



LEARN SPANISH IN LATIN AMERICA

COSTA RICA – GUATEMALA – PERU

For those who live it!



 **MÁXIMO** NIVEL



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MÁXIMO NIVEL – THE INTERCULTURAL CENTER OF LATIN AMERICA

Máximo Nivel is a family-owned social enterprise dedicated to providing intercultural experiences, education, and opportunities for international work/study. Programs include our Native Spanish Program, Study Abroad, International Volunteering & Service Learning, and TEFL/TESOL Certification.

Our **Native Spanish Program** offers intensive Spanish language immersion at all levels. We also offer Spanish for special purposes including Medical Spanish, Spanish for Business, and DELE exam preparation. We are an internationally accredited institute and university credit is available for our programs.

Máximo Nivel has intercultural centers in San Jose, **Costa Rica**; Antigua, **Guatemala**; and Cusco, **Peru**.



TEACHING SPANISH SINCE 2003

Máximo Nivel was founded as a small, high-quality language center in 2003. From our roots as a Spanish/English school in Cusco, Peru, we've grown our education programs and our teaching and client service models across 3 countries in Latin America. Today, we host more than 3,000 international students, volunteers, and travelers every year.

Our success is based on our commitment to quality and the highest level of client service. We continuously invest in professional staff and first-class facilities to ensure your overall experience with us is nothing short of excellent.

We hope you'll visit us in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Peru.

ACCREDITATION

As an accredited educational center, Máximo Nivel must adhere to strict codes of professional practice and client service. We are recognized by the following institutions: ALTO (Association of Language Travel Organizations), Ministry of Education-Peru, Ministry of Education-Guatemala, Brookhaven College (U.S.), and Universidad Real (Guatemala).

DESTINATIONS

We offer our Native Spanish Program in 3 of the most beautiful, culturally significant, and biologically diverse countries in the world!

Costa Rica literally means “the rich coast,” and it is indeed a tropical paradise. Pristine rainforests lead to white sand beaches and the *pura vida* (“pure life”) pace of life is relaxed. Costa Rica is a great place to begin your adventure.

Guatemala is known for its Mayan roots and vibrant culture. Timeless architecture, archeological ruins, and volcanoes loom overhead. The Mayan ruins of Tikal, Lake Atitlan, and the Pacific coast beaches are all must see places!

Peru was the center of the Inca civilization. Here, the Amazon River runs through the jungle, while the peaks of the Andes are covered in snow, and there are beautiful beaches all along the Pacific coast.



NATIVE SPANISH PROGRAM

Máximo Nivel offers the most intensive and professional Spanish language program in Latin America. We welcome individuals of all ages, as well as university, corporate, and religious groups.

Our Native Spanish Program emphasizes oral communication and integrated-skills development to help you build Spanish language proficiency.

SPANISH PROGRAMS

SMALL GROUP CLASSES

Small group classes are dynamic and fun. Classes are available in 2-hour/day and 4-hour/day formats. Class size is limited to 8 people. Group classes begin every Monday.

PRIVATE CLASSES

More intensive and personalized, private classes are the fastest way to build your proficiency in the Spanish language. Private classes are available for 1-8 hours per day and can begin on any day of the week.

GROUP + PRIVATE CLASSES

Máximo offers our special 3-hour “combo” option where you study for 2 hours/day in small group classes and then 1 hour/day in private classes. This is an excellent option for people who enjoy the fun and camaraderie of group classes, but who wish to have scheduled private time with their teacher. You can also create your own, specialized program that combines group and private classes—just let us know what you'd like to do.





SPANISH FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

We offer specialized Spanish classes for business and medical professionals. To study in these specialized programs, you must have a minimum level of Intermediate as determined by our placement exam. Most people study 2 hours/day or 4 hours/day in specialized courses. Small group classes for specialized Spanish *may be available*—please ask when booking your program.

Earn your DELE qualification in Spanish! We have specialized teachers who will prepare you for the DELE exam. These courses are generally one-on-one, private classes, and most people choose to study either 2 hours/day or 4 hours/day.

TANDEM CONVERSATION PROGRAM

To supplement your Spanish classes, we suggest you join our *free Tandem Conversation Program*. This is a conversation exchange program, where we match you with a native Spanish speaker for conversation practice. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new people and to practice your Spanish while your partner practices his/her English.

VOLUNTEER/SERVICE LEARNING

Give back to the local community while immersing yourself even more deeply into the local culture and language. Máximo offers excellent international volunteer and service learning programs in orphanage/childcare, conservation, construction, teaching, medical/healthcare projects, and animal care.

STUDY ABROAD

Through our partnerships with universities and other educational organizations, you can take part in university level courses in Culture, Business, and Sustainability & Peace. These are available as individual classes or as full-time Fall and Spring semester programs, as well as concentrated Summer and Winter semester

options.

We also offer our special BridgeLevel programs throughout the year. These include **Social Enterprise Startup, International Entrepreneurship**, and our **Bridge to Business Program**.

TEACHING STAFF

Our Spanish teachers are all highly qualified professionals. All hold Bachelors and Masters degrees in Spanish or Education and/or are certified in teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language. Our teachers have all been teaching for a minimum of 5 years and many have experience teaching Spanish at the university level.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Máximo stresses communication—because you need to speak to learn a language. Our teachers use the *communicative method* which emphasizes speaking and conversation. Your teacher will push you to speak in Spanish every day! Spanish teachers also use an integrated-skills approach, to help you improve your grammar, pronunciation, reading, writing, and vocabulary.

FACILITIES

We pride ourselves on offering a great home-base. We think it's important you have a place to call home, a place to study, and a place to meet up with friends and to make new ones. Our centers range in size from 13 to 20 classrooms, all furnished and outfitted for your comfort. Every location provides modern computer lounges, high-speed internet, and office-wide WiFi 7 days/week. We also have a great snack bar where the coffee and tea are always *free*.

BOOKS & MATERIALS

For Basic through High Intermediate levels we have written and published our own textbooks. For more advanced courses we use a variety of



books and materials designed to best meet the needs of each learner. Our Spanish teachers supplement their classes with customized handouts and other study resources. Books and materials are *included* in your Spanish program.

CLASSES

Classes are held from Monday to Friday year-round. Most people choose to study in small group classes for 4 hours/day, but shorter and longer options are also available. Teachers pause classes every 60 to 90 minutes for a coffee break and to keep things fresh and active in class.

LEARNER/CLIENT PROFILES

Our learners range in age from 5 years old to 80 years old. We arrange specific groups for children, teenagers, and adults. We believe each group has its own requirements, special needs,



and pedagogy and this ensures the proper level of attention for each kind of learner.

“THE MÁXIMO PAQUETE” -WHAT'S INCLUDED

Our Native Spanish Program includes the following: Official Spanish Certificate, free placement exam, Spanish books and materials, Tandem Conversation Program, access to computer lounge and internet, office-wide WiFi, monthly International party, and much more.

UNIVERSITY CREDIT

University credit is available for our Spanish programs. There are 3 ways you can earn credit: **1) Brookhaven College** - You can receive credit through our affiliation with Brookhaven College, which you can then transfer to your school. How much credit you earn depends on your Spanish level and how many weeks you study. **2) Universidad Rural** - You can receive credit through our affiliation with Universidad Rural in Guatemala. An official certificate is issued by the University for each Spanish level you pass. **3) Your University** - We will work with you and your school to provide all proof of studies, exams, syllabus, and letter grades as needed.

TOURS & CULTURAL PROGRAMS

We offer two options that add exciting, world class adventure and cultural travel to your experience. The **Mini Adventure** and **Volunteer Adventure** programs are led by experienced bi-lingual guides.

All of our intercultural centers have an onsite travel partner so you can book additional tours, travel, and transportation independently.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A number of accommodation options are available. Many people like to stay with a local host family. Shared and private rooms are available, but private baths are available on a very



limited basis.

In Peru only, we offer a special guesthouse option called **The Family Place**. This is similar to a family-stay, but offers more independence in terms of schedules and meal times, and you're housed with 10 to 15 other international travelers.

We also offer private, furnished apartments with internet. Shared apartments are available on a limited basis. Hotels and hostels are also available and can include a private or shared room.

TRANSPORTATION

The nice thing about San Jose, Costa Rica; Antigua, Guatemala; and Cusco, Peru is they're all great walking cities. In the areas where our intercultural centers are located, it's very easy to make your way around on foot. There are also taxis and buses which are inexpensive and very accessible.

AIRPORT PICK-UP

Don't worry—we'll be there! Our professional drivers will meet you outside of baggage claim as you exit the airport. When you're picked up at the airport, you will receive a Welcome Folder detailing your accommodations, orientation time, and our Emergency contact numbers. Airport pick-up is included in all of our programs. Please note that your return trip to the airport is not included.

HEALTH INSURANCE

We strongly encourage you to buy health insurance to ensure you have proper coverage and protection while you're traveling and studying. We suggest the following:

- www.worldnomads.com
- www.volunteercard.com
- www.studentinsurance.com

STARTING DATES

Small group classes begin every Monday. Private classes can begin on any day of the week.

HOLIDAYS

Our intercultural centers are open 7 days/week year-round. The centers are closed to the public *only* on 25 December and 1 January. This ensures you always have a great home-base at Máximo! Local holidays are observed and even though our centers are open, Spanish classes are *not taught* on holidays. If you miss a class due to a scheduled holiday, then your program is extended and you make that day up at no extra charge.

ENROLLMENT

via Sprachenmarkt

PAYMENT

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