

REACHING OUT WEDNESDAYS

Topic: Spanish Immersion

Seminario Hispano has a program. Please check their website, www.seminariohispano.org.mx
The Legionaries of Christ, provides a Spanish course called Curso de Hispanidad. For more information, you can see the website: <http://curso.fidesio.com>

Archdiocese of New Orleans : Regarding the Spanish Immersion program, in the past (summers of 2005 through 2009) we sent several seminarians to the Hispanic Seminary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. Courses in Spanish are given by expert teachers in the language department of the Universidad Panamericana in Mexico City and run for eight weeks (June and July). We were very pleased with the program and the results.

Diocese of Phoenix: Given the demographic makeup of the diocese, seminarians are expected to be proficient in English and Spanish. The Diocese of Phoenix pays tuition, travel, room and board costs associated with Spanish language studies and travel abroad at a diocesan preferred school in La Antigua Guatemala. This is generally undertaken during one of the first two summers of theology studies. There are three factors that ensure the success of the immersion experience. They are attitude, length of stay and amount of prior study in Spanish. All three are expected to be the norm for men called to serve the largely bilingual population of our diocese.

This course of study is no less than 10 weeks. In addition, seminarians should do all they can to take at least two semesters of Spanish prior to immersion. This makes the immersion much easier and more effective. It is understood that during the summer of immersion, seminarians likely need to miss ordinations. The costs for classes, travel and personal needs are covered by the diocese (the cost is approximately \$3,500).