



Colombia

**Presidents Leadership
Class**

Leadership and the SDGs

**MAY
2022**



We are Envoys

Envoys is a team of educators. We design programs directly in collaboration with schools to maximize learning for students. The program opportunities enclosed provide meaningful experiential education for students where they engage in direct and frequent exchanges with local people that build inter-cultural understanding and empathy. Envoys partners with carefully selected experts at home and in our destination countries to ensure the highest-quality education experience on all programs.





A B O U T E N V O Y S



ENVOYS CUSTOMIZES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

WE DESIGN FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES,
ABOVE ALL ELSE.

STUDENT
GROWTH

A COHERENT VISION OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Programs must be designed to facilitate the investigation of globally significant issues and develop transferable skills. This vision is driven by the school, with Envoys supporting in the development of school's goals.

PEDAGOGY
DRIVEN

FOCUSED, RESEARCH-BASED CURRICULUM

Every lesson and every activity must be intentional. A program's flexibility must be in response to the educational needs of its students.

ITERATION

ETHOS OF INNOVATION FOR SUCCESS

Program improvement is an iterative process. Today's ceiling must be tomorrow's floor. We work with schools to push the boundaries of global education.

PROVE
VALUE

EVALUATIONS OF OUTCOMES

Teaching for understanding requires a demonstration of that learning. Evaluations are necessary to prove a program's worth to all stakeholders. We hold programs to the same standards as classroom education.

Who are Envoys Field Educators?

Envoys staff are career educators who are experts in teaching in classrooms without walls. We hire advanced professionals who not only model global competencies but possess the skills to grow them within students.

Because Envoys exclusively serves schools, our staff are specifically trained to work collaboratively with school faculty.



SEASONED GLOBAL EDUCATORS

Envoys staff are trained educators with years of experience working in the field. We recruit, hire, and train educators who:

- Demonstrate core competencies of global citizenship and cross-cultural competency.
- Possess the mindset and skills to facilitate transformational growth for students.
- Have the capacity to work collaboratively with classroom teachers in the field.
- Are exceptional facilitators of the Kolb Experiential Learning Cycle.
- Are trained in child psychology and socioemotional learning.

RISK MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS

Regardless of the level of preparedness, in global travel there are controllables and uncontrollables. We recruit, hire, and train educators who:

- Have the knowledge required to practice the theory of risk management in the field.
- Can leverage resources and information to make informed, rational, and thorough decisions to manage risk.
- Maintain resilience and level-headedness regardless of the situation, and can extend that mindset to others when needed.
- Are superb communicators who work collaboratively with Envoys Headquarters to make sound decisions.

EXPERTS IN LOGISTICS

Flawless logistics mean leadership teams can focus first on student experience. We recruit, hire, and train educators who:

- Are detail-oriented individuals capable of using Envoys resources to handle logistics in the field despite complexity.
- Believe and uphold Envoys mandate to support and develop local and family-owned businesses in the Global South.
- Are temperate and respectful to vendors while ensuring an adherence of expectations to reality.

Preparatory Courses

Envoys can provide online courses to supplement seminars planned by faculty. These courses may serve as the base content for a 'flipped-classroom' approach and/or be taken as a wholly online experience.

BUILDING A KNOWLEDGE BASE

Envoys instructors curate a series of videos, articles, and other media relevant to the history and culture of the destination country. Students review this material and take brief assessments to prove their understanding.

BRIEFING SHEETS

After developing the necessary background knowledge, students individually select a research topic and create a one-page briefing sheet to share with their classmates. In the months before the trip, Envoys instructors can support student research, respond to questions, and grade briefing sheets.

EMPATHY AND CROSS-CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Through a series of introspective and collaborative exercises, students begin the process of examining their own assumptions around culture. Students take empathy assessments and develop plans for developing their empathic abilities, both at home and abroad.



Travel Health and Safety

LEARN ABOUT YOUR DESTINATION

Students research the health risks relevant to their destinations, learn about methods to mitigate those risks, and pass assessments related to health and safety.

PACK SMART

Students learn about best practices for packing light and traveling smart.

DISEASE PATHWAYS

Students learn about common pathways for diseases, including vectors, food and water, and animals, as well as necessary precautions to take while traveling abroad. A mixture of assessments and practical activities ensure that they have gained the necessary skills.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Students learn about methods to calculate risk and the heightened potential for faulty judgments when abroad. They display their ability to make better decisions by explaining their reactions to a variety of travel scenarios.

Advanced Risk Analysis



Envoys assumes a duty of care for the participants on our programs. We undertake a multi-stage process to mitigate risk.

Envoys develops a customized risk assessment and management plan for each program that analyzes risk as a function of probability (the likelihood a negative event will occur) and impact (how negative are the consequences).

All destinations receive a regular and thorough review by Envoys security team. Envoys program staff are certified as First Responders. Envoys provides insurance coverage for rescue, evacuation, repatriation, and medical emergencies for all program participants.



PRIVATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICE



ONLINE TRIP-TRACKING



ON-CALL EXPERT MEDICAL ADVISORY



SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS



ADVANCED FIELD CHECKLIST SYSTEM



TRAINED FIELD STAFF



LENSES OF INQUIRY

Lenses of Inquiry



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Students' have a robust understanding of implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Colombia; specifically, to what extent the SDGs are tangible to the work of key stakeholders in advancing their achievement.

HOW WE DO IT:

Iterating from both the 2018 and 2019 programs, students will review the SDGs through preliminary research on Colombia in class in February prior to the program. After a strategic narrowing of the goals by PLC faculty to present those most salient to the development story of Colombia, students will pitch which SDGs they feel should be included in the program.

Complementing their classroom-based coursework throughout the semester, the program will focus on Colombia as a case study for the SDGs, realized through meetings at the UNDP, with key social impact organizations, and with peer-aged students. Students will be expected to deliver a final project in their small groups at the end of the program.

PEACE STUDIES

The recent and historic agreement with the FARC provided a welcome promise of peace for the nation as a whole. To meet this promise, a wide variety of actors are working in both public and private sectors to build (and rebuild) their national identity and

HOW WE DO IT:

These stakeholders are challenged not only by the demands of justice, but also by the longstanding systemic inequalities that sustained the conflict. These extant obstacles are matched by the spirit and idealism of the movement, as the pathways of peace in Colombia are made by those who walk on them.

Students have the rare opportunity to meet with some of the negotiators of the historic Peace Agreement, as well as with organizations working to rehabilitate former members of the FARC into modern Colombian society and ensure their gainful employment and access to services. Amidst this backdrop, students are enabled a more robust understanding of the complexities of implementing the SDGs in Colombia.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP & AGENCY

Students tangibly feel that they have a stake and a role in the success of the program and of the experience of their peers.

HOW WE DO IT:

This is realized on the program in two key ways. First, expanding on initiatives piloted in 2019, students in their groups step in and out of leadership roles at key moments of the program, as well as hold responsibilities for attendance at regular staff meetings, providing and implementing feedback, and leading reflections.

It's also realized through reflections targeted at drawing from leadership profiles we witness along the way. Colombia's recent growth and renewed presence on the international stage has catapulted this South American nation onto the world stage of migration, geopolitics, and tourism. Through direct and frequent interaction with social impact leaders, professionals, and students, we explore the individual contributions of leaders to advance the SDGs in the Colombian context.



Colombia



With Colombia's turbulent past rapidly receding, the nation is during a tourism boom. Economic growth, safety, and stability are on the rise in all corners of the country, and international visitors are joyously rediscovering the remarkable diversity and warmth of this traditional Gateway to South America. Envoys has taken thousands of students throughout

Colombia. Peace, rather than a static notion, is more readily visible to the traveler as as a daily struggle shared by all Colombians, whose individual, organizational, community-wide, state-level, or national-level contributions advance the process of peace and reconciliation. The experience of young people in Colombia and of the rising generation of university students is

embracing a new national dynamic in peace time radically different from the generation before, which has brought national conversations on social justice, the expansion of civil rights. However, global migration from neighboring countries like Venezuela and geopolitical instability on the continent present formidable challenges and areas for further exploration on this program.

Potential Itinerary



DAY 1: INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

ARRIVAL

Students book their own airfare into Bogotá for the program transport at 5:00pm on Day 1. The group arrives and after clearing customs, meets their Envoys instructors, enjoys a welcome dinner, and checks into a hotel for the evening.

DAYS 2 - 5: SETTING THE STAGE

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

- Program Welcome & Full Value Contract
- United Nations Visit
- Meet with Peace Agreement Stakeholders
- University Immersion with peer students
- Bogotá explorations & Monserrate
- Organizational visits

We begin the 2022 program with four full days spent in Colombia's capital city gathering our situational awareness, early learnings of Colombia's culture, and building our understanding of Colombia's recent political and social history. We also dedicate focused group time to students' understanding of the project, as well as complete our immersion within the United Nations. We will spend Day 2's morning at the Gold Museum, visiting La Candelaria district, as well as journeying by cable car up to Monserrate, a key site of religious pilgrimage in Latin America.

The view affords us an understanding of the socioeconomic disparity of this large city. Days 3-5 will be spent at the United Nations and meeting with other key stakeholders, including two mornings of university immersion with peer-aged students who will work together on an SDG-related project.



DAYS 6-8: RURAL LIVELIHOODS

VILLA DE LEYVA TO TOTA

- Villa de Leyva asset mapping
- Optional Homestays in Villa de Leyva
- Onion Farm immersion
- Pottery Workshop in Raquira
- Tota hike

We settle in to a few days on the road, adopting a quicker pace of movements as we transition between various rural towns outside of the capital city. We begin in Villa de Leyva, where students explore town, conduct an asset mapping exercise. We journey on Boyacá after a night in Villa de Leyva, which represents a significant portion of the economic income of the Boycá department and of Raquira, a town known nationally by the quality of the products. Students will learn from a local artisan how to produce different types of products out of clay and natural fibers. From Raquira we journey to Tota for the evening. The beauty of its crystal clear lake of over 22 square miles makes this region the perfect scenario to study the contrast between conservation and development. On Day 8, we delve into the exploration of the production chain of onions. Students have the opportunity to learn from local producers about their everyday jobs and the implications of growing this product. After enjoying some time by the lake, we journey back to Bogotá by bus for the evening



DAYS 9 - 12: THE HOME OF MAGICAL REALISM

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

- In-country flight to Cartagena
- Food Walking Tour (Envoys-lead)
- Salsa Class
- Mural Tour in Getsemani, former freed slaves neighborhood
- Dinner at Interno (women's prison)
- Meet with students at JuanFe Foundation for young mothers
- Celebratory Final Afternoon at Playa Blanca
- Final Presentations

Our final four days of the program are spent in the home of Magical Realism, Cartagena. Students are afforded a stark juxtaposition to the high-altitude regions we've already explored, and settle into humid life by the Caribbean Sea. We visit Getsemani, a neighborhood first settled by freed slaves, for a mural tour, take a salsa class, explore Cartagena's famed culinary treats, and schedule our final project presentations. A highlight will be dinner inside Interno, the local women's prison, a luxury restaurant run by a world-renowned chef, where inmates are taught advanced culinary techniques. After the presentations, students have the afternoon at the pristine Playa Blanca to enjoy, before a program closing dinner and celebration.

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR THE WORLD

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