



FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD

KIIS Spain I Program, Summer 2021

SPAN 370: Spanish Conversation

Instructors: Dr. Ida Day / Dr. Kajsa Larson

Emails: dayi@marshall.edu / larsonk2@nku.edu

Instructors office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

Materials:

No textbook required. The materials will be provided to be photocopied in Segovia. In addition, handouts will be provided by the instructor.

Prerequisites:

Completion of Intermediate Spanish

Course Description:

This conversation class, for students with at least two years of college-level Spanish or the equivalent is designed to develop greater fluency, vocabulary knowledge, and refine grammatical proficiency to master more complex communication skills (including narrating and describing with a variety of verb tenses, providing detailed explanations, expressing and supporting opinions). The course also helps students increase their awareness about different cultural characteristics of the Spanish-speaking world. (3 hours) Prerequisites: Span 202 equivalent.

Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

LEARNING OUTCOMES OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- communicate more appropriately in Spanish in diverse social contexts
- engage in conversations and generate writings that provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange and support opinions
- role play by practicing and expanding vocabulary
- dramatize rehearsed oral presentations with limited to none reliance on notes
- demonstrate an increased understanding of the culture of Spain

The class is intimately linked to living abroad, and students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the abundant opportunities for conversation. Students who make a sustained effort to use only Spanish outside of class throughout the program do well in class, without exception. ABOVE ALL, DO NOT SEQUESTER YOURSELF FROM YOUR HOST FAMILY. YOU SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO CREATE SOCIAL EXCHANGE. Reciprocate the hospitality extended to you by making the home stay experience pleasant and interesting for your host family. They and the relationships you form with other locals are what will stay with you long after the program is over. Resolve to benefit from as much social interaction as possible. Make a self-pledge to speak only Spanish and make the same pact with your roommate. Your ability to succeed is integrally linked to what you do outside class, and we expect that all students will use Spanish with host families, other locals, and KIS students and faculty.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory and roll will be taken for every class period and field trip. Students are expected to attend all class meetings and excursions and to arrive on time. Unexcused absences from classes and/or excursions will result in a lowering of your grade, as will excessive tardiness. Absences for legitimate medical or unlikely emergency reasons will be excused, but students have the responsibility to inform the instructor and the program director. Chronic unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program.

*Late arrivals will count as absences. Plan accordingly and be responsible for your schedule.

Assessment of Learning

Students will demonstrate these learning outcomes through the following categories below. Grades will be based on the quality of the student's work and improvement over the term. (Note: It is not easy to get the full points for any of the grade components. The highest scores are for truly outstanding work. Do your best!)

The final grade will be based on:

Tests	30 %	90–100 Superior ¹	A
Quizzes	20 %	80-89 Above average	B
Presentations	15 %	70-79 Satisfactory	C
Class participation	20 %	60-69 Below average	D
Final Interview/skit	15 %	≤ 59 Deficient	F

Homework:

Assignments are to be done BEFORE class. No work will be accepted late. Readings, news clips, lesson chapter exercises.

¹ *truly exceptional work in Spanish merits an A.

Pruebas (quizzes):

These may include some or all of the following elements: comprehension, summarizing a story verbally, vocabulary, multiple choice, group work, reading out loud, etc.

Oral Interview/Skit:

There will be several oral assessments during the course and they will vary in nature—ranging from one-on-one conversations with the professor, doing a presentation, and a skit for your classmates. Each student will have a range of topics to talk about in an open environment - outdoors in an informal setting, cafeteria, plaza, bakery, etc. (the instructor will provide you with guidelines).

Class participation, performance, and the use of Spanish:

All students are expected to actively participate in class by answering questions in an informal yet organized manner, engaging in conversation, and reading aloud. Students must come prepared to discuss homework assignments and participate actively. Mere attendance is not the same as participation. Spanish is the official and only language of the classroom. The more you are exposed to the target language, the more you will understand it. You must be patient with yourself and try to capture as much as possible and communicate as much as possible.

Academic Honesty Policy

Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the assignment and other penalties deemed appropriate by the instructor and the program director.

Disability Accommodation

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/brochure2019update.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.

Welcome to Spain! Enjoy this adventure!