



Digital Exchange Program 2024

Program Structure

The Digital Exchange is an interactive and exciting way for US students to connect with their Colombian, Brazilian and Venezuelan counterparts. Through weekly virtual conversations, participants will improve their English, Spanish and Portuguese skills while sharing their passion for sport, culture and learning. In addition to the weekly one-on-one exchange engagements, monthly small-group workshops addressing relevant educational and social topics will be held.

Program Goals:

- Improve participants' English, Portuguese and Spanish speaking skills
- Improve cultural awareness and share topics of academic and personal interests
- Share advanced baseball and softball techniques
- Educate Latin American participants on scholarship opportunities in the USA
- Prepare professional players linguistically and culturally for their arrival in the USA.

Methodology:

1. **Weekly one-on-one video calls:** participants will speak approximately 50% English and 50% Spanish or 50% English and 50% Portuguese during video calls. Project Béisbol will assign the exchange partner based on language level, age, personal interests, current or future study and career plans. Topics will include the following:
 - Baseball/softball, other sports, current events and techniques
 - Cultural topics such as music, food and style, social media and entertainment



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- Topics specific to their fields of interest and study such as architecture or medicine
 - Educational theme of the week for at least 25% of the call.
2. **Group workshops:** Participants will be classified according to their level of language proficiency, to participate once a month in Project Béisbol managed group meetings on the proposed topics.
 3. **Course Credit:** In some cases, participants may receive course credit through the program. To obtain this benefit, students will be required to write reports or essays approximately every four months and have the program formally approved by their school for course credit.

Selection Factors:

- Ages:
 - Students: 14-18
 - Mentors: 22-50
- Students/mentors highly interested in improving their Spanish/English/Portuguese level
- Students/mentors with a current intermediate B1- level of Spanish/English/Portuguese (applicants will be screened for language proficiency)
- Students interested in participating in a travel exchange program in the future.
- Baseball/softball players and/or enthusiasts.
- Students who demonstrate leadership on and off the field.



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Responsibilities:

- 6 month commitment minimum.
- Attend punctually the scheduled meetings and keep an attendance and participation average of 90% in every aspect of the program.
- Participate in the weekly one-on-one exchange video calls.
- Participate in monthly group workshops of 2 hours maximum. Be available on Saturdays if required
- Participants will be asked to write a mini-bio before the first meeting.
- Participants will be asked to prepare questions for their partner in the foreign language for each meeting (rotating English and Spanish or English and Portuguese).
- Submit a report about the learning experience approximately every 4 months.
- Show respect and tolerance during the development of the activities and while participating in debate and opinion spaces.
- Fill out the registration form. If the participant is a minor, it must also be signed by the parent or guardian.