

Academic Bulletin for Mexico 2024-25

Introduction

The Academic Bulletin is the International Programs (IP) “catalog” and provides academic information about the program in Mexico. This Bulletin supersedes any previous bulletin(s) published.

CSU IP participants must read this publication in conjunction with the *Academic Guide for CSU IP Participants* (also known as the “*Academic Guide*”). The *Academic Guide* contains academic policies which will be applied to all IP participants while abroad. Topics include but are not limited to CSU Registration, Enrollment Requirements, Minimum/Maximum Unit Load in a Semester, Attendance, Examinations, Assignment of Grades, Grading Symbols, Credit/No Credit Option, Course Withdrawals and other policies. The *Academic Guide* also contains information on academic planning, how courses get credited to your degree, and the academic reporting process including when to expect your academic report at the end of your year abroad.

To access the *Academic Guide*, go to our [website](#) and click the year which pertains to your study abroad period. For general information about the Mexico programs, refer to the CSU IP website under “[Programs](#)”.

Academic Program Information

CSU IP in Mexico is affiliated with the Tecnológico de Monterrey System (known as the Tec) which is a multi-campus university system unique in Latin America, operating 31 campuses throughout Mexico. CSU IP students attend the Querétaro campus of the Tec.

All students in Mexico are required to take the following:

- A Spanish placement test prior to arrival (to determine Spanish level placement).
- Three Tec credits of Spanish language course each semester depending on Spanish language level.
- The equivalent of 15 CSU semester units each semester.

Students can study one of the programs below:

1. Study in English/Learn Spanish Program

This program is for beginning and intermediate students whose goals are to focus on Spanish language and culture supplemented with courses offered in English. Each semester, students enroll in a minimum of six Tec credits of Spanish language offered by the *Programas Internacionales*, supplemented by courses taught in English offered by the various academic faculties.

2. Study in Spanish Program (for Advanced Spanish Speakers)

This program is for students with advanced Spanish language proficiency and who are ready to study in the native language side-by-side with local students. For students to take courses taught in Spanish, students must test at the high intermediate/advanced level in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, and meet course pre-requisites, if any. Students may also take courses taught in English. Students who are intermediate level but test high enough to take courses in Spanish are expected to take three Tec credits of Spanish language each semester unless their language is higher than the level of Spanish courses offered.

Program Structure (Tec21 Educational Model)

The Tec launched a new educational model in 2020 called “[TEC21](#)”. In this educational model, students have the opportunity to develop both personal and professional skills by solving real problems in specific areas of study. Rather than offering courses that are 15 weeks in length, the Tec offers an 18-week semester which is divided into three 5-week periods with a one-week break in between each period. Students enroll in “modules” which can be five, ten or fifteen weeks in length. Many modules will be five weeks in length which means that most students will enroll in different modules each

period. For each period, students are also able to enroll in a “block” of their choosing valued at three credits. Blocks are interdisciplinary projects to develop specific competencies with specific learning outcomes. Modules are more lecture oriented with homework and other assignments.

Grading and Units

Below is the grade conversion table to convert grades earned at the Tec to the CSU.

Tec Grade	CSU Grade
95 -100	A
90 - 94	A-
87 - 89	B+
83 - 86	B
80 - 82	B-
77 - 79	C+
73 - 76	C
70 - 72	C-
67 - 69	D+
63 - 66	D
60 - 62	D-
0 - 59	F

The CSU grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized) may be given in some circumstances, e.g., for uncompleted courses. Refer to the *Academic Guide* for additional grade information.

Absences are considered when determining final grades. Professors are obliged to announce to their students the impact of having absences from class and other academic activities. Professors will report absences to the Department of School Services at the Tec.

Unit Conversion Guidelines

All CSU IP students, regardless of which program they are in, are required to take a minimum of 15 Tec credits each semester which is equivalent to 15 CSU semester units. Note that throughout this bulletin, the terms “units” and “credits” are used interchangeably.

Tec Credit	CSU Semester Unit	CSU Quarter Unit
1 credit	1 unit	1.5 units

Academic Culture

Course instructors are accessible and open to assisting international program students on an individual basis. It is important, however, for students to take the initiative in maintaining open, clear communication with their professors. If there is any doubt or questions about assignments, deadlines, or expectations, the student should make an appointment to speak with the professor. Student effort, responsibility, and punctuality with meeting deadlines are valued.

Spanish Language Requirement

All students are required to take Spanish language each semester. Students who test above the level of Spanish language courses offered are exempt from this requirement. Prior to the program start date, students take an online Spanish

placement test and will be placed in the appropriate level of Spanish language listed below. Courses are subject to availability and demand. Note that courses and course numbers are subject to change. The courses are three units each.

HI1031 Spanish I & II (3). I: Spanish alphabet, orthography, punctuation, and accent marks. Enunciation fundamentals. Verb tenses and moods and their enunciative quality. Enunciative functions. II: Question words, noun gender and number, agreement and placement of adjectives, comparisons, verb moods and tenses, reflexive verbs, verbs like "gustar", complement pronouns, uses of "se", "ser" and "estar", imperative, prepositions, vocabulary related to student life, hobbies, trips, traditions, and environment. Lower division. Lower division.

HI1032 Spanish III & IV (3). III: Noun gender and number, adjective agreement and placement, comparisons, verb moods and tenses, complement pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs, verbal periphrasis, vocabulary

related to social life, family and work, health, the city, politics, government, hobbies, and traditions. IV: Spanish enunciation system. Indicative and subjunctive tenses. Object pronouns, value and use of infinitive, gerund, and participle. Reflexive constructions, indefinite pronouns, and adverbs. Prepositions and connecting words. Articles, adjectives, and adverbs. Orthography and accent marks. Expressions for interacting. Idiom, proverbs, and riddles. Articulation of Spanish sounds. Reading and writing techniques. Lower division.

HI1029 Spanish V (3). To express ideas, opinions and arguments in Spanish correctly using elaborated elements and discursive resources. To be able to understand the complexity of Spanish speaker countries cultural elements. Upper division.

Program Requirements

Below is the academic program for the Study in English/Learn Spanish Program and the Study in Spanish Program each semester.

Semesters 1 and 2 (Fall and Spring Semesters)	Units
Spanish Language (see section above entitled "Spanish Language Requirement")	3
Electives (see section below entitled "Course Offerings")	<u>12</u>
Minimum number of units required:	15

Course Offerings

Most faculties (schools) at the Tec offer courses that are open to international students. Students can take courses in English or Spanish (depending on Spanish placement scores).

Courses: Over one-third of the courses at the Tec are taught in English. For students to take courses taught in Spanish, students must test at the high intermediate/advanced level on their Spanish placement test. All courses are subject to availability, demand, and prerequisites, and may not be offered each year (in English or Spanish). Classes need a minimum enrollment to remain open. Therefore, students must be flexible with their selection of courses. Students must pay close attention to the credit value of courses they want to take if they wish to fulfil a major, minor, or GE requirement with that course as not all courses are three credits.

Blocks: Students may choose to enroll in a block which is worth three or more credits. Blocks focus on real problems or projects and allow students to work more closely with other students and the instructors.

Course levels: Courses that begin with a "1", "2" or "3" may be lower division or upper division depending on course content and language of instruction. To view course levels for courses offered in previous years, click on this [link](#).

To view course offerings and syllabi, click on this [link](#). Select “Preliminary Course Catalog Fall 2024” to view offering for Fall 2024. To only view courses offered at Campus Querétaro, scroll down the column, or use the filter in column A “Campus”. The course catalog for the spring semester will not be available until October of the preceding year although you may view the courses offered in Spring 2024 to get an idea of courses that may be offered in Spring 2025

To view course syllabi, click on “[Course Syllabus](#)” and enter the course code found in the Preliminary Course Catalog.

For questions about CSU IP academic policies or academic program requirements, email IPacademics@calstate.edu.