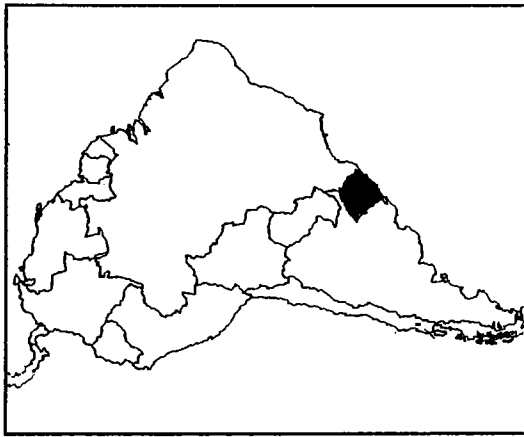


## Uruguay



Unlike most of Latin America, Uruguay has an homogeneous population which is about 89% Caucasian, of predominantly Italian and Iberian descent. Spain and, for a time, Portugal ruled the country until the early 19th century. Uruguay's literacy rate, at about 97%, is one of the highest anywhere, and its social welfare programs are among the most advanced in the world. For many years, Uruguay spent more on education than any other Latin American country. Education is compulsory for nine years between the ages of 6 and 14. The *Ministerio de Educación y Cultura* (Ministry of Education and Culture) controls all aspects

of public education and regulates private education as well. Higher education is the responsibility of the *Administración Nacional de Educación Pública*. The National Government finances education at all levels. Secondary education is divided into a three-year *ciclo básico* followed by either a three-year *ciclo diversificado* or a four-year *ciclo técnico*. Technical-vocational education is offered at secondary level. A large number of private schools run by religious groups exist, particularly at primary and secondary level, and attract about 25% of the age group. Higher education is offered at two universities, the public *Universidad Mayor*

*de la República Oriental del Uruguay* (also known simply as the University of the Republic) and the private *Universidad Católica del Uruguay "Dámaso A Larrañaga."* All primary school teachers are trained at postsecondary level *institutos normales* (institutes for teacher training); most secondary school teachers undergo a four-year program at the *Universidad de la República*. About a fifth of university students never attend class or take examinations, preferring to enjoy the status of "student" without actually participating in the educational process.

## Credential Name

## Entrance Requirement

## Length of Program

## Type of Program

## Gives Access to

Level: *Ciclo Diversificado* (Upper Secondary Cycle) following 6 years of primary and 3 years of lower secondary education

*Bachillerato*  
*Bachillerato Técnico*

*Certificado de Ciclo Básico*  
*Certificado de Ciclo Básico*

3 years  
4 years

academic  
technical

further study  
further study

Level: *Educación Superior* (Higher Education)

Non-university  
*Maestro de Educación Primaria*

*Bachillerato*

3-4 years

teacher training

further study

University  
*Técnico*  
*Bachillerato en (specialization)*  
*Licenciatura/Título Profesional*  
*Bibliotecólogo*  
*Economista*  
*Abogado*  
*Arquitecto*  
*Ingeniero*  
*Doctor en Medicina*

*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*  
*Bachillerato/Bachillerato Técnico*

3 years  
3-4 years  
3-5 years  
3 years  
4-5 years  
5 years  
5-6 years  
5-6 years  
7 years

academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.  
academic/prof.

further study  
further study  
further study  
further study  
further study  
further study  
further study  
further study

## Postgraduate Study

Although there are no degree programs offered at this level, several specializations have been developed, as in the social sciences.