

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Virtual Joint Courses: UC and Mexico

About the University of California Alianza MX

As a UC-based Initiative, Alianza MX is uniquely positioned to foster collaborations between the UC and Mexican partners in order to solve problems and seize opportunities in the California-Mexico agenda. UC Alianza MX does so by supporting a bilateral approach to basic and applied research as well as the two-way mobility of students and professors between California and Mexico.

Virtual Joint Courses Overview

UC Alianza MX is proud to release this Request for Applications (RFA) for development of undergraduate and/or graduate virtual joint courses between faculty of the University of California (UC) and Mexico institutions of research and higher education.

The goal of this RFA is to facilitate borderless classrooms by providing UC faculty the opportunity to co-create collaborative online courses with peers at partnering institutions in Mexico while fostering meaningful, sustainable and accessible international experiences for all UC students. UC faculty and their Mexico colleague(s) may co-develop and co-teach existing or new courses, or modules within courses. Content may be delivered synchronously or asynchronously.

Program Objectives of the RFA

Benefits for Students:

- Creates peer-to-peer interactions between UC and Mexico students with access to expanded binational network
- Offers potential opportunities to work on binational research team projects
- Allows for international engagement without degree interruption

Benefits for Faculty

- Enables collaboration between faculty at UC and Mexico institutions of higher education
- Provides an opportunity to expand topic(s) and bring international perspectives covered in traditional in-person courses
- Course development resources (including coordination with third party providers)
- Partnering activities and support
- Exchange course samples
- Assistance with institutional MOU agreements

Eligibility

Ladder-rank faculty from any of the 10 UC campuses are invited to apply.

Proposed courses may be existing or new courses in any academic discipline as long as they

follow the respective campus' Academic Senate new course approval process. Note that if a new course is not approved by 31 March 2022, funds will not be released. The Mexico partner institution course may be from the same or a different discipline. It is expected that faculty will together to develop a joint syllabus for the proposed course, minimum of 8-week duration.

Applicants must demonstrate institutional commitment and capacity and identify a facilitating campus office including staff member who will be able to assist the lead UC faculty course instructor. Use of an existing course is encouraged if the campus provides an innovative plan on how the campus will effectively contribute to the success of the virtual joint course.

Each application must include the identification and contact information of the following participants:

- a lead UC faculty course instructor, and if applicable, a co-lead UC faculty course instructor
- an international education program officer from the home campus (contact your campus' International Affairs or Global Engagement office or the equivalent office on your campus)
- a campus instructional designer who will assist the lead faculty course instructor

Only complete applications will be accepted for consideration. This will be an open application process through June 2023. We project that 20 awards will be made over the two-year period, 2021-2023.

Deadline: Proposals submitted to UC Alianza MX will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Applications are to be submitted in PDF format to alianzaucmx@ucr.edu with copy to both andrea.galvanvelez@ucr.edu and veronica.sandoval@ucr.edu and using the name VJC_CampusName_ProjectName.

Grant Award: \$5,000 total/application

Allowable expenses include:

- UC faculty stipends
- Online training workshop expenses/professional development for faculty and staff
- Course design including course logistics, project design, annual online resources

Selection Criteria

We welcome projects that seek to build upon existing research collaborations.

In addition to considerations such as quality of the proposal and feasibility (e.g., the extent to which courses accommodate participating institutions' schedules and infrastructure), proposals are assessed along the following criteria:

Sustainability: The extent to which the proposed course shows potential for continued learning

opportunities, integration within campus programs, and/or strengthened collaboration between individuals or institutions.

Equity: Show the potential for expanding opportunities for greater number of students enrolled at their institutions to gain international exposure, particularly those traditionally underrepresented in higher education and in education abroad.

Assessment Plan: Include a plan to evaluate impact on student learning and teaching, growth and development and exposure to international engagement.

Additional questions? Contact Andrea Galvan, Associate Director of Student Affairs & Extension, at andrea.galvanvelez@ucr.edu and/or Veronica Sandoval, Student Affairs & Extension Coordinator, at veronica.sandoval@ucr.edu.