

# Mev Puleo Scholarship in Latin American Theology, Politics & Culture

Application Form for 2019 Summer Immersion Experience  
Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana  
San José, Costa Rica  
July 2 to August 2, 2019 (30 days)



**Application deadline Friday, March 29, 2019**

**Please submit applications to:**

**Dr. Rubén Rosario Rodríguez, Program Director  
Ruben.rosariorodriguez@slu.edu**

**Program Description:** Mev Puleo was an educator, photojournalist and social change activist. A 1985 graduate of Saint Louis University, she used photographs and interviews to draw attention to the struggles and aspirations of the poor. Her book, *The Struggle is One: Voices and Visions of Liberation* (Orbis Books, 1994), provides an oral history of Latin American liberation theology coupled with striking photographs of the everyday people leading the struggle against political repression and systemic poverty. The Mev Puleo Scholarship combines formal study and experiential learning to foster awareness and understanding of the people, religion, and culture of Latin American countries.

The central component of the Mev Puleo Scholarship is an immersion experience in Latin America. This summer the program takes students to San José, Costa Rica. The Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana will host our students. During the first week students will stay in the dorm, followed by a 2-week homestay with a Costa Rican family, and a final week back at the dorm. Round-trip airfare from St. Louis to San José, SLU travel insurance, tuition, room and board, and one 3-day excursion within Costa Rica are all covered by the scholarship. The program includes theological coursework, service-learning components, and interaction with people from many different sectors of life in Costa Rica, from Church leaders, to community organizers, to grassroots activists.

Mev's vocation of advocacy, education and art was tragically cut short by a malignant brain tumor; she died in January 1996 at the age of 32. Her parents, Peter and Evelyn Puleo, established the Mev Puleo Scholarship in Latin American Theology, Politics, & Culture in her honor, hoping that the recipients, like Mev, will become advocates for social justice.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:      Male              Female

Residence Hall & P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Local Off-Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_

G.P.A. \_\_\_\_\_ Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Experience:**

List the service work you have done while in college:

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Hours/week</u> | <u>Time period</u> |
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**List any current health problems:**

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**Theological Preparation:**

List the theology courses you have taken so far.

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**Spanish Preparation:**

Describe your ability to speak and understand Spanish.

**Experiences with community:**

List any experiences you have had (i.e., group living, faith sharing groups, service trips, etc.) that have prepared you to live and work with a small group of students for a 4-week period.

**Essay:**

On a separate sheet of paper, write a statement of *no more* than 500 words stating why you want to receive the Puleo Scholarship. What draws you to an immersion program in Latin America? Why is the study of theology important to you? How do you hope that this experience will affect your future plans?

**Letters of Recommendation:**

Please submit two letters of recommendation. One should be from a SLU professor and the other can be from a mentor, employer, campus minister, or service site manager. Letters of recommendation should be submitted directly to the Program Director via-e-mail (ruben.rosariorodriguez@slu.edu)

List the names of those from whom you are submitting recommendations.

Professor: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants will be called to arrange interviews by **Monday, April 1, 2019**  
Interviews will take place **April 3-8, 2019**

**Scholarship recipients:**

- Are expected to attend a 1-day retreat in late April/early May prior to the end of the semester
- Are required to enroll in **THEO 4810-01: Latin American Theology, Politics, & Culture** in the fall 2019 semester
- Are required to make a public presentation detailing their summer experiences to the SLU community during the spring 2020 ATLAS Week
- Participate in all summer coursework and other organized activities in Costa Rica
- Complete a summer journaling assignment
- Write a research paper integrating their summer experiences with the fall readings in liberation theology

**Scholarship recipients will be announced by April 12, 2019**  
**Commitment letters from awardees are needed by April 22, 2019**