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Exploring Dayton

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Exploring Dayton

08.02.2012 | International, Campus and Community

High school students from Peru and Argentina got a big dose of Dayton recently, while studying a little English on the side.

The University of Dayton is hosting 32 students from Colegio Marianista in Buenos Aires, and Colegio Santa María Marianistas in Lima, Peru, for a three-week course in its Intensive English Program (IEP). Both high schools and the University of Dayton belong to the Society of Mary, a religious order also known as the Marianists founded by Blessed William Joseph Chaminade in

France in 1817.

The students arrived Saturday, July 14, and will live on campus through Saturday, Aug. 4. They spend six hours a day in the classroom, and in the afternoons and weekends, they experience a variety of Dayton attractions.

Their lineup included a Dayton Dragons game; The Greene for shopping, dinner and a movie; Kings Island; the National Museum of the United States Air Force; Carillon Park; the Dayton Art Institute; a night at the home of a Chaminade-Julienne High School family; a day of biking and kayaking along the Great Miami River; and a picnic dinner at Riverscape.

"These students come here to work on their English language skills and to learn a little about American culture, the University of Dayton, and the city," said Karin Avila-John, IEP program manager. "It introduces them to college life and may serve as an early college visit."

The program, now in its second year, combines many key aspects of the University's mission and identity as a Marianist, educational, international member of the Dayton community, Avila-John said.

The University of Dayton's Intensive English Program is designed primarily to prepare international students for success in their academic classes and programs at the University. The program serves about 300 students per term. The original program was founded in 1979, but it has been part of the University's Center for International Programs since 2005.

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