

UC San Diego

SCHOOL OF GLOBAL POLICY AND STRATEGY
Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies

U.S. Political Institutions and U.S.-Mexico Relations Summer Seminar (USPI) **Final Report 2024**

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1. INTRODUCTION

Now in its sixth year, the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions and U.S.-Mexico Relations (USPI), organized by the UC San Diego Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies with generous sponsorship from the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, continues to serve as a transformative program.

It has been designed to seamlessly combine in-depth on-line sessions with a rigorous in-person experience, covering essential topics such as the structure and reach of U.S. political institutions, as well as a grounding on issues of immigration, trade, security, and foreign policy. These sessions equip participants with the tools needed to understand events, and so excel in their respective fields while fostering a deeper understanding of U.S.-Mexico relations.

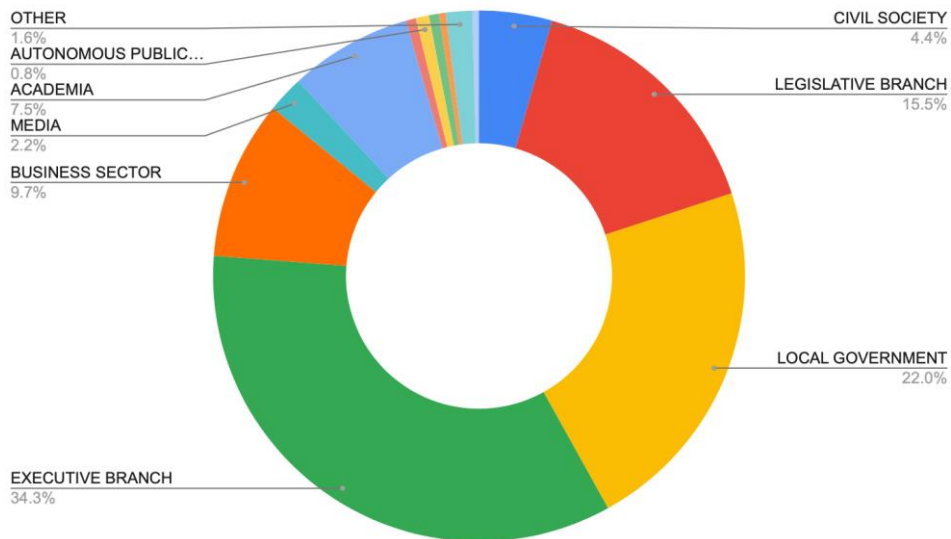
Every year, this Summer Seminar brings together mid-level professionals from diverse disciplines who are eager to explore the complexities of the U.S. political system. Through meaningful discourse, the seminar imparts essential skills, enabling participants to navigate U.S. politics effectively.

This program is especially important because it addresses the increasing need for professionals in diplomacy, law, academia, journalism, and related fields to gain a comprehensive understanding of U.S. political institutions, given the country's significant influence on global affairs.

Additionally, the seminar plays a crucial role in fostering lasting connections among participants, which are essential for strengthening bilateral cooperation between Mexico and the United States. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the seminar, including participant profiles, detailed program content, faculty contributions, and outcomes from the in-person activities. It also includes participant feedback, course evaluations, and a financial report.

2. PARTICIPANTS

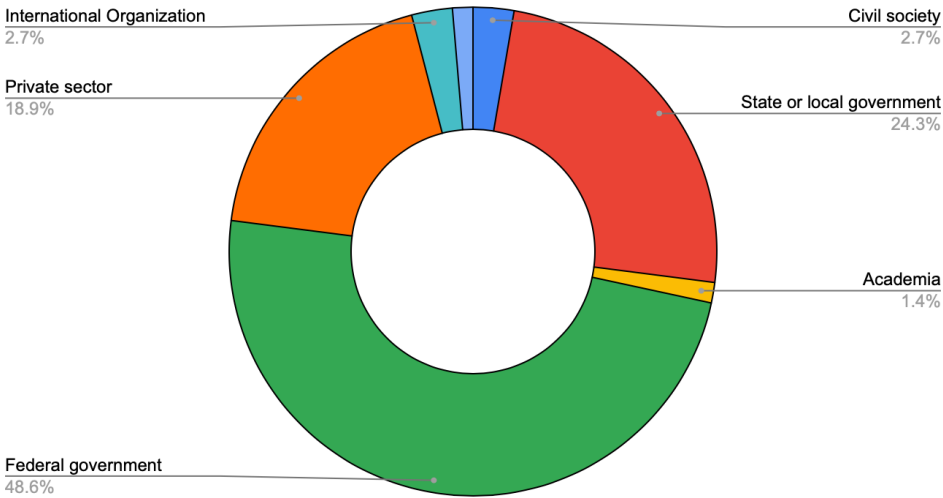
In the six years of the USPI Seminar, from 2019-2024, we have had a total of 496 participants. They have represented local governments from a wide range of states, such as Nayarit, Estado de Mexico, Sonora, Quintana Roo, and Jalisco; federal institutions as PEMEX, Foreign Ministry, Chamber of Deputies, and the Senate; ONGs and international organizations as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); academic institutions such as Universidad Panamericana, Tec de Monterrey and Colegio de México; and the private sector.



For the sixth edition of the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions and U.S.-Mexico Relations (USPI), USMEX received 134 applications from professionals across various sectors, including all levels of government in Mexico, the private sector, academia, and civil society.

Following a rigorous selection process, 75 candidates were chosen to participate in the online portion of the course. Of these, 38 were selected to attend the in-person activities held at UC San Diego.

2024 Participant Distribution by Sector



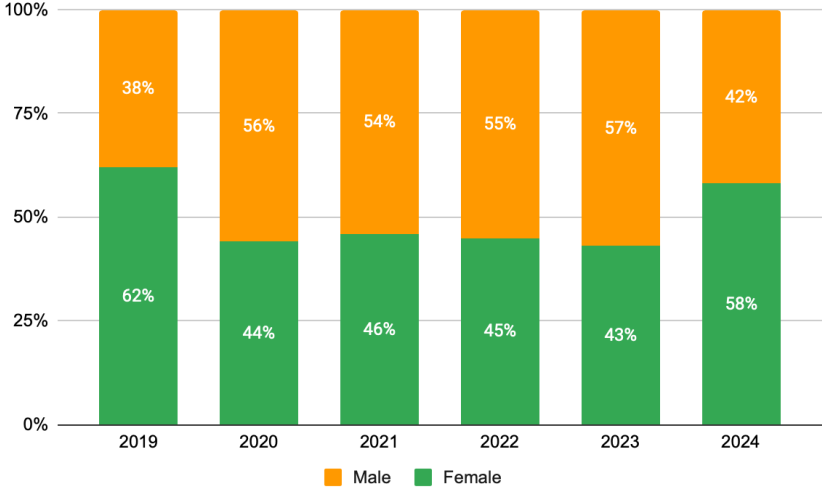
Federal government officials participating in the Summer Seminar this year represented a broad array of agencies, including the Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies, the Superior Auditing Office of the Federation (Auditoría Superior de la Federación), the National Electoral Institute (Instituto Nacional Electoral, or INEGI), the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, or SRE), the Supreme Court, The Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS-Bienestar), and the National Anti-Corruption System (Sistema Nacional Anticorrupción).

Regarding federal and local governments, participants hailed from the Mexican states of Yucatán, Estado de México, Campeche, Quintana Roo, Nuevo León, and Guanajuato. The Center's ongoing efforts to engage a diverse group of participants from various regions of Mexico and different government agencies, both at the federal and local levels, are clearly reflected in this growing diversity.

Additionally, we included participants from Mexican Consulates in San Diego, Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, Salt Lake City, and from the Embassy in Washington D.C. Also, for the first time, we welcomed officials from international organizations, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Participant Gender Distribution

This year's selection process aimed to achieve a balanced gender distribution, resulting in a cohort that was 58% female and 42% male. Notably, the proportion of female participants is higher than in the past four years, reflecting USMEX's ongoing efforts to be more gender-inclusive in its participant selection.



Participant's Age Profile

We are firmly convinced that engaging the next generation is crucial for harnessing the full potential of the bilateral relationship. Our focus on younger participants stems from several key considerations.

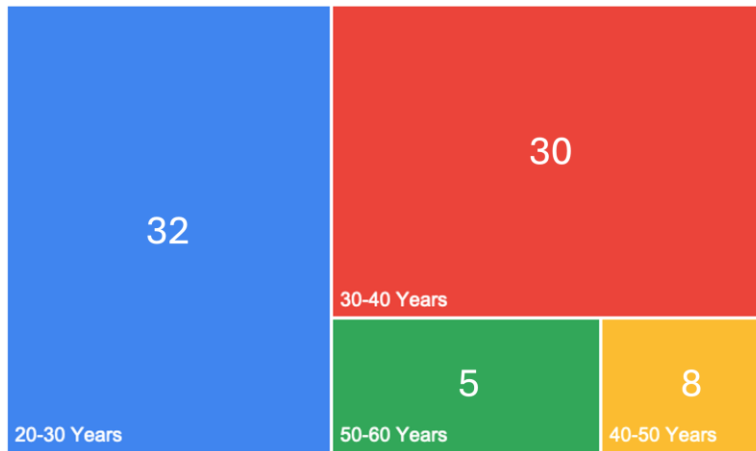
By involving young professionals early in their careers, we are cultivating a new group of leaders who will have a deep, nuanced understanding of the complexities and opportunities within the U.S.-Mexico relations. These younger participants have the potential to influence bilateral relations for decades to come. By educating and inspiring them now, we are investing in the long-term strength and stability of the relationship between our two nations.

Young professionals bring fresh ideas and innovative approaches to longstanding challenges. Their unique perspectives, often shaped by digital native experiences and global mindsets, can lead to creative solutions in diplomacy and policy-making. The connections and networks formed during these formative years of their careers are likely to be particularly strong and enduring. These relationships will serve as invaluable assets throughout their professional lives, facilitating collaboration, understanding, and problem-solving across borders.

In an era of rapid technological and geopolitical change, younger participants are often more adaptable and quick to embrace new paradigms in international relations. Moreover, younger generations tend to have more exposure to diverse cultures through digital platforms and global media. This can make them particularly adept at bridging cultural gaps and fostering mutual understanding.

Our commitment to fostering education and interest among these young professionals goes beyond the duration of the program. We are developing ongoing mentorship opportunities, creating platforms for continued dialogue, and establishing channels for these emerging leaders to contribute to policy discussions.

By investing in the education and networking opportunities for these young participants, we are not just preparing them for future professional success. We are laying the groundwork for a more collaborative, innovative, and resilient bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexico for generations to come.

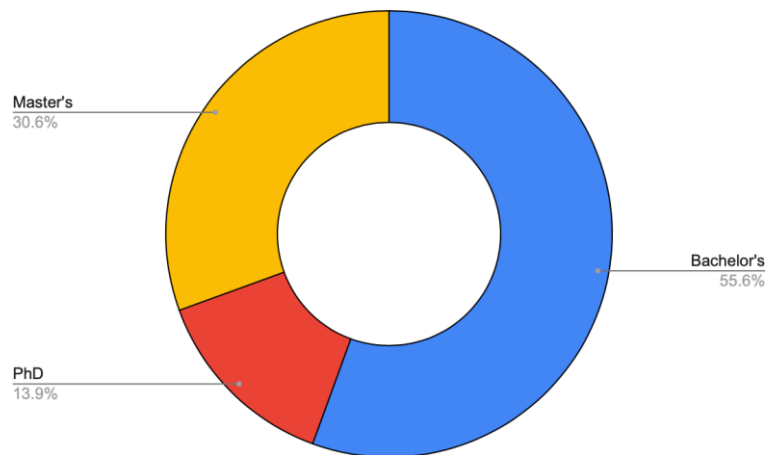


Participant Academic Profile and Impact

One of the key selection criteria for this program is the participants' English language proficiency. Our analysis reveals a strong correlation between language skills and academic achievement among our cohort. This careful selection process has yielded a highly qualified group of participants:

Educational Background:

- 60% of participants hold at least a bachelor's degree
- Approximately 40% have pursued postgraduate studies



This advanced educational profile has significantly enhanced the quality and depth of discussions throughout the seminar. The impact of this high-caliber participant pool is evident in several areas.

The elevated discourse is a primary benefit of our participants' advanced academic backgrounds. It has fostered sophisticated, nuanced discussions on complex bilateral issues, allowing for a more in-depth exploration of topics and pushing beyond surface-level analysis to examine underlying factors and long-term implications.

Moreover, participants with higher education levels, particularly those with postgraduate experience, demonstrate a keen awareness of the global context surrounding U.S.-Mexico relations. This broader perspective enriches discussions by situating bilateral issues within a larger geopolitical framework.

The academic rigor brought by our participants has also led to more critical and analytical approaches to the seminar content. As a result, thought-provoking questions emerge, conventional wisdom is challenged, and innovative ideas are brought to the fore.

Furthermore, the diverse academic backgrounds of our participants have facilitated interdisciplinary perspectives on U.S.-Mexico relations, bringing together insights from fields such as political science, economics, law, and international relations.

The high academic level of participants has also enabled more substantive interactions with guest speakers and experts. This has led to deeper, more meaningful exchanges and a mutually enriching experience for both participants and presenters.

Lastly, the combination of strong English skills and advanced academic backgrounds positions our participants to be effective bridge-builders and thought leaders in U.S.-Mexico relations long after the seminar concludes.

By maintaining these high standards for participant selection, we ensure that the seminar continues to serve as a platform for high-level discourse and meaningful exchange, ultimately contributing to a more nuanced and productive bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States.

3. CONTENT OF THE PROGRAM

Throughout the three-week on-line program and four-day in-person visit to the border region, participants gained key insights into U.S.-Mexico relations, U.S. political processes, and the upcoming elections.

On-Line Program

The initial on-line segment ran from July 19 to August 3rd, with sessions held on Fridays, Saturdays and group discussions on Wednesdays. Topics included overviews of the principal U.S political institutions (and for U.S. congressional staffers the equivalent of Mexican institutions); the mechanics of U.S. policymaking, including the role of the Census, the role of state and local politics; in-depth explorations of principal themes in U.S.-Mexico relations, such as immigration, trade and security; and overviews of the general state of U.S.-Mexico relations.

On-Line Schedule

	Date	Start (MT)	End (MT)	Lecture	Instructor
I. Welcome and U.S. Political Institutions	Friday, July 19, 2024	5:00 PM	5:20 PM	Course Introduction and Inauguration	Rafael Fernández de Castro, Catheryn Camacho and Allert Brown-Gort
	Friday, July 19, 2024	5:20 PM	5:30 PM	Conversation with U.S. Embassy in Mexico	Roberto Quiroz
	Friday, July 19, 2024	5:30 PM	7:00 PM	The State of U.S.-Mexico Relations	Esteban Moctezuma
	Friday, July 19, 2024	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	Break	
	Friday, July 19, 2024	7:15 PM	8:00 PM	Rule of Law in the U.S.	Antonio Ortiz Mena
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	The Legislative Branch	Allert Brown-Gort
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	The Executive Branch	Jeff Weldon
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	12:00 PM	12:10 PM	Break	
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	12:10 PM	1:00 PM	Mechanics of U.S. Policymaking and the U.S. Congress	Jeff Weldon
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	The Supreme Court	Allert Brown-Gort
	Wednesday July 24, 2024	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Working Groups: Comparing the U.S. Political Institutions with Mexico's institutional landscape	Allert Brown-Gort

II. Immigration issues	Friday, July 26, 2024	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	Census, Redistricting, Local Elections	Sergio I. Garcia-Rios
	Friday, July 26, 2024	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	The Impact of State and Local Politics on U.S.-MX Relations	Amb. Carlos Gonzalez Gutierrez
	Friday, July 26, 2024	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	Break	
	Friday, July 26, 2024	7:15 PM	8:00 PM	The role of Race and Identity in U.S. Politics	Allert Brown-Gort
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Contemporary U.S.-Immigration Policy	Theresa Brown
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	11:00 AM	11:45 AM	Mexico and the Immigration crisis in the U.S.	Amb. Reyna Torres
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	11:45 AM	12:00 PM	Break	
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	12:00 PM	1:15 PM	Gender and migration in the U.S.-Mexico border	Amb. Alicia Kerber
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	1:15 PM	2:45 PM	U.S.-Mexico Cooperation in Security	1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eduardo Guerrero / 2- 2:45 p.m. Celina Realuyo
	Wednesday, July 31, 2024	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Working Groups: Immigration crisis and the bilateral relationship	Allert Brown-Gort
III. Principal Themes in U.S.-Mexico Relations	Friday, August 2, 2024	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	Consecuencias de la política migratoria para México y Estados Unidos	Antonella Bandiera
	Friday, August 2, 2024	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	USMCA, Nearshoring and Reshoring	Claudia Ruiz Massieu
	Friday, August 2, 2024	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	Break	
	Friday, August 2, 2024	7:15 PM	8:30 PM	USMCA: Trade in a digital era	Alejandra Palacios
	Saturday, August 3, 2024	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Mexico in the U.S. 2024 elections	Rafael Fernández de Castro
	Saturday, August 3, 2024	11:00 AM	11:15 AM	Break	
	Saturday, August 3, 2024	11:15 AM	12:15 PM	U.S.-Mexico on the Threshold of 2024	Amb. Martha Bárcena
	Saturday, August 3, 2024	12:15 PM	1:00 PM	Closing Remarks	Rafael Fernández de Castro, Catheryn Camacho, Allert Brown-Gort

4. In-person activities



One of the main objectives of the program is to promote networking among the participants, as this will foster ongoing communication between the alumni and strengthen their connection with both the U.S. Embassy in Mexico and USMEX.

For this reason, the first activity was a tour of the university facilities, which culminated in a welcome cocktail where participants formally introduced themselves, exchanged ideas and perspectives on the challenges of the relationship, and discussed the program's goals.



Classes at UC San Diego

In-person classes at UCSD were designed to provide participants with the opportunity to personally experience the nuances of many of the themes explored in previous weeks. In addition, through discussion groups they were able to explore in more detail the issues most important to them—whether professionally, or personally.

It was an opportunity for students to expand their knowledge of in U.S.-Mexico relations specifically, and international relations more broadly; introduce participants to regional and cross-border themes and relations; provide for bonding and networking opportunities amongst participants and faculty.

Among the most notable activities were:

Sessions with Amb. Alicia Kerber, Consul General of Mexico in San Diego



As part of our comprehensive program on U.S.-Mexico relations, participants had the privilege of engaging with Ambassador Alicia Kerber, the Consul General of Mexico in San Diego. These sessions provided valuable insights into consular diplomacy and the critical issue of gender equity in the diplomatic sector. The topics addressed were:

1. **Consular Diplomacy:** Amb. Kerber shared her expertise on the nuances and importance of consular work in international relations.
2. **Gender Equity in Diplomacy:** The session focused on the role and representation of women in diplomatic services, particularly within the context of U.S.-Mexico relations.

Consular Diplomacy: During this session, the participants gained first-hand knowledge about the day-to-day operations of a consulate. They also reflect on the strategic importance of consular work in maintaining and strengthening bilateral relations was emphasized.

Gender Equity in Diplomacy: Amb. Kerber provided her perspective on the current state of gender representation in diplomatic circles. The format encouraged active participation, allowing students to engage directly with a high-ranking diplomatic official. Participants had the opportunity to ask questions and share their own views on gender equity in international relations.

Educational Value

1. **Real-World Diplomacy:** Students gained insights into diplomatic practices from an experienced professional, bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical application.
2. **Gender Awareness:** The session raised awareness about gender issues in international relations, encouraging students to consider these factors in their future careers.
3. **Critical Thinking:** Participants were challenged to reflect on the importance of inclusive practices in diplomacy and bilateral relations.
4. **Networking Opportunity:** Interaction with a high-ranking diplomat provided valuable connections and potential mentorship opportunities for participants interested in diplomatic careers.

The session with Consul General Kerber was particularly enriching for the participants. It fostered an exchange of ideas and prompted reflection on two critical aspects:

1. The evolving nature of consular diplomacy in the context of U.S.-Mexico relations.
2. The importance of including women in diplomatic roles and how this impacts bilateral relations.

Session with Jorge Goyortúa, CEO, Cross Border Xpress



As part of the program's commitment to providing a comprehensive understanding of U.S.-Mexico relations, students engaged with key private sector actors who have significantly impacted bilateral relations, in this case, with Jorge Goyortúa, the CEO of Cross Border Xpress (CBX). A highlight of these engagements was an in-depth examination of the CBX project that creates:

1. **Infrastructure Innovation:** CBX represents a groundbreaking approach to border infrastructure, demonstrating the potential for creative solutions in cross-border mobility.
2. **Economic Impact:** The project facilitates smoother travel between the two countries, potentially boosting tourism and business interactions in the border region.
3. **Bilateral Collaboration:** CBX stands as a testament to the power of U.S.-Mexico cooperation, showcasing how private sector initiatives can complement governmental efforts in strengthening bilateral ties.
4. **Regional Development:** The success of CBX highlights the unique dynamics of the border region and its potential for innovative development projects.

Educational Value

Students gained invaluable insights from this case study:

1. **Real-world Application:** The CBX visit provided a tangible example of how bilateral cooperation manifests in practical, impactful projects.
2. **Role of the Private Sector:** Students observed firsthand the crucial role that private enterprises play in shaping and enhancing U.S.-Mexico relations.
3. **Innovation in Practice:** The project demonstrated how innovative thinking can address complex cross-border challenges.
4. **Multifaceted Impact:** Students analyzed how a single project can have wide-ranging effects on economics, diplomacy, and regional development.

The CBX case study exemplifies the program's commitment to exposing students to cutting-edge developments in U.S.-Mexico relations. By engaging directly with this innovative project, participants deepened their understanding of the complexities and opportunities inherent in the bilateral relationship, particularly in the dynamic border region.

Conference on Organized Crime and Violence in Mexico



As part of the program's comprehensive approach to understanding U.S.-Mexico relations, participants attended a pivotal conference addressing critical security challenges in the region. This event provided valuable insights into the complex interplay between economic development and security concerns. The key speaker was Dr. Cecilia Farfan Mendez

Dr. Farfan Mendez explored the relationship between nearshoring trends and their potential impact on Mexico's security and economic landscape. Her presentation addressed two crucial questions:

1. How is nearshoring expected to create opportunities for new investment and economic growth in Mexico?
2. Can this historic economic trend contribute to improving security conditions in the country?

Security remains a top concern for companies considering moving operations to Mexico. This panel provided a forum for in-depth discussion on this critical issue.

Educational Value

1. Apply knowledge gained from the program to real-world scenarios.
2. Develop critical thinking skills by analyzing complex security and economic issues.
3. Practice formulating policy recommendations for high-stakes international business and security concerns.

Also, by attending and participating in this panel, students were able to take advantage of:

1. **Interdisciplinary Approach:** The conference highlighted the interconnectedness of economic policy and security issues in U.S.-Mexico relations.
2. **Expert Insights:** Participants benefited from the expertise of Dr. Farfan Mendez and other panelists, gaining cutting-edge perspectives on these critical issues.
3. **Practical Application:** The conference provided a platform for students to apply their learning in a professional setting, enhancing their analytical and problem-solving skills.
4. **Networking Opportunities:** Students interacted with experts and professionals in the field, potentially opening doors for future academic or career opportunities.

The conference on Organized Crime and Violence in Mexico served as a cornerstone event in the program, providing participants with a nuanced understanding of the security challenges facing Mexico and their implications for U.S.-Mexico relations. By engaging with these complex issues, students developed a more sophisticated grasp of the multifaceted nature of bilateral ties and the intricate balance between economic opportunity and security concerns.

Discussion Groups



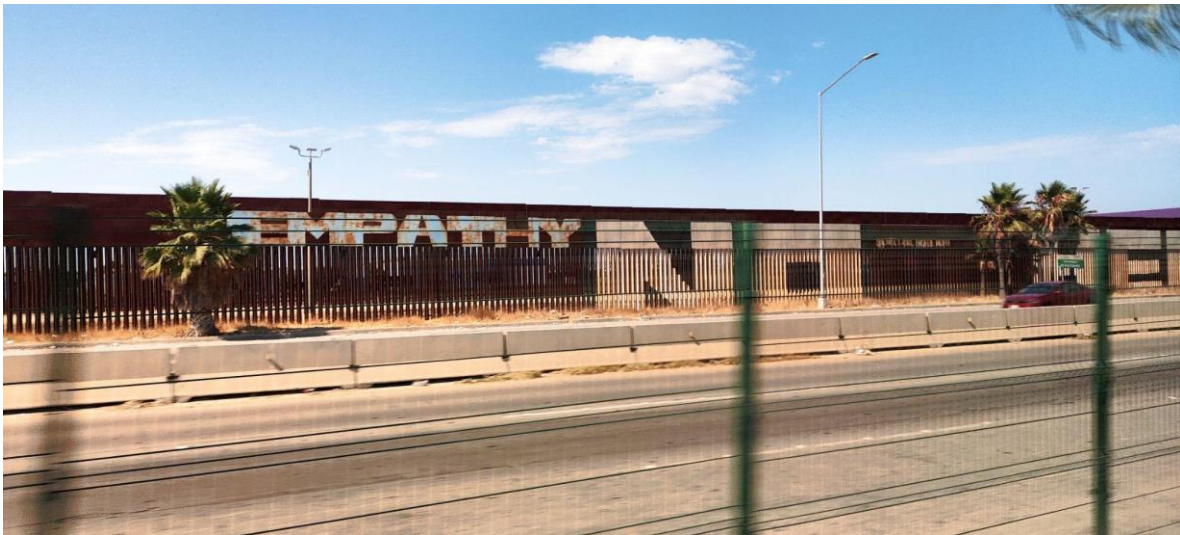
We also organized daily discussion groups with the students, where they were asked to identify, or were assigned, specific topics relevant to the bilateral relationship and to carry out—and report on—in-depth discussions with their peers. This activity was one of the most highly valued by the students, as it allowed them to express their viewpoints, positions, concerns, and most importantly, propose solutions to the thorniest issues in the bilateral relationship.

By engaging the students directly in small group discussions on key bilateral topics, the program facilitated an interactive learning environment where the participants could delve deeper into the complexities of the U.S.-Mexico dynamic. This hands-on exercise enabled the students to not only share their own perspectives, but also critically analyze the different facets of the relationship and work collaboratively to develop thoughtful recommendations.

The students appreciated the opportunity to actively contribute their ideas and have a platform to address the more contentious aspects of the bilateral agenda. This activity complemented the broader insights gained through the online sessions and in-person visits, providing a dynamic forum for the participants to wrestle with the challenges and propose constructive ways forward.

Field Visit to the U.S.-Mexico border

This immersive experience allowed participants to develop a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics at play along the southern border, as well as the broader context of bilateral ties and domestic political factors shaping these issues. Activities included: a visit to the National Institute of Migration (INAMI) facilities, as well as a visit to a variety of migrant shelters



1. Meeting with National Institute of Migration (INAMI)



Engagement Details

- Participants met with personnel from the National Institute of Migration (INAMI).
- INAMI officials provided in-depth explanations of the deportation process.

Topics Covered

- Challenges faced by immigration authorities amidst ongoing humanitarian crises at the border.
- Opportunities presented by bilateral cooperation in managing migration issues.

Educational Value

- Students gained insider perspectives on the complexities of immigration enforcement.
- The session highlighted the intricate balance between legal procedures and humanitarian considerations.



2. Visit to Migrant Shelters



Experience Description

- Participants visited local migrant shelters in Tijuana.
- These visits provided a profound and personally enriching experience for the students.

Key Insights

- Students witnessed first-hand the harsh realities faced by migrants.
- The visits showcased the tireless work performed by migrant shelters along the border.

Impact on Participants

- These experiences were particularly impactful on a personal level, offering students a human perspective on migration issues.
- Students gained a deeper appreciation for the challenges and complexities of border dynamics.

Educational and Personal Development Outcomes

1. **Comprehensive Understanding:** The field visit provided a multi-faceted view of immigration issues, combining policy, enforcement, and humanitarian aspects.

2. **Empathy Development:** Direct interaction with migrants and shelter workers fostered a sense of empathy and personal connection to the issues studied.
3. **Critical Thinking:** Students were challenged to reconcile theoretical knowledge with real-world situations, enhancing their critical thinking skills.
4. **Networking:** Interactions with INAMI officials and shelter workers provided valuable connections in the field of immigration and border relations.
5. **Inspiration for Future Work:** Many students reported feeling inspired to pursue careers or further studies related to immigration and bilateral relations.

The immersive field experience in Tijuana stands as a cornerstone of our summer seminar program. By providing direct exposure to the realities of border dynamics, immigration processes, and humanitarian efforts, we offer our participants an unparalleled opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S.-Mexico relations.

This hands-on experience complements the academic components of the program, ensuring that participants gain not just theoretical knowledge, but also practical insights and personal connections to the issues at hand. Such immersive learning experiences are crucial in developing the next generation of informed and empathetic leaders in U.S.-Mexico relations.

5. Feedback and Results

Analysis of expected outcomes:

1. **Enhanced Understanding:** 98% agreement.

The seminar allowed the participants to have a better understanding of the functioning and dynamics of U.S. political institutions, including the separation of powers, checks and balances, and the role of different branches of government.

2. **Strengthened Bilateral Relations:** 83% agreement.

We believe that this seminar has great potential to foster stronger diplomatic ties between Mexico and the U.S. However, we've faced some challenges in fully realizing this potential. One of our main difficulties has been increasing the number of U.S. government officials participating in the program. This limitation has somewhat hindered the depth of connections formed between U.S. and Mexican participants.

Despite this challenge, we've made significant progress in other areas. Notably, this year marked an important milestone as we successfully invited U.S. Congress members to formally attend the seminar sessions for the first time. We're excited about this development and are actively working to extend their engagement to include participation in the in-person sessions as well.

Looking ahead, we're developing targeted outreach programs to attract more U.S. government officials from various agencies. Our goal is to enrich the dialogue and networking opportunities within the seminar. We're also focusing on implementing new strategies to facilitate more meaningful interactions between U.S. and Mexican participants. These include introducing structured networking events, collaborative projects, and follow-up programs to maintain connections after the seminar concludes.

By addressing these areas, we expect to elevate the seminar's role in nurturing U.S.-Mexico diplomatic relations, provide participants with a more comprehensive and balanced perspective on bilateral issues, and create a more robust network of future leaders in U.S.-Mexico relations across various sectors.

We remain committed to continuously improving the seminar to maximize its impact on bilateral relations. Despite the challenges, we're optimistic about the future of the program and its potential to contribute significantly to strengthening U.S.-Mexico ties.

3. **Improved Policy Formulation:** The seminar achieved a strong 85% agreement rate.

This high score reflects the program's ability to provide Mexican officials with a comprehensive understanding of U.S. political institutions. Participants gained valuable insights into policy development processes, legislative procedures, and effective governance strategies. This knowledge is crucial for making informed decisions in policy formulation, particularly in areas that intersect with U.S.-Mexico relations.

4. **Cross-Cultural Exchange:** The seminar also scored an impressive 85% agreement.

This demonstrates the seminar's success in creating a platform for meaningful interaction between Mexican officials and their U.S. counterparts, including government officials and academics. The high score suggests that participants effectively engaged in sharing experiences and understanding different perspectives, fostering mutual respect and cultural appreciation. This aspect of the program is vital for building long-term collaborative relationships that extend beyond the seminar itself.

5. **Networking Opportunities:** This is perhaps the most outstanding achievement of the seminar with a 95% of success.

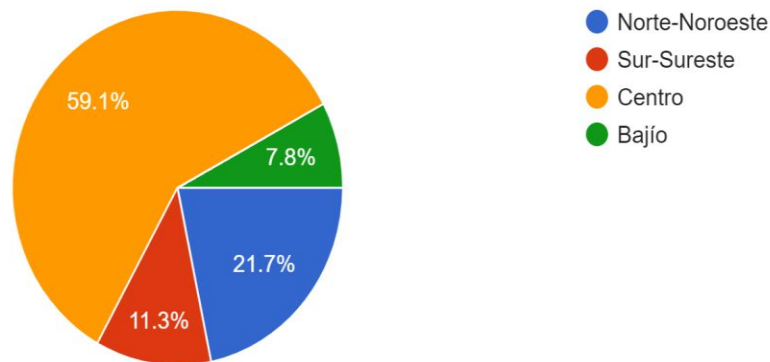
This exceptional result highlights the program's excellence in facilitating valuable connections between Mexican government officials and U.S. government officials, academics, and experts. These networking opportunities are likely to lead to future collaborations, knowledge sharing, and exchange programs, providing long-term benefits for both countries.

6. **Alumni Network:** This component also showed strong results with a 90% score.

This high rating reflects the successful establishment of chapters in diverse states and regions, which facilitates ongoing collaboration and support among alumni. The plan to organize annual meetings, both virtual and in-person, demonstrates a commitment to maintaining and strengthening these professional relationships over time. The initiative to involve distinguished alumni as panelists and mentors in future seminars is particularly noteworthy, as it enhances the program's depth and relevance while providing valuable mentorship opportunities for new participants.

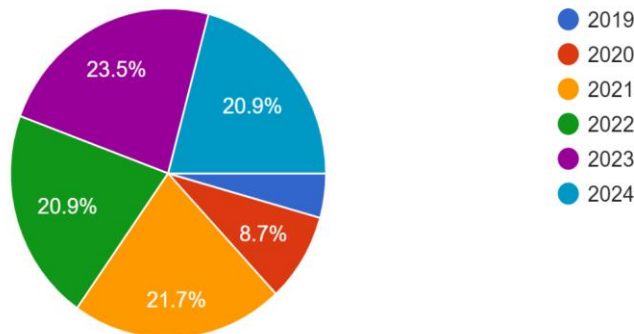
En qué capítulo te interesaría participar?

115 responses



Indica el año de tu generación

115 responses



Overall, these results paint a picture of a highly successful program that is meeting its objectives in strengthening the U.S.-Mexico relations. The seminar is effectively equipping Mexican officials with knowledge, cultural understanding, and professional networks that are crucial for navigating the complex landscape of bilateral relations. The strong alumni network ensures that the benefits of the program continue long after the seminar concludes, creating a growing community of informed and connected professionals working to enhance U.S.-Mexico cooperation.

While there is always room for improvement, particularly in areas scoring below 90%, the overall high scores across all categories indicate that the seminar is on the right track and delivering significant value to its participants and, by extension, to the broader goal of fostering stronger ties between Mexico and the United States.

Abilities gained by the participants

The participants of the U.S.-Mexico Summer Seminar have developed a comprehensive set of skills crucial for strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing their professional effectiveness in the field of international politics.

Firstly, the attendees have refined their policy-making skills. They have gained a deeper understanding of U.S. political institutions, enabling them to better analyze and anticipate U.S. policy decisions. This skill is fundamental for developing more effective strategies in managing bilateral affairs and for adapting Mexican policies to be more compatible and synergistic with the U.S. system.

Additionally, the participants have significantly improved their intercultural communication skills. The seminar has equipped them with the tools to successfully navigate cultural differences, fostering greater empathy and mutual understanding. This capability is essential for building strong,

lasting relationships with their U.S. counterparts, facilitating smoother negotiations and more productive collaborations.

Networking skills have been a strong focus of the program. Participants have established and maintained valuable professional contacts, a crucial competency in the field of international relations. They have developed the ability to identify collaboration opportunities, effectively exchange knowledge, and build strategic alliances that can benefit both countries.

The program has also fostered leadership and mentoring skills. Through the alumni network, participants have learned to share their experiences and knowledge with others, developing mentoring and guidance capabilities. This not only benefits new participants but also reinforces the learning of the more experienced alumni.

Moreover, the seminar has cultivated critical thinking and comparative analysis skills. Participants have learned to examine policies and practices of both countries, identifying strengths, weaknesses, and areas of potential collaboration. This comparative analysis ability is invaluable for proposing innovative solutions to common challenges.

Lastly, the attendees have developed greater geopolitical awareness and a more nuanced understanding of the bilateral dynamics between Mexico and the United States. This broader perspective allows them to better contextualize local issues within the larger framework of international relations, leading to more strategic and long-term approaches in their work.

Together, these skills form a complete set of competencies that prepare participants to be effective leaders and agents of positive change in the ever-evolving landscape of U.S.-Mexico relations.

Overall Seminar evaluation

The Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions serves as a pivotal program, empowering professionals across various fields with a robust understanding of the complexities inherent in U.S. political structures, and the effects on the U.S.-Mexico bilateral relations. This report provides a thorough examination of participant feedback, revealing highly favorable responses that illustrate the program's substantial influence on knowledge enhancement, career growth, and the strengthening of cross-border relationships. It emphasizes the seminar's essential contribution to fostering a well-informed community of professionals equipped to navigate the intricacies of U.S.-Mexico relations.

Here is a detailed breakdown of the key results for the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions based on participant feedback:

- 1. Overall Program Satisfaction:**
An outstanding **100%** of participants rated the program as excellent, demonstrating the high level of quality and relevance that the seminar provided.
- 2. Expectation Fulfillment:**
A significant **95.7%** of participants reported that the seminar met or exceeded their expectations, further underscoring the program's ability to deliver on its promises.

3. **Achievement of Program Objectives:**

A combined **100%** of participants felt that the seminar met its objectives, with **83%** stating they were "completely in agreement" that the objectives had been fully achieved, and the remaining **17%** agreeing that the program successfully met its goals.

4. **Program Organization:**

In terms of clarity and organization, **69%** of participants were "completely in agreement" that the seminar was well-structured and clear in its objectives, while a further **21.7%** agreed that the course was organized in a clear and logical manner.

5. **Faculty Evaluation:**

The faculty received unanimous praise, with **100%** of participants giving an excellent evaluation for their expertise, teaching, and overall contribution to the success of the seminar.

These results highlight the program's effectiveness in meeting participant needs and expectations, reinforcing the strong reputation of the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions as a transformative learning experience.

V. Conclusion

In a world characterized by dynamic political landscapes and rapidly evolving international relations, the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions stands as an invaluable resource for individuals seeking to deepen their understanding of the complex web of U.S.-Mexico relations. This unique program has not only fulfilled its mission but has exceeded expectations, leaving an indelible mark on the professional journeys of its participants.

Looking ahead, next year's program holds even greater significance, as it will convene participants from newly elected governments in both Mexico and the United States. Notably, Mexico will be represented by its first elected female president, marking a historic moment in the nation's political landscape. This provides a unique opportunity for our seminar to explore the evolving dynamics between both nations in this new era of leadership.

In conclusion, the Summer Seminar on U.S. Political Institutions has not only met its objectives but has exceeded them. It has provided an enriching and transformative experience for its participants, equipping them with vital skills, insights, and connections. As the program continues to evolve and adapt to the ever-changing dynamics of U.S.-Mexico relations, it remains a beacon of excellence and a driving force for positive change. The overwhelmingly positive feedback and success stories underscore the need for its continuation, and the impact it has had on the careers of its participants makes a compelling case for its future.

This report serves as a powerful testament to the program's success. With your support, we can continue to enrich the experience for future participants, further strengthening the ties between our two nations and nurturing a new generation of leaders and influencers with a deep understanding of U.S. political institutions.