

Course Syllabus: SPN3300 – Spanish Study Abroad
Contemporary Spain through Soccer
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SPN3300 General Course Description. Study-abroad immersion course for the upper-intermediate and advanced Spanish major or minor student. Students will live an immersion experience in a Hispanic country outside the United States. The specific program of study will vary depending on the country of destination, but all variations of the course will include study and analysis of literary works, films, historical and current events, music, and other cultural products of the host country.

This course will be taught entirely in Spanish. The course seeks to expand all four linguistic skills, with a special emphasis on the development of more advanced forms of oral and written expression.

Prerequisite. *Completed SPN2150 with a grade of C or higher by time of departure.*

Specific Course Description. An introduction to the geography, history, and culture of Spain as expressed through the sport of soccer. Students will explore how soccer has been used in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries as an illustration of the debate between whether Spain is a single nation with strong national identity or a conglomerate of nations with a variety of cultural identities. The history of professional soccer in Spain and of Spain's National Soccer Teams will be used to interrogate the cultural identities and relationships among the country's different regions and traditions, many of which reach back to the beginnings of Spanish history.

Core Course Goals. By actively participating in this course, by living with a local host family, by participating in conversation exchanges and site visits, and by being immersed in Spanish while abroad, students will:

- demonstrate control of basic and intermediate Spanish grammatical structures,
- perform communicative activities, both oral and written, in the Spanish language,
- identify cultural references—such as historical, religious, political, artistic, and popular artifacts—from the host country,

- associate knowledge of the contemporary society of the host country learned in the classroom with their real-world experiences onsite, and
- justify personal interpretations of concrete and abstract concepts encountered in their experiences and course materials.

Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Assessment
[SELF-AWARENESS] Students will describe and analyze how their own worldview, including knowledge, norms, and value systems, is impacted by regional and/or cultural origin and can be shaped by meaningful engagement with those who have different worldviews from their own.	• Class participation • Travel journal • Response papers • Final project
[SELF-AWARENESS] Students will relate theories of national and collective identity to their own personal allegiances and experiences.	• Class participation • Exams • Response papers • Final project
[CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING] Students will engage cultures with different worldviews from their own, including knowledge, norms, and value systems.	• Class participation • Travel journal • Response papers • Final project
[CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING] Identify and explain cultural references in Spanish history, religion, politics, art, sport, popular culture, and current events.	• Class participation • Travel journal • Response papers • Final project
[SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE] Students will consider and discuss how the ideas, norms, and values of a society are influenced over time by political, economic, social, and/or environmental systems.	• Class participation • Exams • Response papers • Final project
[SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE] Students will identify and interpret Spanish sporting traditions throughout time (20th and 21st centuries) and space (Spanish national territory) as representative of collective values.	• Class participation • Exams • Response papers • Final project
[GLOBAL INTERCONNECTEDNESS] Students will analyze and explain the relationships between local, regional, national, and global environments and/or communities through an exploration of their attributes, artifacts, and interactions.	• Class participation • Exams • Response papers • Final project

Outcome	Assessment
[CULTURAL NAVIGATION] Students will demonstrate cultural self-awareness, communication skills, and the ability to navigate cross-cultural interactions. Students will be prepared to apply cultural navigation skills in new contexts, including their future careers.	• Class participation • Travel journal • Response papers • Final project

Contact Hours. The class will complete 6 contact hours at HPU before departure. The class will complete 49 contact hours in Seville and southern Spain.

- **6 hours of historical context and discussion** before departure (on HPU campus).
- **32 hours of daily classroom contact** at our partner institution in Sevilla (see syllabus for details).
- **7.5 hours of tours guided by professional, certified tour guides** at important monuments in Madrid, Córdoba, and Granada.
- **4 hours of “Tertulias”**: weekly conversation meetings with course instructors (language practice).
- **5.5 hours of “Debriefings”**: meetings with professors after events and visits to discuss the students’ experiences and connect them to class material.

Total of 55 contact hours. These do not include traveling to and from the museums, the conversation practice with host families or native language exchange partners, and tours that are not of an academic nature. Other tours, led by faculty from the host institution, are included in the syllabus as **asynchronous preparation hours (33.5 prep hours)**.

Film viewing, assigned readings, and written activities will be completed outside the classroom and are not accounted for in the total contact hours. Students are expected to spend at least 2 hours each week engaged in out-of-class work (i.e., reading, studying, doing homework, etc.) for every hour of credit earned in this course.

Course Rationale.

This course is designed to immerse students in the language, history, and culture of Spain, with a specific lens through the world of sport. Soccer (football) is by far the most popular sport in Spain, and many of its biggest professional soccer teams serve as symbols of their regions of origin. This course will begin with an introduction to Spanish history, geography, and politics, so that students may become familiar with questions of nationalism and regionalism within the modern Spanish state. Afterwards, we will study the rivalries that exist within and between different soccer clubs that represent different regions of Spain, including the Basque Country, Madrid, Catalonia, Galicia, and Andalucía. Special attention will be paid to two of the biggest rivalries in Spain: between FC Barcelona and Real Madrid, globally known as the *Clásico*, and between Sevilla FC and Real Betis, the two clubs from our host city of Sevilla. Finally, students will explore how the Spanish National Team acts as a representation of Spain in both external success and internal tensions. Students will explore

traditional Spanish culture as part of the Maymester host cities as well as specific stadiums and other sporting sites that will give them first-hand exposure to the topics discussed in class.

Primary Texts

- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso, 2006. Print. (Translated selections)
- Ball, Phil. *Morbo: La historia del fútbol español*. Translated by Rocío Valero Lucas, T & B Editores, 2010.
- Burns Maraón, Jimmy. *De Riotinto a la Roja. Un viaje por el fútbol español, 1887-2012*. Translated by Ana Momplet Chico, Contra, 2013.
- Galeano, Eduardo. *El fútbol a sol y sombra*. Siglo XXI de España, 2015. (Selections)
- Lowe, Sid. *Miedo y asco en la Liga*. Léeme, 2014.
- Piemontese-Ramos and Carlos Arboleda. *España: temas de cultura y civilización*. Heinle, Cengage Learning, 2004. (Selections)
- Quinta Garrobo, Ángel de. *Lecciones de cultura y civilización española*. Díada, 2012.
- Renan, Ernest. "What is a Nation?" *Becoming National: A Reader*. Ed. Geoff Eley and Ronald Grigor Suny. New York and Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996. 41-55. Print. (Translated selections)
- Rodríguez, Manolo. *Historias del Betis*. Betis Libros, 2020. (Selections)
- The Spanish Football Podcast*. Audio podcast. (Selected episodes)

Selected additional readings will be available on Blackboard.

Evaluation. There will be two (2) exams, two (2) response papers, a consistent travel journal, and a final project (paper and presentation).

Grading Scale

97-100	A+	94-96.99	A	90-93.99	A-		
87-89.99	B+	84-86.99	B	80-83.99	B-		
77-79.99	C+	74-76.99	C	70-73.99	C-		
67-69.99	D+	64-66.99	D	60-64.99	D-	Below 60	F

Grading Components

- Cultural Activities and Class Participation 20%
- Mid-term Exam 10%
- Response Papers (2) 20%
- Class discussion presentation 15%
- Travel Journal 10%
- Final Project 25%

Cultural Activity and Class Participation (20%). Students are expected to attend all cultural activities that are scheduled during the trip. During these activities, students will be evaluated for their active participation and interaction with the people or the material being presented to them. They will be expected to ask questions to the tour guides, to interact with the people they meet, to make associations and comments during visits that relate to the

assigned readings and prior class discussions, and to find appropriate information when requested to by the instructor.

- Depending on class size, each day a discussion leader will be selected and this leader will be responsible for providing information about the selected article/topic to her/his classmates preparing discussion questions, providing additional information (culture), and preparing debates

Mid-term Exam (10%): There will be one exam approximately at the mid-point of the session. The exam will cover the readings, class discussions, on-site visits, and primary vocabulary.

Class discussion presentation (15%): Once during the session and in groups of three, students will lead the first hour of class discussion on one of the regions and rivalries that we are studying. The group will research and synthesize material about a specific region and its teams, and lead the class in interactive activities that communicate important information.

Response Papers (20%): Students will write two (2) 1-2-page (300-500 word) response papers throughout the Maymester. For each paper, the instructor will provide a prompt that will ask you think critically about the texts that we have read for each unit and demonstrate your understanding of the material discussed in class. The exercises should not only include a summary of what has been read, but a critical analysis of historical, cultural and artistic context and concepts found in the readings and make connections to our on-site visits.

Travel Journal (10%): Each student will keep a travel journal that is a physical, hand-written journal of their choosing or design. The journal will be written in Spanish. This journal will serve as a place to write thoughts, paste pictures, ticket stubs, train passes, create small pieces of art, etc. The journal should serve as a platform from which to contribute to conversation and sharing during large group discussion sessions and serve as a tangible keepsake at the end of their trip. The journals will be checked weekly for dated entries. Students will be expected to write entries at least three times per week.

Final Project (25%). In randomly assigned pairs, students will prepare a Final Trip Paper that will work to process the entire time students are abroad. Pairs will choose one element of their trip abroad (e.g., a cultural visit; a personal experience; an artistic, cultural, or historical object; a place; a conversation; a class, etc.) and reflect on what that element means to them. The paper should include both historical and cultural information (such as what may be found online or in a tourist brochure, for example) and personal reflections on how that element has informed their knowledge of Spanish culture. **The paper should be 800-1000 words long, in Spanish.**

- On the last day of class, the pair will present the most important aspects of their paper to the class. The presentation must include some visual aid and a summary of the most interesting aspects of their paper and why the students chose this element of the trip. The presentation must last between 7-10 minutes, with equal participation of both students.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty. All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students is expected to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. The instructor supports and will enforce the student honor code in every aspect of student evaluations. Every High Point Student is honor-bound to refrain from cheating, collusion, and plagiarism. Besides, students are honor-bound to confront violations of the University Honor Code if they observe them.

Diversity & Inclusivity Statement. High Point University is committed to fostering an inclusive learning and living environment. We welcome and respect all students, faculty, and staff of all races, ethnicities, religions, genders, sexual orientations, sexual identities and gender expressions, abilities, classes, ages, and political ideas. Diversity in identity, thought, belief and perspective enrich the academic experience and is critical to your growth as a lifelong learner. It is our expectation that every member of our university community uphold a standard of civility and respect both inside and outside of the classroom. **HPU Multicultural Affairs (Slane 319)** is a campus resource available to anyone seeking support or with questions about diversity and inclusion at High Point University. If you experience or witness an act of bias at HPU or would like to learn more about our Bias Reporting Process, please email diversity@highpoint.edu.

Course Calendar

The accompanying course schedule provides a basic outline for the course activities. The instructor may vary the schedule occasionally if circumstances call for it.

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
1	Sunday 5 May	High Point to Madrid		• Transportation provided from HPU to Charlotte Douglas Airport • Air Transportation Charlotte-Madrid
2	Monday 6 May	Madrid	Afternoon Excursion - Madrid Orientation and guided visit of city center	• Arrival in Madrid • Lunch on your own • Madrid walking tour • Group welcome dinner
3	Tuesday 7 May	Madrid	• Guided visit to: (3 prep hours) • Prado Museum; • Real Madrid soccer team stadium • Post- visits debriefing (1 contact hour)	• Breakfast at hotel • Guide visit to Prado Museum • Lunch on your own • Visit Santiago Bernabéu • Dinner on your own

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
4	Wednesday 8 May	Madrid and Sevilla	• Guided visit to the Reina Sofia Museum (3 prep hours) • Post-visit debriefing (1 contact hour)	• Breakfast at hotel • Guide visit to Reina Sofía Museum • Transfer to Atocha train station. Travel Madrid-Sevilla, AVE train. • Transfer to student housing at host families • Free time • Dinner at homestays
5	Thursday 9 May	Sevilla	• Class 1 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Soccer and Identity • Guided visit to M^aLuisa Park & Plaza de España (2 prep hours) • Intercambio: Activity w/ exchange partners (1.5 contact hour)	• All classes held at host institution in Sevilla. • Unless otherwise noted, all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) will be served at students' homes with host families. • Second Orientation and Seville Walking Tour • Reading: Galeano, <i>Fútbol a sol y sombra</i> (7, 38-40); Anderson, <i>Imagined Communities</i> (introduction)
6	Friday 10 May	Sevilla	• Class 2 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Soccer in Spain I • Orientation meeting for Córdoba Day Trip • Guided visit of Cathedral (2 prep hours)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, <i>España: temas de cultura y civilización (ETCC)</i> , 19-23; de Quinta Garrobo, 10-15.
7	Saturday 11 May	Córdoba	Walking tour of Córdoba with a certified tour guide. Judería quarter (1 prep hour), and Cathedral/Mosque of Córdoba (1.5 contact hour with certified tour guide). • Post-visit debriefing (1 contact hour)	Day Trip to Córdoba. Bus travel approximately two hours in each direction.
8	Sunday 12 May	Sevilla		Free day in Sevilla

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
9	Monday 13 May	Sevilla	• Class 3 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Andalucía I; Sevilla FC • Response Paper 1 due • Sevilla FC stadium visit (2 prep hours) • “Tertulia” (1 contact hour)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 9 (185-90). Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> , Cap. 3; <i>The Spanish Football Podcast (TSFP)</i> Regions and Rivalries: Andalucía
10	Tuesday 14 May	Sevilla	• Class 4 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Andalucía II; Real Betis Balompié • Guided visit to Las Setas (2 prep hours) • Post-visit debriefing (1 contact hour)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 9 (190-93); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 6).
11	Wednesday 15 May	Sevilla	• Class 5 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Andalucía III; other clubs • Class discussion 1 • “Tertulia” (1 contact hour)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 9 (200-03); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 6, cont’d).
12	Thursday 16 May	Sevilla	• Class 6 (2 contact hours) • Response Paper 2 due • Activity w/ Intercambios	
13	Friday 17 May	Granada	• Guided visit to Ronda (2 prep hour) • Guided visit to Albacín (1 prep hour) • Post-visit debriefing (0.5 contact hour)	• Overnight trip to Granada Bus Sevilla-Granada approximately three hours. • Stop in Ronda for a walking tour • Group dinner at hotel.

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
14	Saturday 18 May	Granada	• Guided visit to the city center and Royal Chapel of Granada (1.5 prep hour) • Flamenco performance at Cueva El Rocío (1.5 prep hour) • Post-performance debriefing (0.5 contact hour)	• Breakfast at hotel • Lunch on own • Free afternoon • Group dinner at restaurant • Flamenco show
15	Sunday 19 May	Granada	• Guided visit of the Alhambra Palace and Generalife Gardens. (3 prep hours) • Post-visit debriefing. (1 contact hour)	• Breakfast at hotel. • Lunch at restaurant. • Return Granada-Sevilla Bus Granada-Sevilla approximately three hours.
16	Monday 20 May	Sevilla	• Class 7 (2 contact hours) • Topic: El País Vasco; Athletic Club Bilbao and Real Sociedad • Class discussion 2 • “Tertulia” conversation hour (1 contact hour)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 4 (73-75; 78-81); Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> (Cap. 4); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 3); <i>TSFP</i> Regions and Rivalries: The Basque Country.
17	Tuesday 21 May	Sevilla	• Class 8 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Galicia; Celta de Vigo and Deportivo de la Coruña • Class discussion 3 • Tile Painting Workshop (2 prep hours)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 3 (52-57); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 7); <i>TSFP</i> Regions and Rivalries: Galicia.

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
18	Wednesday 22 May	Sevilla	• Class 9 (2 contact hours) • Topic: Madrid; Real Madrid, Atlético de Madrid, Rayo Vallecano • Class discussion 4 • Sevillanas Workshop (2 prep hours) • Flamenco Museum visit w/ Flamenco show (2 prep hours) • Post-visit debriefing (0.5 contact hours)	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 2 (31-35); Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> (Cap. 6); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 5); <i>TSFP</i> Regions and Rivalries: Madrid.
19	Thursday 23 May	Sevilla	• Itálica visit (2 prep hours) • Class 10 (3 contact hours) • Topic: Catalunya I; FC Barcelona and Espanyol • Class discussion 5	Reading: Piemontese-Ramos and Arboleda, Cap. 10 (209-11; 217-21); Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> (Cap. 5); Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 4).
20	Friday 24 May	Sevilla	• Class 11 (3 contact hours) • Topic: Catalunya II; FC Barcelona • Examen Parcial • Visit to Alcázar & Jewish Quarter (2 prep hour) • Tertulia 3 • Orientation meeting for Cádiz Trip	Reading: Ball, <i>Morbo</i> (Cap. 4 cont'd); <i>TSFP</i> Regions and Rivalries: Catalunya.
21	Saturday 25 May	Cádiz	• Walking tour of Cádiz city center. Tavira Tower and old streets of city center. (2 prep hours) • Post-visit debriefing (1 contact hour)	• Day trip to Cádiz. Bus Sevilla-Cádiz approximately 1.5 hour each way.
22	Sunday 26 May	Sevilla		Free day in Sevilla

Day	Date	Location	Academic Activities	Logistical Details
23	Monday 27 May	Sevilla	• Class 12 (2 contact hours) • Topic: El Clásico I: El fútbol durante la Guerra Civil y la dictadura • Tertulia 4 (1 contact hour)	Reading: Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> , cap. 21.
24	Tuesday 28 May	Sevilla	• Class 13 (2 contact hours) • Topic: El Clásico II: Real Madrid vs. FC Barcelona • Fine Arts Museum visit (1.5 prep hour) • Post-visit debriefing (1 contact hour)	Reading: Lowe, <i>Miedo y asco</i> , caps. 1 y 2.
25	Wednesday 29 May	Sevilla	• Class 14 (2 contact hours) • Topic: La Roja (Spanish National Team) • Cooking Class (2 prep hours) • Tertulia 5 (1 contact hour)	Reading: Burns, <i>De Riotinto a la Roja</i> , caps. 29 y 30.
26	Thursday 30 May	Sevilla	Class 15 (2 contact hours) • Final Project: Oral Presentations and Final Essay Due	
27	Friday 31 May	Sevilla	Class 16 (2 contact hours) • Final Project: Final Essay Due	
28	Saturday 1 June	Sevilla and Madrid	Madrid: Free time & Lunch on your own	• Breakfast at homestays or residence. • Transfer to Santa Justa Train Station High Speed Train to Madrid. • Travel: Sevilla-Madrid • Group farewell dinner in Madrid
29	Sunday 2 June	Madrid to USA	End of Program	Return trip to High Point. (Madrid-Charlotte-HPU)