The first five weeks of the program are spent in Mexico City where students receive training in research methods at the Casa de California.

The first month of the program includes excursions around Mexico City, including a trip to see the pyramids in Teotihuacan. The final research projects will be presented during a group field trip to Puebla at the end of the term.

After students develop their research proposals, they move to one of the four research sites to work on their project with a local Mexican professor.