



# Speak & live Spanish at the CLS

If you want to speak Spanish correctly and fluently in a surprisingly short period of time, study with us. Explore this exciting and unique program of the CLS - Cuernavaca Language School. We are in Cuernavaca, Mexico, "The City of Eternal Spring".

- Spanish classes begin every Monday throughout the year.
- Total immersion at all levels.
- Five students per group maximum.
- Cultural sessions included in program.
- Weekend field trips explore recreational and historical sites.
- Homestays and other accommodations' options.

We offer a solid education in Spanish, fun, and much more!



## INTRODUCTION

The **CLS** was founded by Dr. Ivan Illich+ as the "Centro Intercultural de Documentación", better known as CIDOC in 1960. The School is one of Mexico's oldest and most respected language institutes. The School's professional instructors have extensive experience in teaching Spanish as a second language. Our teaching methods facilitate rapid improvement in Spanish language skills regardless of the student's current ability. We employ a total immersion approach.

This is the school for those students considering the Spanish language as a tool for their trips, studies and professional activities. We invite to participate in our Spanish courses to people from all walks of life - Doctors, Lawyers, Civil Engineers; Interpreters, Nurses, Teachers, Priests, Social Workers; Government Employees, Executives, Sale People, Bankers, Students, Retired People-- Anyone with a desire to develop fluency in Spanish can do so in a surprisingly short period of time.

The intimate campus of the CLS is located in a gated community in one of Cuernavaca's finest neighborhoods. The School offers a peaceful, secure campus for study in our comfortable modern classrooms.

The **CLS** is affiliated to the Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP) -Public Education Ministry-- under the corporation key 17PET0120X. This official registry certifies the quality of the Spanish courses offered in the **CLS** to foreign people.

The **CLS** belongs to AIPEC (Asociación de Institutos para la Enseñanza del Español en Cuernavaca), and to México Sí (Asociación Mexicana de Institutos de Español). These local and national associations establish quality standards in the teaching of Spanish to foreigners and all activities related to it.

We invite you to study with us.

## WHERE IS CUERNAVACA?

Cuernavaca is the capital of the State of Morelos. The metropolitan population is around 1.5 million. In spite of its size, the city retains the unique character and flavor of a smaller town. Cuernavaca is rich in history and offers a charming blend of pre-hispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.



Cuernavaca is a favorite spot of people the world over for its historical interest, its striking scenery, its colorful life, and its delightful climate. The terrain is hilly and the streets are narrow and quaint. A wide variety of activities is available with all of the normal services of a modern city. The city bus system is economical and easy to use.



The city is situated at an altitude of 5,000 feet with temperatures between 70° F. and 85° F. (21° C. and 29° C.) the year around. The climate is semi-tropical and gives Cuernavaca its fame as the “City of Eternal Spring.” It is always warm and pleasant in the daily sun and cool in the shade. Light informal clothing is comfortable most of the year. On occasion we wear sweaters. From June to September, especially in the afternoon and evening, quick drenching rains are common.

Cuernavaca is truly in the heart of Mexico, and is surrounded by some of the most beautiful and culturally rich regions of the country. Everything from populous Mexico City to 18,000 feet volcanoes is a short distance from the heart of the city.

The city is located about 50 miles (85 km) south of Mexico City on the M-95 freeway. It is very easy to arrive in Cuernavaca from the Mexico City Airport using a direct first class bus service.



## PROGRAMS

### Intensive Language Program

Our time-tested program takes an eclectic approach which combines both traditional and current language teaching principles. It successfully develops the four language skills, grammatical reflection and the knowledge and comprehension of the Mexican culture. It makes an approach through different perspectives: the linguistic, the thematic and the cultural. The language class size never exceeds five students and may be smaller. All instruction is provided by a native speaker and Spanish is the exclusive language of instruction.

The program consists in four\* 50 minute periods of Intensive Spanish classes Monday through Friday, and cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

If after the placement session, the Program Coordinator finds that the student's level does not match with any of the existing groups, he or she will have the opportunity to participate in our Individual Language Program, having three 50 minute periods of Intensive Spanish Classes plus one hour of cultural activities daily. The tuition fee will be the same as when participating in a group program.

The CLS language program combines different texts:

- The **Platiquemos** training series was originally developed by the U.S. Foreign Service Institute to train officers of the Foreign Service and of other United States Government agencies who were involved in foreign affairs in Spanish speaking countries. Now it has been adapted to be used by people from all

walks of life. Platiquemos combines elements of the "direct", "audio-lingual", "communicative", and "grammar/translation" methods. Its goal is to teach students to speak easily, fluently, with very little accent, and to do this without conscious effort, just as one speaks his/her own language. To measure your achievements, Platiquemos uses the Interagency Roundtable Scale, developed by the Foreign Service Institute and still generally referred to as the FSI scale. This is one of the U.S. recognized language-speaking proficiency scales.

- **Aula Latina** successfully develops the four language skills, grammatical reflection and the knowledge and comprehension of the several Latin American cultures. It makes an approach through different perspectives: the linguistic, the thematic and the cultural. This method combines dynamic activities to learn Spanish through all different learning styles. The levels of Aula Latina are divided as established by the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*.

All of our Spanish courses in Cuernavaca are supplemented with activities or lectures which focus on a wide variety of cultural topics. Some of the most popular topics are Pre-Columbian Cultures, Contemporary Mexico, Indigenous Life in Mexico, Latin-American Ideologies, Mexican Art and Folklore, Political Life in Mexico, Medicine in Mexico, The Mexican Economy, Mexican Revolution, Religion in Mexico, etc.

\*Note: On Wednesdays, Spanish classes finish at 12:00 P.M. in order to participate in a city field trip led by a teacher from 12:00P.M. to 2:00 P.M. Every other week, on Fridays at 1:00 P.M., a Mexican party will be held at the CLS.

### Individual Language Program

The **CLS** also offers individual private instruction for students who, with an advanced ability or a restricted schedule, desire to study at a faster pace.

For students who desire special language instruction in particular fields such as medicine, law, religion or other disciplines, individual sessions can be arranged. Fees for individual specialized instruction are charged at the Individual Program rate.

Note: Individual instruction may not be available during the Summer months.

### Medical Spanish Program

Through this program we offer health professionals the opportunity to learn not only the Spanish language and medical terminology, but also have a general panorama of the Mexican health culture, the knowledge of the most common illnesses and the relation between patient-doctor/nurse/therapist.

The program consists in three 50 minute periods of medical Spanish classes Monday through Friday, and cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. Medical observation in a Mexican hospital or clinic is arranged by the **CLS**. Participants will actively observe and, under the authorization of the hospital medical coordinator, will participate in tasks according to their current language abilities and level of training.

To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

### **Pastoral Spanish Program**

Priests, seminarians, religious and laics committed to evangelical work in the Latin communities in the World are invited to study at the CLS. Here they will find not only an ideal school for beginning their study of Spanish, they will also find a place capable of helping them develop a considerable facility to communicate in their ministries. The CLS assists students with their work as apostles of the Word.

The program consists in three 50 minute periods of religious Spanish classes Monday through Friday, and cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. The course implements the vocabulary of real life, of real situations in the real World. It also offers a particular focus on the words and themes of Sacred Scripture and the Liturgy. It aspires to touch the daily life of the minister working for the needs of Latin speaking parishioners.

To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

### **Business Spanish Program**

The CLS Business Spanish Program is designed for students and professionals who want to be able to communicate in Spanish in different business situations. The program emphasizes verbal communication in the business Spanish world. The course includes grammar structures, as well as lexical, and communicative content.

The program consists in three 50 minute periods of Business Spanish classes, Monday through Friday in groups of five students maximum plus cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

### **Spanish for Social Workers**

This program is designed for those professionals who desire to communicate with Spanish speaking people. Participants are provided with the grammatical, lexical and cultural content required to establish conversations in Spanish during the course of their daily work.

The program consists in three 50 minute periods of Spanish for social workers classes, Monday through Friday in groups of five students maximum plus cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

### **Legal Spanish Program**

This program is designed for those professionals who desire to communicate with their Spanish speaking clients and colleagues. The classes as well as the immersion in the Mexican culture provide the participant a unique experience that helps them in developing their language skills to communicate and negotiate in several legal situations.

The program consists in three 50 minute periods of Legal Spanish classes, Monday through Friday in groups of five students maximum plus cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

## Spanish for Elementary School Teachers

This program is designed for basic and intermediate non-native Spanish speaker teachers who want to be able to communicate in Spanish in different situations with their Hispanic students as well as with their parents. It emphasizes verbal communication but it also includes grammar structures, as well as lexical, and cultural content.

The program consists of three 50 minute periods of Spanish classes, Monday through Friday in groups of five students maximum plus cultural activities listed in the weekly school schedule. The course is offered using realistic situations and specialized vocabulary that elementary school teachers need to have an effective communication in the course of their daily work. Personalized questions, grammar, exercises, dialogue completions, role-plays, realia-based activities, and translation and interpretation tasks provide students with numerous opportunities to apply, in a wide variety of practical contexts.

## Spanish and Art

This program combines our *Intensive Language Program* with afternoon painting classes (6 hours per week). At these classes a professional artist will guide you through comprehensive, step by step painting techniques, such as oil, acrylic, drawing, watercolor, pastel, etc. A minimum stay of two weeks is required.

To complete the total immersion, we recommend the student to live with a Mexican host family and enjoy weekend excursions to the most representative samples of prehispanic, colonial and modern Mexico.

*Every member of the Instructional staff at the CLS is a native Spanish speaker who has received rigorous training in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language from certified professionals. A number of staff members have been associated with the school since its inception. They have taught thousands of students!*



## CULTURAL STUDIES, ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

As you learn and become conversant in the language, you begin to realize that you cannot really know the people until you know more about the culture. Spanish is the native language of twenty-one Latin American countries, of Spain, and of over 40 million people in the United States. Spanish is one of the most important languages in the world today and has a rich cultural heritage.

## Cultural Studies

Language studies are supplemented with classes which focus on a wide variety of cultural topics. The following indicates some of the more popular topics which are discussed routinely.

- \* Pre-Columbian Culture
- \* Contemporary Mexico
- \* Latin-American Traditions
- \* The Catholic Church in Mexico
- \* Indigenous Life in Mexico
- \* Latin-American Ideologies
- \* Mexican Art and Folklore
- \* Education in Mexico
- \* Customs of Mexican life
- \* Political life in Mexico
- \* Medicine in Mexico
- \* The Mexican Economy
- \* Social life in Mexico
- \* Mexican Revolution



## Activities and Excursions

The **CLS** offers a variety of activities to help bring students into direct contact with the culture surrounding them. Once a week, a short field trip in Cuernavaca takes place visiting interesting sites such as the traditional market, the ravines, the cathedral, the botanical garden and much more. For those students who would like to meet more Mexican people and practice their Spanish, a weekly "Intercambio" is scheduled during the afternoon. Also, dancing, painting, Mexican cooking classes, and movie afternoons are offered upon request at an extra fee.

On weekends, the school organizes independent field-trips to explore some of the cultural and historic points of interest around Cuernavaca. The student may visit the silver-mining town of Taxco, the outstanding museums and sophistications of Mexico City, the famous Pyramids of Teotihuacan and Xochicalco, the magic town of Tepoztlan, Las Estacas natural springs, and the beautiful beaches of Acapulco, as some examples.

## CLASS SCHEDULE AND HOLIDAYS

All programs of study are scheduled between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday throughout the year. When necessary, the school also schedules sessions later in the afternoon.

Students who study for longer periods of time are encouraged to take a brief recess from classes after their eighth week. This brief recess helps to refresh students and strengthens their desire to continue their study. To guarantee a class space on your return, students pay tuition in advance for the week they return. Since the class groups are periodically rearranged, you may return to a different study group working with different material.

There are four holidays throughout the year when classes are not held. If one of the Mexican holidays listed below falls on a weekday, there will be no classes for that day only. There is no refund or reduction in fees for a holiday schedule. Classes for individual instruction are not scheduled on holidays. The Mexican holidays for which there will be no classes scheduled include:

January 1	New Year's Day (Año Nuevo)
March/April XX	Good Friday (Viernes Santo)
September 16	Independence Day (Día de la Independencia)
December 25	Christmas (Navidad)

## CREDIT AND CERTIFICATION

### *University Credit*

Many universities and institutions will grant academic credit for course work completed at the CLS under foreign studies. If you are interested in earning credit for your studies, please visit the Study Abroad Office or the proper department at your university to get advice of the recognition process.

Most institutions request that the student provide the Language Department with the information describing the program and a planned study program for their pre-approval. After completing your studies with us, the CLS will send a letter to the University where credit is to be issued giving the details of the dates, class size, material studied, hours spent per day in class, summary of weekend cultural activities, and other pertinent information.

Some institutions also request that a letter grade be issued upon the completion of your studies. In these cases, an examination will be administered and a grade will be issued. You will be provided with a transcript describing your course work and indicating your grade. This will serve as your documentation.

In the end it is always the student's responsibility to work with his or her University to have the credit posted to the student's permanent record. We at the CLS will be glad to assist in this effort in every way we can.

### *SEP*

The CLS is affiliated to the Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP) -Public Education Ministry-- under the corporation key 17PET0120X. This registry certifies the quality of the Spanish courses offered in the CLS to foreign people. As a part of the National Education System we can provide you, upon request, an official transcript issued by the Education Ministry at an extra charge.

### *CELA*

The CLS as a member of the Mexican Association of Spanish Institutes – México Sí offers its students the opportunity to certify their language level by taking an exam called Certificado de Español Lengua Extranjera – CELA- created by the CEPE, an entity of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México –UNAM-.

The CELA will be issued by UNAM and will be signed by the heads of the Secretaría de Desarrollo Institucional and the School for Foreign Students.

The certificate of Spanish as an additional language has three levels according to the European Common Frame of Reference for the learning, teaching and evaluation of languages:

- \* Introductory: certifies the level corresponding to level A2.
- \* Intermediate: certifies the level corresponding to level B2.
- \* Advanced: certifies the level corresponding to level C2.

Contact us for information regarding costs and examination dates.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

An important part of the total immersion program is to live with a Mexican host family while studying at the **CLS**. It is also possible to stay in a hostel, hotel or apartment but then a valuable portion of the experience is lost. Daily life with a host family offers students many opportunities to practice their language skills. Virtually all of our students stay with one of our host families.

**Homestays:** Daily life with a host family offers students many opportunities to practice their language skills and meet the culture first hand. Mexican food, costumes, and warm hospitality will be part of everyday's life while in Cuernavaca. The student will have private accommodations with a middle-class Mexican family, and three meals or breakfast, depending on what he/she chooses. When possible, we will place only one or two students per family, but during the Summer months the student will sometimes share the available facilities of the household. We always strive to minimize shared accommodations to preserve the lifestyle of each household. Should you not be completely satisfied with your host family, the school will arrange to change your accommodations.

Students with dietary requirements for purposes of health or religion are asked to please note this information on the lodging information request. The host family will exclude the products from their regular diet to meet these requirements. Special food or products that the student may ask for (e.g. organic or light products, sugar substitutes, lactose free milk, etc.) will be charged at an extra cost.

Students sometimes travel on weekends to other points of interest outside of Cuernavaca. During these periods of absence, the housing fees are not waived. However, when a student takes a brief recess from classes, e.g. after the eighth week, students do not need to pay for housing for this period when they are away from their host family.

**Hostel:** This option is offered for the more independent traveler. Hostel accommodations are provided in shared rooms (2 to 8 beds per room) and shared bathroom. The price includes bed and continental breakfast. These facilities are located about 3 km. from the school and public bus transportation is available.

**Apartment:** Furnished apartments are available upon request. Most of them require a minimum stay of 4 weeks and prices vary depending on facilities and length of stay. Locations are in different areas of the city.

**Hotel:** If you would prefer to stay in a hotel, we will recommend you one that fits with your needs. Hotel rates vary from \$85-\$200 U.S. per night, depending on accommodations.

## TUITION AND FEES

<b>Fees 2010</b>	
<b>Intensive Language Group Program</b>	No registration fee required
Tuition – One Week	270.00 U.S.
Tuition – Two Weeks	480.00 U.S.
Tuition – Three Weeks	690.00 U.S.
Tuition – Four Weeks	860.00 U.S.
Subsequent Week(s)	200.00 U.S.
<b>Professional Terminology Programs</b> (Medical, Business, Pastoral, Social Work, etc.)	Same fees as in the Intensive Language Group Program
<b>Spanish and Art Program</b>	Same fees as in the Intensive Language Group Program plus \$150 USD per week for the painting classes
<b>Individual Language Program</b>	
Registration (One-Time only)	50.00 U.S.
Per Hour	20.00 U.S.
<b>Textbooks*</b>	50.00 U.S. (refundable deposit)
<b>Housing with a Mexican family</b> (per night / per person)	
Private room & 3 meals	30.00 U.S.
Private room & breakfast	22.00 U.S.
<b>Hostel</b> (Shared dorm and bathroom)	18.00 U.S.
* Upon arrival to the <b>CLS</b> , the Spanish coordinator will inform you which textbooks will be required in your program. Some books will be lent. If necessary you will need to buy one or two books with an estimated cost of \$25 USD each.	

Tuition fees are non-refundable. All fees must be paid in advance at the time of your in-person registration and may be paid by:

- Traveler's checks payable in U.S. Dollars or Euros.
- Cash in Mexican Pesos, U.S. Dollars or Euros.

**Please Note:** No additional fee is required when paying with Traveler's Checks. We regret we cannot accept credit cards. ATM's are available within Cuernavaca.

Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. There will be no partial refund of tuition for failure to attend classes for any reason, including illness, early withdrawal, and dismissal from the program or other emergencies. When unforeseen circumstances force a student to leave the program early, credit for the time remaining will be posted to the student's record for use at a later date.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

### Travel Information

U.S., Canadian and European Community Citizens do not need a VISA to enter Mexico but they must present a valid passport. European Community Citizens also need to present a round trip plane ticket.

People from other countries should visit:

[http://www.inm.gob.mx/EN/index.php?page/l\\_want\\_to\\_travel\\_to\\_Mexico\\_as\\_Tourist](http://www.inm.gob.mx/EN/index.php?page/l_want_to_travel_to_Mexico_as_Tourist) in order to get the requirements to apply for a VISA.

A Mexican tourist form (FMT) will be given to you at the airline counter or during your flight, at no charge. Fill it out and give it to the Mexican Immigration Authorities after landing in Mexico. The Immigration officer will issue permission for 30, 60 or 90 days depending on your plans. If you plan to stay in Mexico longer than the time assigned you at your entrance to Mexico, you can get a permit extension in the Immigration Office here in Cuernavaca.

Students under 18 years of age must bring a notarized letter of authorization signed by a legal guardian giving parental consent to enter Mexico.

### Telephone & E-mail

As a complimentary service, the **CLS** offers you a multimedia room, with such different services as the Internet, cultural information and movies on CD's and videos. If you want use your laptop in the school area, wireless connection is available.

In addition to the Internet service at the school, Internet service is available at various places in Cuernavaca. There are many Internet cafes near the school and near homes provided for students here in Cuernavaca. The rates for these services are reasonable.

If possible, try to arrange to receive long distance calls only at the home of your host family. If you need to place a long distance call, you may do so from any public telephone using a prepaid calling card.

### Medical Services

There are several medical doctors associated with the school who can attend to a student's individual needs. In case of emergency, the school is located near a full service hospital and a Red Cross facility where treatment can be obtained. There are also private institutions available at affordable rates. The school and/or your host family will assist you in seeking medical attention, but neither the host family nor the CLS may be held liable for services rendered.

We highly recommend that students confirm that his/her health insurance applies abroad, and buy, if necessary, additional coverage before coming to Mexico. It is also possible to purchase one in Mexico, but it may be expensive.

## REGISTRATION

To accommodate a wide diversity of students our placement procedure is informal. Students are encouraged to arrive in Cuernavaca on or before the Friday preceding the beginning of their studies. Thus they will be able to attend our placement session which is held at the school at 9:00 A.M. every Saturday morning. A program coordinator interviews each student. Students are placed in groups equal to their ability and their previous contact with the language. Groups consist of students with equivalent ability levels. This ensures progress and camaraderie among classmates.

If you are unable to arrive in time for the Saturday placement session, you may complete your registration the following Monday, but you may miss part of your class time on Monday.

Please register through our website [www.cls.com.mx](http://www.cls.com.mx) or request us an application form at [cls@cls.com.mx](mailto:cls@cls.com.mx) with copy to [clsmexico@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:clsmexico@yahoo.com.mx) As soon as you register we will make the necessary arrangements for your accommodations and we'll send you the name and address of your Mexican host family, as well as the instructions of how to get to Cuernavaca from the Mexico City International Airport (Benito Juarez Airport). On your arrival to the CLS, you can pay all the costs of your Spanish course, including the costs for housing.

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**SPEAK AND LIVE SPANISH IN A UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE!**

