



Advanced Placement Summer Institute®

2009 Advanced Placement Summer Institute® in Taxco, Mexico Participant Information

Pre-Departure

1. Complete the TLU APSI-Taxco Participant Information Form and return it to TLU as directed on the form.
2. Sign and mail the Participant Agreement and Release of Liability form.
3. Please be sure that you have a passport before your departure for Mexico and that it is valid beyond your expected return date to the United States.
4. Pack lightly (one suitcase) for what you will need for the week. Casual attire is fine for the workshop sessions. Taxco enjoys year-round warm weather. Its altitude makes it feel spring-like year-round. In June the average high is 81° and the average low is 62°. It can be cool, so bring a sweater or light jacket. Bring an umbrella and/or raincoat in case there is rain. Taxco and the field trip sites are hilly, so bring comfortable walking shoes.
5. Leave room in your luggage or carry-on to take home your workshop materials.
6. If you take medications, bring them in their labeled containers. Bring your prescriptions in case you need to get a refill.
7. As with any travel, do not bring irreplaceable or valuable items. Take care of items such as your passport and camera.
8. Confirm that your current health insurance will provide adequate coverage for any injuries or illnesses that you may sustain or experience while participating in the APSI in Taxco including medical evacuation and repatriation of remains.
9. If you need insurance, possible carriers are HTH Worldwide (<http://www.hthtravelinsurance.com/index.cfm>) and STA Travel Insurance (http://www.statravel.com/Statravel/travelinsurance/ti_landing.aspx?menuid=5000).
10. Notify your credit card company and your bank that you are going abroad and confirm that you can use your credit card and debit card abroad.
11. Review the items that are not allowed in carry-on baggage, in your purse, etc.
12. For additional tips, go to http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html, the US State Department website for international travel and http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_970.html regarding travel to Mexico.

Arrival at Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City

1. TLU will notify you as soon as we know, but not later than May 29th, to confirm that the workshop for which you have enrolled will be conducted. We suggest that you do not finalize your air travel plans until then unless you purchase a refundable ticket or obtain flight insurance that would allow you to cancel your reservations. We anticipate that we will have sufficient enrollments, but we want to be cautious.
2. Please arrange your air travel so that you arrive at the Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City on Saturday before 3:00 p.m. – either June 27th or July 4th.
3. Upon arrival at the airport, you will need to collect your luggage and go through immigration and customs. June and July are a busy time for travel, so this can take several hours.
4. Dr. Ana María González, the TLU liaison will meet participants starting at 3:00 p.m. by the main exit of the international terminal (Terminal 1) adjacent to the Freedom Restaurant. Look for her with a sign reading, "TLU APSI – Taxco." When you arrive, be sure to confirm that you are in Terminal 1.
5. You will have some out-of-pocket expenses that will require Mexican currency. You may exchange US dollars for Mexican pesos at a currency exchange or use your ATM card at one of the many ATM machines at the airport. The current exchange rate is 1 USD = about 14.5 MXN or 1 MXN = about .07 USD (7¢). (NOTE: Exchange rates are subject to fluctuations.)
6. If you have time to eat lunch upon your arrival, do so. You will not get to Taxco and dinner until about 8:00 p.m.
7. For more information about the airport, go to http://www.aicm.com.mx/home_en.php.
8. Departure from the airport en-route to Taxco will be at 4:30 p.m.
9. Should you arrive after the bus has left, contact Dr. Ana María González on her cell phone at (044) 762 621 07 1210 for instructions. You will be responsible for the payment of alternative transportation to Taxco.

10. If you need to contact the TLU liaison after your arrival, you may call Dr. Ana María González at her cell phone number - (044) 762 621 07 1210 - or at her home - (762) 627 1190.

Travel from Mexico City to Taxco

You will be transported with other TLU-APSI participants in a bus or a van to Taxco. The trip will take approximately three hours.

Arrival in Taxco

When you arrive in Taxco, you will either be met by a member of your host family and escorted to their home or be taken to the Hotel Agua Escondida.

Lodging during the Week

1. In Taxco
 - a. If you are staying with a host family in Taxco, please complete the participant information form so that CEPE can match you with an appropriate family in Taxco. You will receive information about the family as soon as you are assigned. Your APSI fees include payment for your lodging for six nights (Saturday through Thursday) as well as dinner (Saturday through Thursday) and breakfast (Sunday through Thursday) with your host family.
 - b. If you are staying at the Hotel Agua Escondida, your APSI fees include payment for your lodging for six nights (Saturday through Thursday) as well breakfast (Sunday through Wednesday).
2. In Mexico City, your APSI fees include payment for your lodging for two nights (Friday and Saturday) as well as breakfast (Saturday and Sunday) at the Hotel Catedral.

Activities during the Week

1. The daily schedule will be as follows with some flexibility:

Day	Time	Activity
<i>Saturday</i>	Not later than 3:00 p.m.	Arrival at Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City
	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Transfer to Taxco
	Evening	Dinner with host family OR check into hotel and dinner on own
<i>Sunday</i>	Morning and afternoon	Orientation day with suggested activities
	6:00 p.m.	Welcome dinner (cost not included in APSI fees)
<i>Monday</i>	8:00 am	Begin workshop
	9:45 -10:00 am	15-minute break for refreshments
	10:00 am	Resume workshop
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch
	12:30 pm	Resume workshop
	2:15 – 2:30 pm	15-minute break for refreshments
	2:30 pm	Resume workshop
	4:00 pm	Adjourn workshop for the day
	Late afternoon-evening	On own – suggested activities
	<i>Tuesday</i>	8:00 am
9:45 -10:00 am		15-minute break for refreshments
10:00 am		Resume workshop
11:30 am – 12:30 pm		Lunch
12:30 pm		Resume workshop
2:15 – 2:30 pm		15-minute break for refreshments
2:30 pm		Resume workshop
4:00 pm		Adjourn workshop for the day
Late afternoon-evening	On own – suggested activities	
<i>Wednesday</i>	All Day	Field Trip to Tepoztlán and Cuernavaca
<i>Thursday</i>	8:00 am	Begin workshop
	9:45 -10:00 am	15-minute break for refreshments

	10:00 am	Resume workshop
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch
	12:30 pm	Resume workshop
	2:15 – 2:30 pm	15-minute break for refreshments
	2:30 pm	Resume workshop
	4:00 pm	Adjourn workshop for the day
	Late afternoon-evening	On own – suggested activities
<i>Friday</i>	6:00 am	Depart Taxco for Teotihuacan
	Morning and early afternoon	Field trip at Teotihuacan
	Mid-afternoon	Travel from Teotihuacan to Mexico City; check into Hotel Catedral
	Late afternoon - evening	Free activity or group activity with APSI consultant
<i>Saturday</i>	All day	APSI workshop-specific activities facilitated by APSI consultant
<i>Sunday</i>	Individual schedules	Travel to Benito Juarez International Airport for return flight

2. You will have a morning and afternoon break with refreshments on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at UNAM-CEPE (included in the APSI fees).
3. You will have lunch Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday on the UNAM-CEPE campus (included in the APSI fees).
4. On Wednesday, you will have a field trip to Tepoztlán and Cuernavaca. The cost of the transportation to and from Tepoztlán and Cuernavaca, entry fees, the services of a guide, and a box lunch are included in the cost of the Institute.
5. On Friday, you will visit Teotihuacan. The cost of the transportation to Teotihuacan, entry fees, the services of a guide, and morning snacks are included in the cost of the Institute.
6. On Friday and Saturday, your activities in Mexico City will depend on your workshop. Your consultant will provide guidance.
7. Evaluations - Please complete the APSI evaluations for the College Board on Saturday. They will be exchanged for your certificate.
8. Participant Certificates - You must attend all sessions to receive an APSI Continuing Education Unit (CEU)/Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours Certificate.
9. *Only participants who are enrolled in the APSI may attend workshop sessions.*
10. You will have access to CEPE resources: library, pool, volleyball court, and wireless internet.
11. You will have time on your own to spend with other APSI participants and/or your host family each evening.

Departure from Mexico City to Benito Juarez International Airport

The Hotel Catedral will make taxi arrangements for you to the airport on Sunday depending on your departure time. The taxi will cost approximately 150-200 MXN pesos.

Other Information

1. If your family needs to get a message to you while you are in Taxco, they can call 011.52.762.622.3410 or 011.52.762.662.0124 (from the US). If calling from within Mexico, call 762.622.3410 or 762.662.0124.
2. To meet your communications needs, consider contacting your cell phone provider to determine what service is available to you in Mexico and what the cost is for that service. Also consider buying a Telmex /Ladatel prepaid calling card in Mexico to use in public telephones. These cards are sold in small stores, supermarkets, pharmacies, bakeries and newsstands.
3. Everything is within a walking distance in Taxco. If you choose not to walk, public transportation is available. Taxi fares from downtown to CEPE cost about \$2.00 dollars; little public buses or "combis" cost about 45 cents.
4. There are two medical clinics in Taxco with English-speaking physicians should you have a medical emergency.
5. If a family member or friend is accompanying you to Taxco, s/he may stay with you with your host family or in the hotel and accompany you on the field trip. Payment will be made to TLU.
6. If you have questions or concerns before your departure, please call TLU (830.372.6833) or email apsi@tlu.edu.