

International Winter School 2023

Over the course of approximately three months, students will participate in a simulation activity as part of the junior professional staff of a Consultancy Company dedicated to advising local communities to create development policies. They will address the challenge of proposing a Strategic Development Plan for an underprivileged community within a Latin American context.

Twenty international students will come together with 10 students from the Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL). They will come from a diverse range of disciplinary profiles and backgrounds to form working teams focused on specific aspects of a local community with the perspective of the 17 SDG of the UN's 2030 Agenda.

The teams will collaborate alongside 5 international professors and 5 UNL professors who will simulate as the senior expert staff of the company and will guide this experience and support the students through teachings that correspond with their educational field.

During the first part of the program the students will learn by interacting with professors and colleagues not only from different disciplinary profiles and backgrounds but also from divergent academic environments. Even more interestingly, in the second part, they will learn through interacting directly with local citizens in their cultural homeland, enabling them to absorb the stark contrasts between this environment and that of their country of origin. By the end of this experience the students will have a strong understanding of the culture, rights, laws and politics that govern Argentina and other South American communities promote, as well as specific disciplinary and international and intercultural competences.

Timeline:

(90 hours in total)

Part 1: Virtual (48 hours over 8 weeks)

- A series of virtual, online sessions (both live and pre-recorded), across the space of 2 months
- Approximately 4 classes a week, 2 pre-recorded lectures (1.5 hour each) and 2 live online lessons (1.5 hour each)

Part 2: Face-to-face (42 hours)

- 2 weeks in Santa Fe, Argentina
- 4 hours per day (5 days per week)
 - 2 hours in the morning, a break for lunch, 2 hours in the afternoon
- A mixture of lectures and lessons, and cultural visits and activities

Teams

The students will be split into 5 teams, each with a specific area of focus.

- 2 senior experts (1 UNL & 1 INU professor)
- 8 team assistants (2 UNL + 6 INU)

Areas of focus:

- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Work and Economic Growth
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Responsible Consumption and Production
- Good Health and Well-Being

Activity

Part 1: Virtual

- A combination of web lectures, webinars and research work
 - Course coordinator presentation (role-playing: international consultancy office for Latin America and a Local Government Board)
 - Opening lecture
 - ___ webinars and web lectures
 - 5 research projects
- To be conducted at home or at the university of origin

Part 2: Face-to-face

- Accommodation will be arranged and provided
- Visits to a local underprivileged area (such as across the bridge in Santa Fe proper)
- The students will create a Strategic Development Plan for said area
 - 10 strategies for sustainable development which fulfil the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- A simulation of the interaction between the international consultancy office with a local government board

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on a range of aspects, both individually and as a team

- Topic relevance
- Organization
- Use of visual aids and graphics
- Use of technical language

Requirements

- The students must speak English – this can be both as their native language or as a second language
 - There are no requirements to speak Spanish, however it will be an advantage to the student if they do
- The fees for the course, accommodation, food and any other services or activities undertaken are the responsibility of the student