

2009 & 2010

Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro, Mexico

Fried International Center

Hope College

Key Facts:

- **Language of Instruction:** Spanish
- **Language Requirements:** min. Spanish IV
- **Overall GPA:** 2.75
- **Credits:** 16
- **Program Dates:**
Fall: August-December
Spring: January-June
- **Costs:** Hope College tuition and UAQ room & board fee. (Personal Expenses, Airfare, Insurance, Books are the student's own responsibility.)

Application Deadlines

Fall & Academic Year: February 1

Spring: April 14

Note: All students must first complete a Hope College Off-Campus Study Application available in the Fried International Center

¡Bienvenido!

For over 10 years, Hope College students have lived and studied in the beautiful city of Querétaro, Mexico. Hosted at the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (UAQ), students have full access to university courses, departments and services. Hope students have built lasting relationships with Mexican students and host families and have explored Querétaro and Mexico in unique and exciting ways. Come join us in Querétaro and explore the wonderful Mexican culture and society.



Hope Students in Querétaro, Mexico

Program Highlights

- Participate in volunteering or internships
- Improve language skills at all proficiency levels
- Live with a Mexican family
- 16 credit hours
- Program travels to Sierra Gorda, Mexico City, Teotihuacán and Oaxaca
- Pay regular Hope College tuition and activity fees and UAQ room & board fees. Tuition fees cover program excursions
- Classes with Mexican students

Internships and volunteer opportunities ~ Gain work experience and cultural exposure through internships and volunteer opportunities. UAQ staff will assist students seeking placements. Internships depend on availability, a student's background and skills, and language abilities. Internships must be approved and supervised by the academic department of a student's major.

La Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (UAQ)

The roots of the university date to 1625 and the College of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The university offers undergraduate degree programs in more than 30 fields, as well as M.A. and Ph.D. programs. The main campus is within the city and the university's original building is a beautiful colonial structure in the city's center. In addition, a new research campus for natural and health sciences has just been completed on the outskirts of the city.

Since the late 1990's, the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro has a formal exchange agreement with Hope College and is considered a partner institution, benefiting students, faculty and staff in study abroad options and other collaborative work opportunities.

Course Offerings

The following course is required of all students:

•**Spanish 295: Life and Culture of Mexico**

(4 credit hours - may be used to fulfill a social science core requirement or Cultural Heritage II; also meets Hope's cultural diversity requirement and it counts as the elective course for a minor/major in Spanish). An interdisciplinary course in English and Spanish with required readings, lectures, discussions, three educational/cultural field excursions. Topics include history, culture and civilization of Mexico from pre-Hispanic to current times. Political, social, economic and religious institutions and historical background will be used to examine issues facing contemporary Mexico.

In addition, students entering the program with Spanish IV credit are expected to take both 280 courses listed below. Students who have completed Spanish V are expected to take only the 280 Composition course.

Spanish 280: Practicum in Spanish with Composition

(4 credit hours) - This course is designed to bring the student to a high-intermediate level of competency in Spanish in all four language skills: reading, listening-comprehension, speaking and writing as defined by the American Council of Teaching Foreign Languages. Conducted in Spanish - Prerequisite Sp. 321 (with a C+)

Spanish 280 Practicum in Spanish with Conversation

(4 credit hours) A course designed to develop aural and oral competency in Spanish. Prerequisite Sp. 222 (with a C+)

"I really enjoyed participating in dance classes at the UAQ. The different teaching style was interesting and I made a lot of friends outside of the Hope exchange program." ~ Anna P.

Cathedral in Querétaro



UAQ Courses

Hope students are also encouraged to enroll in at least one UAQ course taught in Spanish. Courses are available in the following academic departments:

Business (incl. Accounting, Finances, Intro to Econ, Micro- and Macroeconomics)

Communication & Journalism (incl. Intro. To Social Theory, Theory of Human Communication, Informative Journalism, Television Workshop, Political Communication, Multimedia)

Art, Dance, Music and Theatre

Nursing (incl. Health & Safety, Psychology, Anatomy and Physiology, Helathing, Maternity and Infancy Nursing, Culture of Sports, Communal Health)

Physical Education (incl. Athletics, History of Sport and Physical Education)

Education (incl. Sociology, Psychological Fundamentals of Education, Politics & Organization of the Mexican Educational Systems, Pedagogical Theory)

Social Work & Sociology (incl. History and Society, Theory of Gangs, Personality and Development, Social Theory, Globalization & Localization, Poverty, Marginalization and Exclusion, Inequality of Power, Sociology of Work)

Spanish (incl. Lengua & Cultura, Intro a la Linguística, Literatura, Historia de la Lengua, Gramática del Español, Filosofía del Lenguaje)

City of Querétaro



Jardín Zenea in downtown Querétaro

Located 135 miles northwest of Mexico City, Querétaro was founded by the Spanish in 1531. The 19th century played an important role in Mexico's independence struggle.

A walk through the city gives the impression that its history is a part of everyday life: baroque churches, convents, colonial buildings and other architecturally significant structures.

A thriving industrial city that includes many multinational operations, Querétaro is nevertheless a city proud of its cultural heritage represented by art museums, a symphony orchestra and more.

Not far away, within easy reach for any day excursions are the Sierra Gorda Mountains. Not only an area of amazingly scenic landscapes, the mountains contain many historical missions from which the Spanish carried out the evangelization of the region.

“I cannot imagine a better place to learn Spanish and have so many new and unique experiences.”
~Alexander S.

Student Quotes

“It was definitely unique and I would quickly recommend it to anyone who is serious about studying Spanish. I enjoyed getting to know native speakers.” ~**Laura H.**

“I love Querétaro! My family there was generous and nice and I learned a lot from them. I fell in love with the city and the people. It is a

great opportunity to practice Spanish and learn about the Mexican culture and I'm very glad that I went!” ~**Fallon K.**

“Querétaro was by far the most rewarding experience of my life! I learned so much and will never forget the amazing experiences I had: living and learning from an amazing Mexican family,

adapting to a completely different lifestyle and culture, being independent in a big city, and having a million opportunities to speak Spanish every day, all day!” ~**Caitlin G.**

“The university is always willing to help you and it's a great, fun way to learn more Spanish!” ~**Maria E.**

Student Life

Orientation

UAQ staff and faculty introduce students to the city, academic procedures, and daily life in Querétaro during orientation.

Housing & Meals

All accommodations are arranged by the UAQ staff to ensure acceptable standards of comfort and safety. Students living with local residents are provided two meals a day (breakfast and dinner), seven days a week, while the UAQ program is in session. Normally one Hope student lives in a home and may share a double room with another international student. If available, they each have a single room.

Computer, Internet & Library access

UAQ has a computer lab available for students studying within the university.



Educational building at the downtown UAQ campus

Program Objectives



*El Patio Barroco,
UAQ*

- Introduce students, through an interdisciplinary curriculum, excursions, activities to Mexican life and culture
- Allow students to gain knowledge of Mexico's rich indigenous and Spanish history
- Discover both traditional Mexico and its contemporary political, economic, social and cultural challenges
- Provide students with multiple opportunities to interact sensitively and responsibly with the people of Mexico and to enhance their intercultural skills through participation in home stays, Mexican cultural, social and recreational activities and interactions with students of the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro
- Introduce students to some of the pressing needs of contemporary Mexican society and provide them with the opportunity to participate in social service projects
- Enable students to take responsibility for their own learning process and develop motivation, self-sufficiency and self-direction.

Extracurricular Activities

*Teotihuacan
Pyramid*



Besides exploring the wonderful city of Querétaro, students will have opportunities to visit other parts of Mexico, including Sierra Gorda, Mexico City, Teotihuacan and Oaxaca.

Students also have access to UAQ's gymnasium and sports center located just a few miles from the university. Students may participate in UAQ teams and enroll in classes for a minimum fee.

Finally, students may also choose to participate in internships and/or volunteer opportunities under the supervision of a member of UAQ staff. In the past, Hope students have volunteered at local orphanages, schools and non-profit organizations.

"I realized things about my own culture and about myself that I had never known before. The things I learned on this program can not be found in a textbook but will stay with me for the rest of my life."

~Allison H.

Application Guidelines

All Hope College students must complete an Off-Campus Study Application, available in the Fried International Center of the Martha Miller Center to gain approval to study off-campus.

Application Deadlines for Fall 2009 and Academic Year 2009-10: **February 1**

Application Deadline for Spring 2010: **April 14**

Once the Off-Campus Study Application is approved, students applying for the UAQ program may submit the attached application by the date specified on the application.

To verify if your financial aid is applicable for off-campus study, please visit:

<http://www.hope.edu/admin/finaid/offcampus.html>