

UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS AMÉRICAS PUEBLA

Institutional Fact Sheet



Universidad de las Américas Puebla (UDLAP) is one of the most prestigious private universities in Mexico with an outstanding international recognition and tradition. As a space in which different cultural contexts merge, UDLAP provides students with a rich framework for freethinking and the best resources available so that students are able to successfully develop their professional aptitudes in their area of

UDLAP AT A GLANCE

- ✓ Excellence and prestige in a single-campus location
- ✓ Internationally accredited degrees
- ✓ SACSCOC Accredited (U.S.A.)
- ✓ 5 QS Stars in internationalization
- ✓ Ranked among the Top 10 Universities in Mexico (#5 Private HEI) and Top 60 Universities in Latin America in 2019 according to QS Ranking
- ✓ Diverse student community
- ✓ International students and faculty from over 30 countries
- ✓ On-campus housing available, and surrounded by multiple off-campus housing options
- ✓ 24/7 Security and Surveillance on campus and its perimeter
- ✓ Ideal location within Mexico, close to archeological sites and a metropolitan city
- ✓ Close to many main touristic destinations in Mexico
- ✓ Great variety of cultural and sport activities

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ✓ Located in San Andrés Cholula, Puebla, México, 2.5 hours down south from Mexico City (www.sanandrescholula.gob.mx)
- ✓ City Population of almost 150,000 inhabitants
- ✓ Student Population of 9,500+
- ✓ International Students per year: 500+
- ✓ Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 20
- ✓ Class Size: 25-30 (on average)
- ✓ Some courses taught in English

UDLAP MISSION

"To educate well informed, critical, creative and innovative professionals that are also highly skilled in technology, but above all, aware of their great social responsibility to ensure a fair distribution of the benefits of globalization.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACADEMIC INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Application Deadlines	May 1st for the Fall semester and Full Year 2020-2021 October 1st for the Spring semester and Full Year 2021
Required supporting documents with application	You will be required to handle specific documentation to be accepted at UDLAP. Please follow this link to download up-to-date mobility forms and instructions: www.udlap.mx/international Please note that all documents must be sent in original, signed (in blue ink) and through specialized courier (avoid postal mail)
Spanish Proficiency Test	Students interested in taking Spanish Courses for non-native speakers are required to take a Spanish Proficiency Test. During the Orientation Week, before registering courses, each student will be interviewed by the Spanish Language Coordinator to confirm their level of Spanish proficiency and be enrolled in the adequate Spanish course. The Courses of Spanish as a Second Language are managed by the Language Department. For more information about the course offering, please contact the Spanish Language Coordinator.
Spanish language Coordination	Dr. Magdalena Mejía Gómez Spanish Language Coordinator Phone number: +52 (222) 229 3185 e-mail: magdalena.mejia@udlap.mx Office location: Humanities Building, HU303
Courses available to exchange students	All undergraduate courses in the catalog are available for international students (some exceptions apply), as long as all course pre-requisites are met and a minimum B1 Spanish level can be proven. Please consult the Institutional Course Catalog in www.udlap.mx/inscripciones/default.aspx#catalogoCursos Some disciplinary courses in each School are taught in English and are available for international students. Please consult the English-taught Course Catalog in www.udlap.mx/international/exchange-students.aspx Students with a fluent level of Spanish Proficiency are entitled to enroll in English, French, and/or German language courses. IMPORTANT: The Courses' availability is subject to demand. Therefore, the International Affairs Office cannot guarantee a spot in the student's selected courses.
Courses description/ Course system	Please check the academic programs at: https://www.udlap.mx/ofertaacademica/mapaoferta.aspx?idioma=2 (undergraduate level) www.udlap.mx/ofertaacademica/mapaoferta.aspx#maestrias (graduate level)
Credit system	Undergraduate-level students may enroll to up to 5 courses per semester. Graduate-level (Master) students may enroll to 2 courses per trimester. All courses are 6 UDLAP Academic units (equivalent to 6 ECTS), which include weekly guided instruction and independent study hours for the entire duration of the 16-week semester or 10-week trimester. The total duration of each course is 48 guided hours.
Grading system	The passing grade at the undergraduate level (Bachelor) is 7.5 on a 0.0-10.0 scale. The passing grade at the Graduate level (Master) is 8.0 on a 0.0-10.0 scale. At the end of the student's stay, the International Affairs Office will send one official transcript to the student's home university.
Academic Calendar	https://www.udlap.mx/inscripciones/catalogocursos.aspx?sesion=10 (undergraduate level) https://www.udlap.mx/inscripciones/catalogocursos.aspx?sesion=11 (graduate level)
Arrival at UDLAP	Coming to Mexico from the main global destinations is very easy, either through Mexico City or Puebla City. The Amigos Internacionales , a group of volunteer students, will be waiting for International Students at the Benito Juárez International Airport (MEX) in Mexico City on the first day of Orientation Week (students will be notified of orientation week dates via e-mail upon being accepted at UDLAP).
Orientation Week	International Students are offered an Orientation Week prior to the beginning of classes each semester. During the Orientation Week, students will have a welcoming session to inform them about their mobility program, living in Puebla and UDLAP, institutional services, cultural shock, payments, visas, internship and course enrollment, among others.
Accommodation	Accommodation options in Cholula are vast, either on campus (Residential Colleges) or off campus (private housing). Accommodation at UDLAP Residential Colleges may be consulted at www.udlap.mx/colegios/?idioma=2 Note: Accommodation is subject to availability and the Residential Colleges' Rules and Regulations.

The information provided is primarily for international administrators and exchange, dual, or visiting students who enter UDLAP through the International Affairs Office. This information is subject to change and may vary depending on the period, time and any other unexpected circumstances.

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	The Amigos Internacionales will support international students that opt to stay on external facilities during the Orientation Week for finding proper accommodation.
Workshops	UDLAP offers a variety of cultural, sports and artistic workshops throughout the semester. Please consult the following link for more information: www.udlap.mx/talleres
Weekend trips	Explore Mexico through the exciting and enriching travel opportunities offered by the Office of Student Life Please consult the following link for more information: www.udlap.mx/vidaenelcampus/aprovechatutiempo.aspx?idioma=2
Student Associations	There are many academic, sport, cultural, and lifestyle organizations created and directed by students. Being part of an organization offers international students the possibility to develop new skills and an increased social awareness. Organizations may be consulted at: https://www.udlap.mx/web/vidaestudiantil/organizacionesestudiantiles.aspx?idioma=2

VISA INFORMATION

International students coming to UDLAP must take into account the following information according to their nationality and duration of their

FOR 1 SEMESTER OF STUDY ONLY

“VISITORS WITHOUT PERMISSION TO PERFORM PAID ACTIVITIES”

To participate in an academic program at UDLAP with a duration of up to 180 days (1 semester or 2 trimesters), students are entitled to travel to our country as a **Visitor** (previously known as *Tourist*) if they are citizens of a country that has no visa restrictions in Mexico. This condition of stay authorizes students to remain in Mexican territory uninterruptedly for up to 180 days from the date of entry, **without permission to engage in remunerated activities**. Foreigners who come to Mexico as Visitors without permission to perform remunerated activities cannot change their migratory status and will have to leave the country by the end of the authorized period of stay.

EXCEPTION: If the student is a citizen of a country with visa restrictions in Mexico, he/she will need to request a **Temporary Resident Visa-Student** at the nearest Embassy or Consulate of Mexico, as he/she will not be able to enter the country as a visitor.

FOR 2 OR MORE SEMESTERS OF STUDY

“TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISA – STUDENT”

To participate in an academic program at UDLAP for a period that is longer than 180 days (2 semesters or more), it is necessary to request a **Temporary Resident Visa – Student**. Students in this case will need to complete a 3-step process:

1. Request for a visa at the nearest Mexican Embassy or Consulate. The visa will be originally issued for 180 days, valid for a single entry to Mexico during this period.
2. When students enter Mexico, they will be provided a “**Forma Migratoria Múltiple (FMM)**”. They will need to present this FMM to the “**Instituto Nacional de Migración (INAMI)**” once they are in Mexico to get the **Temporary Residence Permit**.
3. This **Temporary Residence Permit** must be requested from the INAMI within the first 30 calendar days from the date of entry into Mexico. This card will be valid for one year and allows multiple entries to the country. If this procedure is not completed within the designated time, the student will be subject to pay a fine to the INAMI.

UDLAP will provide migratory support for all international students, especially for those coming from a visa-restricted country or for those students coming for two or more semesters, but it is the student’s own responsibility to fulfill the INAMI’s requirements and to abide by the Mexican Government Laws.

Students coming from visa-restricted countries must request such permit before traveling to Mexico. The UDLAP International Office will send an Acceptance Letter to the Home University or to the Mexican Embassy/Consulate in such country in order for students to process a student visa, if necessary.

To verify if a country requires a visa or not to travel to Mexico, please consult the following web sites:

1. Countries and regions that require a VISA to travel to MEXICO: www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Paises_Visa
2. Countries and regions that do not require a VISA to travel to MEXICO: www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Paises_No_Visa

All Visas (either “**Visitor without permission to perform paid activities**” and/or “**Temporary Resident – Student**”) are issued in the Student’s country of origin by an Embassy or Consulate of Mexico, and cannot be obtained at their arrival in our country. Please check the location of the Mexican Embassy or Consulate that is closest to the Student or the Home University:

1. **EMBASSIES:** <https://directorio.sre.gob.mx/index.php/embajadas-de-mexico-en-el-exterior>
2. **CONSULATES:** <https://directorio.sre.gob.mx/index.php/consulados-de-mexico-en-el-exterior>

Once in Mexico, students must register their stay at the Migration Services Office at UDLAP. This shall be done during the Orientation Week.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE INFORMATION

Medical Insurance is Mandatory to come to UDLAP. Without exception, all International students are required to have health insurance coverage at their own expense that meets all the international coverage requirements (it must include full repatriation and emergency evacuation, as a minimum) necessary to cover them during the entire duration of their stay in Mexico. The students must provide a copy of their medical insurance policy to the International Affairs Office at UDLAP as a requirement to complete their registration process. This policy has to contain the following information:

1. Student’s Name
2. Insurance Company Name

COSTS AND FEES

All courses at UDLAP (Undergraduate and Graduate level) are 6 UDLAP Units (equivalent to 6 ECTS). The cost for each Academic Unit for 2020 are:

- \$3,050.00 Mexican Pesos for Undergraduate level courses; and
- \$3,600.00 Mexican pesos for graduate-level courses (To be confirmed).

As part of a bilateral agreement, exchange students are entitled to enroll to up to five courses per semester in the case of Undergraduate level courses or two per trimester in the case of Master level courses (unless otherwise agreed with specific institutions). Additional courses may be taken by covering the corresponding costs attached to the extra courses enrolled.

Visiting students should cover the total cost of the courses enrolled, plus a 2-unit administrative fee. The minimum number of courses to enroll under this scheme is three per semester, unless otherwise agreed.

All other services are included for international students so no additional fees need to be considered (i.e. Gym, Library, Medical Services, Wi-Fi, etc.). Costs related to extra-curricular activities are additional and need to be covered by the participating students.

Please note that these costs are subject to change without notice.

ESTIMATION OF LIVING EXPENSES

Living in Mexico, and in particular in Puebla is quite affordable. Accommodation options are very ample on campus and off campus, as close as crossing the street. The average cost of living for an international student will depend on their particular lifestyle, but some estimations can be exemplified as follows:

On-Campus Housing	\$25,820.00 to \$38,690.00 Mexican Pesos per semester, depending on room selection and additional amenities. No meals included.
	Please note that when housing is not included in the bilateral agreement, the student must pay the full cost of the selected dormitory prior to their arrival at UDLAP.
	On-Campus housing for Graduate Students is not available unless they enroll 400-level courses only (considered Undergraduate level courses at UDLAP).
	There is a strict age restriction for students applying to Residential Colleges: they must be over 18 and under 24 years of age.
Off-Campus Housing	Similar costs, depending on the type of accommodation.
Meals	\$6,000.000 to \$8,000.00 Mexican Pesos per month.
Local transportation	\$7.00 Mexican Pesos on Public Bus, \$8.00 Mexican Pesos on UDLAP bus.
	Taxi, Uber and DiDi are available at very affordable rates.
Academic expenses	\$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 Mexican Pesos per semester.
	Textbooks may cost between \$500.00 and \$1,000.00 Mexican Pesos depending on the discipline.
Personal expenses	Movie Theater tickets cost between \$50.00 and \$150.00 Mexican Pesos.
	A night out at a club may cost up to \$350.00 Mexican Pesos.
Bank information	Students are advised to bring an International Credit or Debit Card. There are several ATMs located on campus and throughout the city.
	It is not possible to open a bank account in Mexico while on exchange so it is recommended that students handle their finances through their home bank.
Cell Phone	All International students are required to have a Mexican Phone Number during their stay in Mexico.
	A SIM card may be easily acquired at many phone and convenience stores throughout the country.

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