

Yucatan Spanish Institute

Merida, Mexico



Program Purpose

This program is designed as a seminar course in Mayan history and literature. There are also sessions on the traditions and legends of the Mayans. Students will learn about the progression of the Mayan Civilization through the arts, medicine, technology, and more.

Program Highlights:

- **LECTURES & WORKSHOPS** – 15 hours a week spent examining Mayan History and Yucatecan Literature.

- **CULTURE** – 10 hours a week of cultural activities, including Yucatecan cooking class, salsa class, visits to museums, local markets and also ideas and activities to use in your Spanish classes.

- **MEETINGS** – Students will have the opportunity to meet with contemporary authors and professionals in relevant fields.

- **EXCURSIONS** – They will also explore the Ruins of Dzibilchaltun, Uxmal, Chichen-Itza and Ticul/Loltun.

Additional excursions are available for an extra cost: Examples include Cenotes, Izamal, Hacienda Sotuta de Peon, Xcambo, Celestun (biosphere protected area) and Progreso (near by the beach).

- **HOMESTAY** - Lodging with a local Mexican family, includes a private room and 3 meals daily.

- **AIRPORT PICK-UP** – you will be met at the airport in Merida and taken to your homestay

Who May Participate?

This program is open to all those with an advanced, superior, or native Spanish level. It is most popular among educators, Spanish majors, and history-buffs.

Sample weekly schedule

(subject to change)

DATES	Topic	Subtopics
Sunday		Arrive in Merida and be greeted by your host family at the airport.
Week 1	History of the Mayans	Sources of Information Mesoamerica The Mayan Area Temporary Locations Economic Activities

Yucatan Spanish Institute

Merida, Mexico

	Latin American Literature	Geographic Limits of Latin America History of Bosque Nationalism Pre-Columbian Documents Historical Documents Formation of the New Spanish Language
	Full day Excursion	Chichen Itza
Week 2	History of the Mayans	Mayan Technology Characteristics of Mayan Clothing Social Stratification Basic Economics Religion
	Latin American Literature	The 1 st Appearance of Poetry The Humanities and History The Beginning of the Independent Intellectual Neoclassic Hispanic America Origins of the Hispanic American Novel
	Traditions and Legends	New and relevant authors to be selected yearly. Information will be provided upon arrival.
Week 3	History of the Mayans	Scientific Knowledge Writing Mathematics Astronomy Medicine
	Latin American Literature	Literature of the Independent Intellectual The romanticism of Hispanic America Postmodernism
	Traditions and Legends	New and relevant authors to be selected yearly. Information will be provided upon arrival.
	Full day Excursion	Uxmal
Week 4	History of the Mayans	Generalization of Art Architecture Writing Painting Ceramics
	Latin American Literature	Avant-gardism Post Avant-gardism
	Traditions and Legends	New and relevant authors to be selected yearly. Information will be provided upon arrival.