

Similarities between College Students and Eusocial Insects

Dr. Solange Issa and Dr. Natesha Smith

Our collaborative online international learning (COIL) partnership will enable you to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for making connections across cultures and between seemingly disparate fields of study. As Spanish is the native language for most students in Venezuela and English is the native language for most students in the United States, the activities for the COIL exchange will be in both English/Spanish, which will strengthen engagement with the selected materials. All learning activities, with the exception of the ice breaker, will require you to work in mixed groups with students from both countries.

Week/Date	Task	Student Learning Objective	Instructions
Week 1: 6-12 October	Individual Icebreaker: Knowing each other Class Icebreaker: Knowing our cities, university campuses, college students, and university insects/nature	Objective 1: To develop intercultural communication skills by engaging in module activities and teamwork using various IT tools.	Individual: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Create a post with your name, university of origin, field of study, and a statement describing your motivation for pursuing the identified degree. Comment on at least 3 posts of students from the partner institution. Group: As a class, make a collage with photos of your city, university campus, college students on your campus, and insects/nature surrounding your campus.
Week 2: 13-19 October	Discussion Groups (formal and informal) Knowledge Grid	Objective 2: To identify behavioral/experiential similarities between social insects (eusociality) and student cultural groups on college campuses by completing a knowledge grid.	Review the topics about which you have doubts with the teachers of the course; synchronous question/answer session will be scheduled on WhatsApp. In your discussion groups, work together to create the content for the knowledge grid.
Weeks 3-5 21 October – 8 November	Discussion Groups (informal) Video Infographic COIL Exchange Reflection	Objective 3: To compare and contrast how insects rebuild their nest or colony to how students and administrators collaborate to repair the campus environment after a stressful incident.	Create a video infographic that demonstrates your ability to compare how university students and social insects react/respond when stressors are introduced to their respective environments.

This partnership calendar is subject to change.