

ENGL 355/555: International Study in English
(cross listed with TESL 203/560 and SPED 203)

Topic: Multiculturalism in Barcelona

3 credits

English majors can take the course as an elective in the major.

The course is also applicable toward several programs, including Humanities Core, Global Culture, Ethnic Studies and as an elective toward graduation.

Students in all majors are encouraged to participate.

Instructor: Dr. Julia (Yulia) Stakhnevich, Professor, Special Education, BSU

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BSU contact information:

Office of Study Abroad, Center for International Engagement

www.bridgew.edu/studyabroad

Dates of Travel: March 7-15, 2020

Course Description:

Barcelona, a capital of Catalonia in Spain, has been an inspiration for many artists and writers who have admired an amazing amalgamation of the Gothic and Modernist elements in its architecture, its breath-taking locale on the mountains overlooking the Mediterranean, its colorful multilingual history, and an outstanding regional cuisine. In this course, students will explore Barcelona's multiculturalism and write about the efforts of its citizens to maintain and preserve the Catalan language and culture without being overpowered by the Spanish language and culture while at the same time making the city an important international center that welcomes English as a modern lingua franca.

The goal of the course is for the students learn about the complexities of Barcelona's sociolinguistic landscape and apply this knowledge to their own major or minor in English, TESOL, and/or Special Education.

*Students taking this course for graduate credit will produce assignments commensurate with graduate level of work both in terms of quality and quantity.

Course Outcomes:

Upon the completion of this course, as writers and readers, students will be able to

- Become more experienced writers in the genre of non-fiction and researched writing by engaging in reflective writing, photojournalism, and researched writing.
- Read and respond critically in writing to a variety of texts (both textual and visual), including their own.

With regard to the content of the course, upon its completion students will be able to

- Extend their understanding of the connections between language and culture as applied to Spanish and Catalan cultures.
- Discuss the complexities involved in the 'local' identity in Barcelona.
- Articulate in an informed way the interconnections between Catalan and Spain's history and Barcelona's multiculturalism.
- Discuss Barcelona's citizens' efforts to maintain and preserve the Catalan language and introduce English as a contemporary lingua franca used in the city.
- Apply their understanding of the complexities of Barcelona's sociolinguistic landscape to the specifics of their major and/or minor in English, TESOL, and/or Special Education.

Readings:

Lonely Planet Barcelona (Travel Guide; 2019)

What Catalans Want by Toni Strubell

The Man Of My Life by Manuel Vázquez Montalbán

The Shadow of The Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafón

Films (available through the Maxwell Library Video System):

Biutiful (2010)

Gaudi's Barcelona (2011)

L'Auberge Espagnole (2002)

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (1988)

Under Construction (2002)

In the City (2003)

Course Evaluation and Assignments:

Course Assignments:

Journal

Students are required to keep a journal throughout the semester to reflect on the readings, films, lectures, and field trips, to do brainstorming for larger assignments, and to generate ideas with regard to specific writing prompts provided by the instructor. Although there is no upper limit to the number of journal entries, there must be at least 8 one-page entries by the time the students return from Barcelona. Journals will be graded on a pass/fail scale.

Final Project

As a final project, students will submit a six- to eight-page paper on a topic directly related to the course content. All topics will be reviewed and approved by the instructor prior to the beginning of writing. The major goal of the final paper is to connect the knowledge that the students garnered about the history and present day sociolinguistic landscape of Barcelona with their major. Specific topics may include Contemporary Language Usage in Barcelona, Catalan in Public and Private Spheres, English Language Education in Barcelona, Special Education in Barcelona, Barcelona's UNESCO Heritage Sites in Film and in Person, etc.

All topics must be approved in advance by the instructor.

Students may use some of the writing generated in their journals as starting points for their final projects. All images must be placed in a separate appendix. Papers will be written in the MLA format, in Times New Roman, 12-point font, double spaced, paginated, and

stapled. There will be a title page (no pagination) and a bibliography page with references to all outside sources, including lectures, field trips, readings, films, interviews, multimedia, etc. Students must incorporate, at least, three additional credible sources to further research their topic. All outside source included in the bibliography must be referenced within the text of their paper. Students will workshop their papers with the instructor and their peers and will share their final draft in class. This assignment will be graded with a letter grade.

*Graduate students will produce a final project commensurate with graduate level of work both in terms of quality and quantity. For example, their journal will contain, at least, 12 entries, and their final project will be, at least, 12 pages long with a minimum of 7 additional credible sources.

Final grades will be based on the following:

Journal	20%
Class participation at BSU	20%
Travel experience participation in Barcelona	40%
Final project	20%

Please be advised that any student who does not follow the directions of the study tour leader and, thus, endangers him/herself and/or others, will be immediately sent back home and will receive an F grade for this course. All students need to make sure that they are safe and not endangering anyone else. For this reason, students are strongly advised to plan on doing things together with their BSU peers while abroad. Barcelona is a large city, and everyone must exercise caution in order to avoid unsafe situations. It is never a good idea to go swimming alone or to go out in the evening without another student. During the flex times, students are required to inform the instructor of their plans and stay in contact.

** If you have a documented learning disability, please speak with your instructor so that we may help you find the campus resources you need to help you succeed.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

Prompt and regular attendance is mandatory. You are required to attend each pre-departure meeting, participate in all scheduled activities during the trip, and attend all scheduled post-trip meetings unless serious emergency or serious illness prevents your attendance. If you are going to miss class or a schedule activity, please notify your instructor in advance. Three late arrivals to class/scheduled activity will count as one absence. Because of the format of this class, missing one class meeting will result in 1 full letter grade penalty off the final. For example, an earned A grade becomes a B for one missed class. When in class or in peer-review sessions, you are expected to be prepared for the discussion by completing the assignments due on that day (including readings and papers) and by providing professional and supportive feedback. Late assignments will receive a grade reduction by one grade per each late day.

Tentative Schedule and Itinerary

Please be advised that specific points in the itinerary are subject to change based on site availability and trip logistics.

Students should print out their electronic ticket sent to them by the Office of Study Abroad and bring them to the airport.

Pre-departure Meeting 2/6	Introduction to the course; distribution of course assignments, and discussion of student expectations
Pre-departure Meeting 2/20	Travel logistics Pre-departure essay “I Dream of Barcelona” is due for presentation in class and to submit to the instructor for grading.
3/7/2020	Flight: Boston – Barcelona
3/8/2020	Hop-on/Hop-off City Tour

3/9/2020

Gothic Quarter Walking Tour (Barri Gòtic)

followed by lunch and free time

3/10/2020

Gaudi's Sagrada Família and Barcelona Modernist

Walking Tour in L'Eixample, including Quadrat d'Or, followed by lunch and free time to begin working on the final project

3/11/2020

Museu Picasso and Walking Tour of La Ribera, followed

by lunch and free time to continue working on the final project

3/12/2020

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC)

Parc Güell

3/13/2020

A day trip to Sitges, a seaside town with a counterculture

history – by train

3/14/2020

Flex day for students to explore Barcelona in small groups

to complete their final projects according to their major/minor

Farewell dinner: Travel journals are due for informal review, discussion, and pass/fail grading.

4/15//2020

Flight: Barcelona – Boston

Post-trip Meeting 3/26

*Photo essay is due for presentation in class and to submit to the instructor for grading.

*Final paper discussion

Post-trip Meeting 4/16

*Final papers are due for presentation in class and to submit for grading.