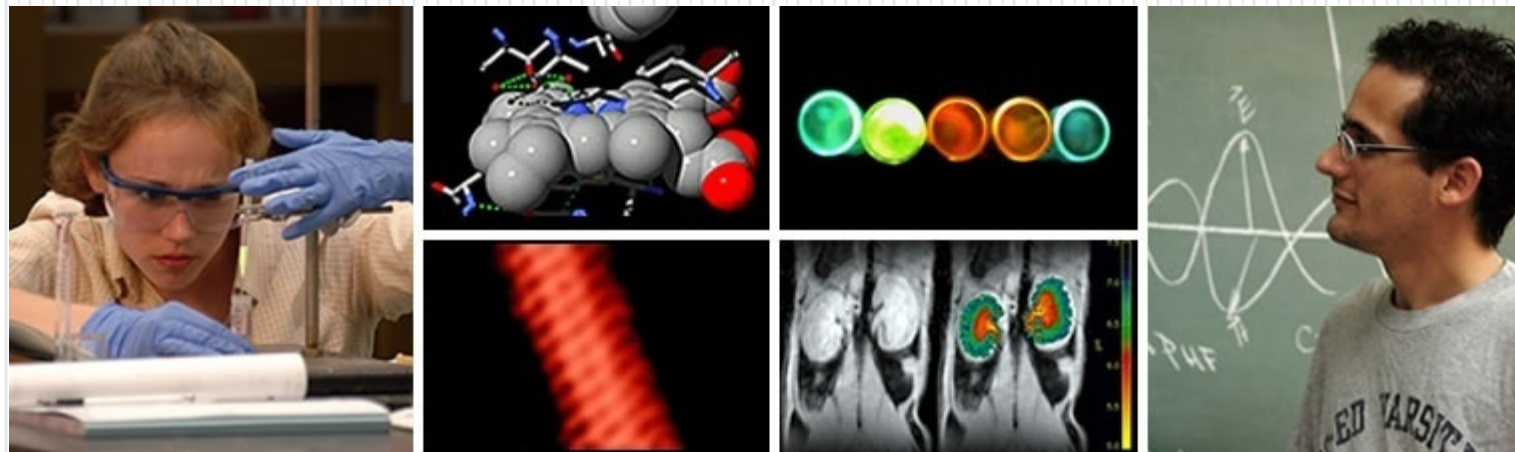


The University of Texas at Dallas

UT Dallas – Mexico Summer Research Program 2012





Target Audience



- Science and Engineering Students starting their junior or senior years.
- Chemistry, biology, physics, geology, mathematics, nanotechnology, art & technology students, engineering and computer science majors.
- Students interested in pursuing a doctoral degree in these disciplines.
- Students with the potential for research and ability to learn English.



Student Qualifications

- Good grade point average in relevant science and engineering major. Interest (background) in research
- letters of recommendation (3) referencing academic background and research aptitude.
- Short essay illustrating English proficiency. Communication skills determined by interview.

Program Details

Two month program – June and July

- Participants live on campus and receive a stipend of \$500.00 per month for food and incidental expenses.



- Participants assigned a faculty mentor and a research project related to their interests.
- Participants receive English language training. TOEFL preparation courses will also be offered to advanced students.
- Participants provided advice on higher education opportunities at UT Dallas and in US. Funding options through CONACYT discussed.



Our Goals for the Program

- Expose students to research early in their undergraduate careers.
- Promote graduate level educational opportunities in the United States (and at UT Dallas) for Mexican scholars and Expand UT Dallas – Mexican University exchange interactions and research cooperation.
- Identify potential candidates from Mexico interested in doctoral study in US

English Proficiency – Total Immersion Program

- Designed to integrate English proficiency screening, training, and cultural emersion.
- This multilevel approach provides reassurance to non-native English speakers.
- It enhances vocabulary acquisition. improves pronunciation, and assists in accent reduction and casual conversation.
- It facilitates comprehension of technical terms and prepares students for multimedia presentations

Daily Classroom Instruction

- Students meet with members of the English Proficiency faculty, enhance their skills in multiple areas of language acquisition. Vocabulary building, learning American slang and idioms, practicing fluency, developing listening skills, mastering pronunciation of technical terms in their field, providing an introduction to the American classroom environment and cultural orientation are all goals of classroom instruction.
- The class prepares students for the final presentations they will make at the end of the program.

English Proficiency Laboratory

- Laboratory time is designed for students to work on an individual skills program in both self-study and in one on one tutoring with an experienced lab aide. In a state of the art classroom environment, using modern Dell flat screen computers, students will work with program resources, the internet and award winning software products such as American Accent Program, Pronunciation Power, Focus on Grammar, etc.

Discussion Groups and/or Buddy Programs

- Several times a week, fellowship students will meet with American students to engage in casual conversations about a wide variety of subjects. These sessions have proven very effective in helping English Proficiency students improve their fluency, listening comprehension, and conversational skills. In addition, these sessions help provide students with a comfort level that allows them to feel less isolated during their visit and more willing to engage in conversations with Americans.

Cultural Immersion

Anyone who has ever traveled to a foreign country knows first hand that the best way to master the language is to use it while immersing oneself in the culture. Classroom instruction, while helpful, falls short of providing the real world contexts essential for second language acquisition. Only actual experiences in using the language can provide true mastery and confidence for these students. Beyond language acquisition, the cultural immersion elements are absolutely essential for making students comfortable and successful as visitors to UTD and Texas.

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Schedule

- Student arrival Monday, June 4, 2012
- Introduction to their respective laboratory rotation Tuesday, June 5, 2012
- Mid-program get together Friday, July 6, 2012
- Final presentation of their work Thursday, July 26, 2012
- End of the summer program Friday, July 27, 2012

We will meet the students once a week for updates on their program and assessment of their progress. At the end of the summer, the students will individually present their research accomplishments to the University administrators and all participants.

UT Dallas – Mexico Summer Research Program 2010

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UT Dallas – Mexico Summer Research Program 2010

Video clip

www.utdallas.edu