

SPAN 3230
Discovering Barcelona: Culture & Heritage
Summer 2024
Study Abroad Program

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I. Course Description and Objectives

This course presents an overview of representations of the city of Barcelona in literature and visual culture. We will be looking at different representations of the city from antiquity to the present which show us not only its development from a small Roman town to one of the top metropolis of Europe, but they also help us to understand how differences in discourses on the urban, history, sociology, architecture and art have changed in time. We will focus mainly on literary and visual discourses, and as the course takes place in Barcelona we will be able to make continuous references and connections to real places and sites.

The course assumes a thorough and careful reading of the works, an analysis of them, and an active and frequent participation in class. All coursework is conducted in Spanish.

****all work for this course needs to be done on site****

The course work is divided into two parts:

1. A daily lecture and discussion on significant literary and visual works facilitated by Professor Herrero-Senés.
2. Tours and site visits, led by local guides, guest lecturers and / or Professor Herrero-Senés.

Course objectives:

- To know and describe the evolution of some representations of the city of Barcelona.
- To know and describe several key literary and visual works related to the city.
- Analyze and interpret the content, discourse and the ideology of these works.
- Compare works from different historical periods.

II. Readings

All the material for this course will be included in the coursepack.

III. Grading

Class participation	25%
1 Group presentation	15%
Blog	10%
Written assignment	20%
Final exam	30%

A = 93-100	B+ = 88-89.9	C+ = 78-79.9	D+ = 68-69.9
A- = 90-92.9	B = 83-87.9	C = 73-77.9	D = 63-67.9
	B- = 80-82.9	C- = 70-72.9	D- = 60-62.9

IV. Course Requirements and Expectations

Class participation

Attendance is required. Engaged, intellectual participation in class discussion is fundamental both to your understanding and that of your peers. To this end, you should take notes and think critically about the texts before coming to class. You will find that if you bring all of your questions, opinions, and problems to the discussion, we all benefit from them. The class format is driven by class discussion, with very few lectures; therefore, regular class engagement is critical to your success.

Group presentation – analysis

On the first day of classes, you will be divided into groups of 4-5 students. As a group, you will be responsible to prepare a presentation on a particular site of the city.

Blog

The blog consists of a collaborative effort to produce writing that reflects on the web the experience of Barcelona and the Global Seminar. Each student has to produce 4 pieces per course of critical commentary and reflection about the texts, discussions, sites and experience while in Barcelona. Commentaries may include pictures and other media files.

Written assignments

There will be one three-page analytical essay. The essay will consist of an analysis of a specific aspect of site, a text or a visual work.

Final exam

The exam includes questions on how the multiple representations of Barcelona have shaped the image of it and on the cultural highlights of the course.

Selected Bibliography

Cervera, Joseph Philip. *Modernismo: The Catalan Renaissance of the Arts*. New York: Garland, 1976.

Colm, Toílbín. *Homage to Barcelona*. New York: Penguin Books, 1992.

Lehan, Richard. *The city in Literature: An intellectual and cultural history*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998.

Pike, Burton. *The image of the city in modern literature*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1981.

Resina, Joan Ramon. *Barcelona's vocation of modernity: Rise and decline of an urban image*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 2008.

