



FACULTY-LED  
STUDY ABROAD

## KIIS Spain I Program, Summer 2022

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### SPAN 374 Literature and Culture of Spain

**Instructor:** Dr. Ida Day

**Email:** [dayi@marshall.edu](mailto:dayi@marshall.edu)

**Instructor's office hours:** on site and by appointment

*Syllabus Subject to change*

#### Course Description

This course will give an introduction to the culture of Spain through the study of literary texts, particularly the genre of poetry from Spain. Many of the poets will have a connection to Castilla y León, Castilla-La Mancha, and Madrid, and time allotted to other regions of Spain. The course will touch briefly on historical contexts and cultural milieu that produced selected texts. Students will also have a practical experience through creating their own poems.

#### 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.

## Required Materials

- Collection of readings to be purchased in Segovia at the local printshop. A packet with an *Antología poética*. As well as photocopies that you should download before reaching Spain.
- Small bilingual dictionary OR [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com) / [www.Spanishdict.com](http://www.Spanishdict.com) / [www.rae.es](http://www.rae.es) (diccionario real academia) \*if you have a smart phone use their apps.
- A Notebook or journal to document your thoughts. Something portable.

## Prerequisites

Intermediate Spanish Proficiency level (Mid)

### Learning Objectives, for this course the student will:

1. Develop his/her skills in reading, writing, and oral expression;
2. Expand and produce vocabulary related to the readings,
3. Increase his/her understanding of Spanish culture, with special emphasis on the literary tradition of Spain.

### Course Goal:

Upon completion of the course you will have developed the vocabulary and language skills needed for further study of Hispanic literature. Furthermore, you will have improved your speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills. You will have become familiar with Spanish authors and Spanish texts that relate to your experience in Spain, and you will have acquired a better appreciation for Spanish short stories. Finally, by the end of the course, you will be able to participate in either telling or re-enacting a short story in a get together with the hosts in a relaxed atmosphere.

### Additional resources

You should expect a reading assignment; quizzes based on comprehension, vocabulary, literary analysis or all three; a journal entry/small writing assignment, and class discussion for each class period. You should also expect to write mini papers, critical essays to develop and write. We will read short stories and discuss them within their historical and cultural context, and even perhaps have time to venture in the art of storytelling. All work for the class will be done in Spanish. There will be three exams throughout the course.

Our discussions and readings will be done not only in the classroom but we may also venture into local venues, parks, buses, and/or cafes. You will certainly have a rich experience of these texts and remember them vividly, because you will be reading and discussing them in Segovia.

**Assessment of Learning:** Your grade will be based on your written work, homework readings, presentations, quizzes, and class discussions. You will have a journal where you will write about the readings for that particular day; therefore, you must have all readings done on time. There will be reading comprehension quizzes for every reading we do. Active

participation is essential to this course: come prepared with your texts, ask questions, offer opinions, read aloud, and listen closely to what your classmates say. Finally, in order to improve speaking and oral comprehension skills, we will always express ourselves in Spanish while class is in session and while you are in the KIIS building Spanish will solely be used. The use of English will adversely affect your grade, see rubric.

**Participation:**

Students will participate in tertulia café style discussions of texts, in-class debates and group analysis of assigned texts as well as places of interest. The interactive and student-centered nature of the class requires a high level of participation on the part of the student. Segovia & its excursions will serve as a backdrop for making connections, comparisons, and talking culture. The use of English will adversely affect your grade, see rubric.

**Grade Breakdown cumulative weighing (AGAIN**

Writing assignments	20 %	Superior 90-100 % A
Reading Comprehension quizzes	35 %	Above Average 80-89% B
Engaging class participation	10 %	Satisfactory 70-79% C
Three tests	25 %	Below Average 60-69% D
Sharing a poem, a song, etc.	10 %	Deficient <59% F

**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.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

Academic Honesty Policy Honesty, trust, and personal integrity and responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Because language should be communicative, you may choose to study with others. However, this does not mean copying someone else's work or letting someone copy your work. It means working with a partner to gain a better understanding of the material, perhaps practicing conjugations and vocabulary together. All work that you turn in must be your own and completed without any kind of outside assistance. Plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own) and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated, help from host families included.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / [deborah.wilkins@wku.edu](mailto:deborah.wilkins@wku.edu)) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / [michael.crowe@wku.edu](mailto:michael.crowe@wku.edu)) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / [joshua.hayes@wku.edu](mailto: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/eeo/titleixbrochure2020.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.