HOUSING

Students live with Spanish families in Tarragona, living in hostestays, with local families, extends the learning opportunities beyond the classroom. provides full language immersion. and is the best way to experience Tarragona.

EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

Short excursions m and around Tarragona as well as longer trips within Spain - including travel to Madrid and an extended excursion to southern Spain, including Seville - are integral to the course of study and are required. Students will have opportunities to travel on their own during a ten-day fall break and on some weekends.

FEES AND CREDITS

This program is part of the Bates curriculum. The 2017 fall semester abroad in Tarragona provides students with four Bates credits and a complete General Education Concentration (GEQ) upon successful completion. Students also earn three Spanish credits, all of which may count towards the major/minor - the actual number depends on the level of the language courses. History credits and one Latin American Studies credit. They may also earn up to three European Studies credits. All expenses, including travel to and from Tarragona and program related educational excursions. as well as meals and costs related to program cultural activities, are covered by the regular Bates Single Fee. Students need only additional funds, as desired, for personal entertainment and independent travel.

APPLICATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION

Information about the application process is available on the program webpage: www.bates.edu/offcampus/fsa-spain/. Completed applications from enrolled students should be submitted by December 9, 2016 (for early decision) or by February 3, 2017 (final deadline).

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

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CURRICULAR QUESTIONS

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional program details may be found at: bates.edu/offcampus/fsa-spain. Information on safety, security, and crime in Spain is available on the travel website of the US Department of State: travel.state.gov. Information on health issues and recommended immunizations is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: cdc.gov/travel. Students and families are urged to review the information on both sites.
THE PROGRAM

The 2017 Bates Fall Semester Abroad (FSA) in Tarragona provides the opportunity for an intensive immersion in Spanish language and culture in a unique location—a UNESCO World Heritage site on the Mediterranean coast—taught by Bates faculty in collaboration with local language faculty. The program is open to all Bates students. While some knowledge of Spanish language is helpful, it is not necessary or required prior to the program.

Tarragona puts a storied heritage at students' doorsteps. The capital of the former Roman province of Hispania Tarraconensis and a meeting point between Christian and Muslim Spain during the medieval period, Tarragona is home to ancient Roman ruins, narrow medieval streets, and a twelfth-century cathedral. It is also a modern city with a bustling port and the region's premier university, the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV). A thriving local culture includes theaters, museums, concerts, and traditional fiestas celebrated in the city's streets. The city (pop. 132,000) is located approximately one hour south of Barcelona in southern Catalonia and is connected to Barcelona, Madrid, and Andalusia by the AVE high speed train.

The Bates program is affiliated with the URV, an institution attended by approximately 15,000 students. Founded in the sixteenth century, it is one of Spain's oldest universities. Known for the quality of its teaching, URV has a reputation as one of the leading universities in Europe. Bates students have access to its many resources, including libraries, computers, cafeteria, and cultural activities.

Upon successfully finishing the program, students will have a complete General Education Concentration (GEC). Students may also earn three Spanish credits, all of which may count towards the major/minor—the actual number depends on the level of the language courses—plus one History credit, and one Latin American Studies credit. Students may also earn up to three European Studies credits.

THE COURSES

Bates in Tarragona begins in late August with intensive language study designed to help students of all abilities gain proficiency and comfort with Spanish. Students will be placed in language levels according to their abilities from beginner to advanced. Students continue their study of Spanish throughout the semester with members of the URV faculty and take two courses taught in English by Bates faculty. The program ends in mid-December.

Building Memory: Narratives of the Spanish Civil War

Professor Francisca Lopez

The Spanish Civil War is both an important historical landmark and the main theme of myriad literary and film narratives produced since the establishment of democracy in Spain. In this course, we discuss the fictional representations of this armed conflict within the context of the current memory boom in European cultures. Theories of memory (cultural and collective) and postmemory provide the framework for textual and cultural analysis. Some questions leading these analyses are: what is the role of these narratives? What type of national identity do they propose? What do they suggest about Spain's position in Europe? How do they negotiate conflict?

Spain's Golden Age of Empire

Professor Karen Melvin

The events of 1492 sparked the transformation of Spain. The voyages of Columbus and his successors propelled it from a collection of kingdoms at the margins of European society to a powerful global empire—the world's first—whose territories stretched from Italy to the Americas, Asia, and Africa. That same year the Reconquest and expulsion of Jews marked a shift from a multiculturally and religiously plural society to one recognized as the guardian of Christianity. This course explores what happened to Spanish culture and society during this era of intense change (1492-1800). Topics include the Armada and the rise of Spanish imperial power; the expulsions of Jews and Muslims; migration and its consequences; and the Inquisition and religious culture.

BATES FACULTY

Francisca Lopez is Professor of Spanish. She specializes in contemporary Spanish literary and cultural studies, paying particular attention to politics of representation in narrative fiction, film and television. In addition to the Bates Fall Semester Abroad (FSA) in Spain that she co-directed with Professor Melvin in 2012, she co-directed an FSA in Chile in 1998 and has conducted Short Term courses with Bates students in Spain, Cuba, and Morocco.

Karen Melvin is Associate Professor of History. She specializes in the history of Latin America with a focus on connections within the early modern Spanish world. Many of her courses cover the Spanish empire, and she teaches a course on the Spanish Inquisition. She has lived and traveled extensively in Latin America and Spain, co-directed the 2012 Bates Fall Semester Abroad with Professor Lopez, and led a summer Spanish immersion program to Costa Rica.