maximum of two CIEE-FLACSO courses and three direct enrollment courses at El Bonó, UASD, or INTEC. Students choosing the Caribbean Studies Track may take up to three CIEE-FLACSO courses, including the Social and Ethnocultural Identity of the Contemporary Caribbean and Spanish language (if required based on language exam), and up to three elective courses through direct enrollment at El Bonó, UASD, or INTEC, for a total of five courses.

Credit

All students must enroll for a minimum of 15 U.S. semester hours. Recommended credit for the semester is 15–16 semester/22.5–24 quarter hours. Recommended credit for the academic year is 30–31 semester/45–46.5 quarter hours.

Contact hours are 45 hours and recommended credit is 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours, unless otherwise indicated.

Language of Instruction

Spanish

Faculty

Faculty is from CIEE-affiliated host institutions: FLACSO, UASD, El Bonó, and INTEC.

courses

CIEE-FLACSO Courses

The following are special courses developed by FLACSO-Dominican Republic specifically for CIEE students.

Humanities and Social Sciences

ANTH 3001 SDDR

Social and Ethnocultural Identity of the Contemporary Caribbean (required core course for Caribbean Studies track)

This course deconstructs the idea of the Caribbean as a subject, through the critical study of and reflection on the disciplines and texts that traditionally have been used to address this theme. It is explored by looking at the myths, sensibilities, and assumptions generated by aspects of the intellectual canon responsible for generating the notion of the "modern Caribbean."

INDE 3100 SDDR

Independent Study

Students working on a senior thesis or specialized research project for their home institution may also organize a three-credit independent study or tutorial through FLACSO. Independent tutorials in the area of social sciences and/or certain themes of religion, particularly related to the Hispanic Caribbean region, are also available for qualified students. These are limited in scope, and it is highly recommended that students request permission from their home university in advance.

INRE 3001 SDDR

Dominican-Haitian Relations

This course provides an introduction to the topic of Dominican-Haitian relations, examining its historical dimensions, as well as the structural realities of both societies along with political and cultural factors that have influenced the relations between both nations. Students come to understand the diverse factors that explain the complex relationship between the two neighboring countries.

INSH 3100 SDDR

Development Internship

This course is divided into both a theoretical approach consisting of various activities and practical field service experience. The theoretical portion is organized around a concurrent series of academic sessions analyzing themes of social-cultural change, the characteristics and role of NGOs in the Dominican Republic and exploration of challenges facing contemporary Dominican society. The practical portion is based on required field service at a local grassroots development agency. All internships are monitored, and the final grade is based on a detailed job evaluation as well as other criteria.

Students receiving credit for the internship must complete 72 contact hours in the internship placement, attend all concurrent academic sessions (equivalent of 30 hours), maintain a weekly journal, attend weekly meetings with the internship coordinator (equivalent of 4 hours), meet with the tutor for the final paper (equivalent of 2 hours), and write a final research paper on a topic related to their internship site for which they will work with an assigned tutor during the semester (2 hours). At the end of the course, students give an oral presentation to their peers (equivalent of 2 hours). Contact hours: 112 hours (for credit). Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

Spanish Literature and Language

All students take a language placement exam upon arrival. Based on the results, students are placed in Advanced Spanish I or II. The remaining courses, *Authors of the Hispanic Caribbean*, *Language and Culture in the Dominican Republic*, and *Spanish Linguistics* are optional courses geared to very advanced students.

LAST 3100 SDDR

Language and Culture in the Dominican Republic

This course provides participants with the opportunity to learn more about Dominican culture in its different manifestations, including language, religion, folklore, arts, and literature. By studying such topics, students also improve their oral and written Spanish language skills. Students are graded on participation, short essays, and oral presentations in class. Also included are several academically relevant outings. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

LITT 3002 SDDR

Authors of the Hispanic Caribbean

Students read and discuss the works of some of the best known authors of the Hispanic Caribbean, as well as works from lesser known authors. Why some Hispanic Caribbean authors have become more known internationally than others is among the themes discussed. All



text is read critically and analytically, with special attention given to the historical and social context, and the way(s) in which the author reflects or ignores these realities.

SPAN 3003 SDDR

Advanced Spanish I

The purpose of this course is to improve linguistic competencies in comprehension, oral and written expression in the Spanish language, and in particular, the subtle variations in Dominican modes and how certain linguistic forms are used in various socio-cultural contexts. Focus is on the use of complementary pronouns and the correlation of verb tense in formal and informal communication. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

SPAN 3004 SDDR

Advanced Spanish II

The purpose of this course is to improve linguistic competencies in comprehension, oral and written expression in the Spanish language, and in particular, the subtle variations in Dominican modes and how certain linguistic forms are used in various socio-cultural contexts. Focus is on the use of distinct linguistic constructions that communicate subjectivity and on understanding how to communicate the circumstantial relations between ideas and actual events in terms of appropriate language usage. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

CIEE Elective Course

CLST 3001 SDDR

CIEE Seminar on Living and Learning in Santo Domingo

The Seminar on Living and Learning in Santo Domingo is designed to improve students' intercultural communication and competence while studying abroad by considering how Dominicans are different from and similar to themselves and others. The course offers opportunities, both in and outside the classroom, to develop insights and the skills necessary to interact effectively and appropriately, and to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the cultural richness of the Dominican Republic. Contact hours: 21. Recommended credit: 1 semester/1.5 quarter hours. *Instructors: Maria F. Gonzalez, CIEE Resident Director; Robin Young, CIEE Resident Coordinator*

Instituto Filosófico Pedro Francisco Bonó (El Bonó) Courses

Not all courses are available every semester and are subject to change.

Ancient and Medieval Literature
Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
Ancient and Medieval Social History
Contemporary Atheism
Cultural Anthropology
Dominican Literature
Dominican Social History
Dominican Social Thought
Faith and Popular Culture
Historical Process of Latin American Religiosity
Historical Process of Occidental Religiosity
History of Political Ideas
Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to Psychology
Introduction to Social Sciences
Latin American Literature
Latin American Social History
Latin American Thought
Logic
Means of Social Communication I
Modern and Contemporary Literature
Modern and Contemporary Philosophy
Modern and Contemporary Social History
Philosophy of Science
Process of Dominican Religiosity
Social Doctrines of the Church
Social Philosophy
Sociology
Theory of Knowledge

Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) Courses

Not all courses are available every semester and are subject to change.

Adolescent and Adult Conduct
Animal Conduct
Bio-Geography of the Dominican Republic

Cognitive Psychology
Contemporary Social Thought
Dominican Socio-Historical Processes
Ecology
Economic Development
Economic Principals
Economic Theory I
Enterprise Economics
Environmental Contamination
Environmental Education
History of Psychology
The Human Being and Nature
The Human Being and Society
International Economics I
Introduction to the Dominican Fauna
Introduction to Planning and Management of Natural Resources
Introduction to Psychology
Introduction to Sociology
Introduction to Studies of Environmental Impact
Learning Psychology
Macroeconomics I
Microeconomics I
Organizational Psychology
Sexuality for Life
Social Psychology
Social Science Research I

Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD) Courses

There will be a few courses offered in each of the following departments.

Anthropology
Art History
Dominican Social History
Literature
Sociology
Studio Art

a student's story

My experience in the Dominican Republic cannot be easily summed up in a short answer. When I respond I'll want to explain that I miss dancing *merengue* and *bachata*, eating *empanadas*, 50 peso movie nights, pickup basketball games at Centro Olímpico, seeing a beat up guagua with shiny spinning rims, and a family of four all riding on one motorcycle—and of course, the delicious *tostones* my *doña* always made me.

Reflecting back, there are numerous things I have learned, and probably could have only learned from living in this country. Returning back home I will likely notice a strange silence. I imagine I'll be confused. I'll listen for the familiar sounds of the roosters, the neighbor's baby, and the avocado man and wonder why car stereos blasting *reggaeton* and car alarms didn't wake me up in the middle of the night. I'll feel unloved walking in the streets without receiving marriage proposals and watching law-abiding drivers who actually stop. And red lights will puzzle me. I will miss the crowds, the noises, the smells, but most of all, the warmth of the Dominicans and the richness of their culture.

— Camille Sheffield, Claremont McKenna College