Applying for Your Student Visa: Mexico

What is a visa?
A visa is official authorization allowing you to enter a country and travel, work, live, or study there for a specific period of time. Generally, a visa is an elaborate stamp that is sealed onto one of the pages of your passport. Visas are issued to American citizens by a foreign country's Embassy or Consulate located in the United States. Every country has its own regulations governing the issuance of visas.

Do I need a visa to go to Mexico?
U.S. citizens do not need a visa to travel to Mexico as long as they have a valid passport.

What do I need to enter Mexico?
- A Passport valid for at least one year after entry date of application
  - Please see page 1 in the Study Abroad Handbook for information on how to apply for a passport.
  - Apply early for your passport! It may take 6-8 weeks to process your application.
- Original acceptance letter from the host university in Mexico
  - Attention: Visa requirements change constantly! Verify this information with the consulate, as the application process can change or may even vary by consulate.

General tips:
Foreign embassies and consulates in the US receive hundreds of inquires every day so contacting them can be a trying experience. Have patience. Some consulates only receive visitors or calls during certain hours of the day or on certain days of the week; visit their website to learn their hours or call back at different times of the day. You may find that you are placed on hold or that your call is never forwarded to the appropriate person. Don't be discouraged: be persistent, but polite. Remember that US consulates in foreign countries operate in a similar fashion!

Mexican Consulates in the US:
For a listing of Mexican Consulates and their contact information, see the website for the Embassy of Mexico in the U.S. at: http://www.sre.gob.mx/index.php/representaciones/consulados-de-mexico-en-el-exterior.