
Pennsylvania College of Technology

PENNSTATE



Study Abroad Program

Travel ♦ Enhance your skills
Learn to speak a foreign language ♦ Experience life overseas

TOLUCA MEXICO – SHORT TERM
March 6-14, 2009

OVERNIGHTS: Eight nights in Toluca

HIGHLIGHTS: Past tour highlights have included:

- Visits to manufacturing plants
- The “City of Silver,” Taxco
- Mexico City
- The Teotihuacán pyramids
- Monarch butterfly refuge
- Host family stays

COURSE:

3 credits for:

Hum/SS/Art/Language/Cultural Diversity/International Field Experience elective OR
International Technical Field Experience (MET 201) OR

Open elective

COSTS: Estimated at \$1500 includes costs for Credit for Life Experience.

PAYMENTS: \$300 deposit due with all application materials by November 1.

Final Payment due December 15 for selected students.

DESCRIPTION

The program provides an overview of Mexican history, culture and business. The itinerary, planned by staff from ITESM, includes tours of the local cultural sites; provides Spanish language lessons and cultural lectures; and visits to several manufacturing plants. The study abroad program in Toluca, Mexico is during spring break. Participants are hosted by the students and families from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) campus in Toluca.

Known as the “automotive manufacturing capital”, Toluca is a modern city that has retained its provincial charm. Home to businesses such as Nestlé, Dupont and General Motors, the city of Toluca is approximately one hour west of Mexico City. The ITESM-Toluca campus is a private, modern facility with an enrollment of approximately 4,500 students. The Toluca campus is one of thirty-four campuses that comprise the Monterrey University system. The visit is part of an exchange between the two colleges. Penn College students visit Mexico for a week and ITESM students visit Penn College during the mini-Indy race in September.

The program is aimed primarily at automotive and engineering students; however, students in other majors may apply.

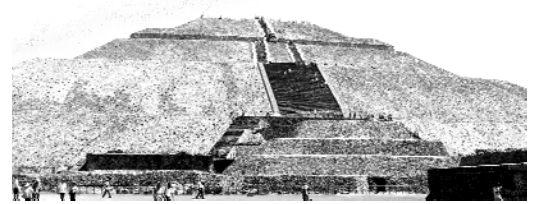
SAMPLE ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart U.S. and travel to Mexico.

Day 2: Arrive in Mexico City. Travel to Toluca and meet host families. Visit the Teotihuacan pyramids – ancient Mexican ruins.

Day 3: Family Day - Spend time with host families learning about daily life in Mexico.

Day 4: Welcome Breakfast with the Dean of the School Engineering ITESM. Tour of ITESM Campus. Lectures on Mexican politics and geography.



Day 5: Lecture on Mexican culture. Visit to a local industry.

Day 6: Visit to ITESM, Mexico City Campus.

Day 7: Visit to Cervecería Cuauhtémoc – local manufacturer.

Day 8: See the Vertical Machine Center at ITESM.

Day 9: Bus trip to Mexico City. Depart for U.S.

UPON RETURN

As part of the exchange each student serves as a mentor to the Mexican students when they are on Penn College campus. Meet the ITESM student on campus each morning, review the day's itinerary and escort student to his or her first activity of the day, if possible. Participate in activities with the Mexican students during the day and evening as schedule allows.

PROGRAM FEES

Included are airfare, housing, meals, van to and from U.S. airport, excursions, and in-country transportation and the fee for Credit for Life Experience of \$50. Not included are some meals and miscellaneous expenses.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the trip, students must have at least 12 credits of technical courses and a GPA of at least 2.5.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & REQUIREMENTS

The course consists of engineering and technology applications, issues and perspectives in an international setting. You may obtain 3 credits for life experience for MET 201 - International Technology Field Experience – Multicultural Perspectives, or Hum/SS/Art/Language/Cultural Diversity/International Field Experience elective, or Open elective. For the course, you will be required to:

- attend orientation sessions prior to departure
- participate in all planned activities in Mexico
- keep a journal while in Mexico
- write a paper and demonstrate you have met the goals of the proposed course
- participate in post-trip presentations, and
- assist with Mexican students on their visit to Penn College

You may obtain Credit for Life Experience after the course requirements are met by submitting the paperwork to the International Programs Specialist.

HOW TO APPLY

Students need to submit the following to the International Programs Office:

- an application
- a letter of recommendation from a faculty/staff member
- a statement as to why you want to participate in the exchange program
- deposit of \$300, check made payable to “Penn College”

Space may be available after the application deadline. Please contact the International Programs Office to determine availability or to be put on a waiting list.

For more information, contact:

International Programs Office
Klump Academic Center, Room 7B

PHONE (570) 320-5257

FAX 570.329.4966

E-MAIL international@pct.edu

WEB SITE www.pct.edu/international