

CITYLAB MODULE: Proposals for a sustainable Bogotá

General Information

Our CITYLAB Module will be an elective course offered during the second semester of 2017 by the Political Sciences and International Relations Faculty. It is aimed at our undergraduate students from:

- Sciences School
- Journalism and Public Opinion Program
- Urban Management Program
- Sociology Program

Students will have an approach to an interdisciplinary diagnostic and analysis of real problems within local actors and communities. The module will engage students in a Problem Based Learning (PBL) experience in which they will have the opportunity to design and propose sustainable development initiatives for Bogotá.



Our Students

About 25 students will attend the module. They will get in interdisciplinary groups (5 people) so they can apply their disciplinary knowledge in order to contribute to the group work. Students will get into discussion, lecture, field and advice sessions in a self-regulated process that will be guided by the teachers.

Our Teachers

The CITYLAB Module will be guided by 6 teachers that will conduct plenary and group sessions. Teachers will help students to agree on group dynamics, to apply and integrate their knowledge in order to re-formulate problems from different perspectives and to define and monitor the achievement of their learning goals during the PBL experience.

Local stakeholders

It will be crucial that students go beyond classroom experience, so they can get in contact with local actors and experts who can contribute to understanding problems and their contexts. In this case, students will have the opportunity to understand the problems in collaboration with a team from the District Planning Office and one of the working tables of a city project called Bogotá Escenarios 2025 which brings together academic, cultural, environmental, social and political actors to discuss strategic aspects of the city.

Integration and interdisciplinarity

Our CITYLAB Module will be an elective course integrated with courses of the Urban Development Program (Ekistics and Urban Design). It will also be integrated with courses of other programs like Science (Socio-ecological Systems), Journalism (Urban Journalism) and Sociology (Urban Worlds). Teachers and students of those four programs will participate in the module.

Evaluation

Three aspects will be evaluated during the Module implementation:

1. The student learning: in terms of the achievement of the learning goals
2. The PBL experience: in terms of the lessons learned from the process
3. The results: in terms of interdisciplinary and relevant solutions to real local problems

In addition, the institutional research group *Education and Development* will evaluate the CITYLAB Module implementation, as part of their project of systematizing active and innovative learning experiences in the university.