International Experiential Learning in Barcelona: Culture Through the Ages

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, supported by The Student Success Centre
Where?

- Barcelona
- Madrid
- Rome
- Paris
- London

Mediterranean Sea
The City of Barcelona

- Capital of the region of Catalonia.
- Population of 1,600,000 people (4,700,000 Metropolitan Area)
- A Cosmopolitan City: 14% of foreign population.
- Currency: Euro
- Weather in May (Mostly sunny, around 23°C)
The Course – Overview

This 3-week course in Barcelona explores cultural differences between the Mediterranean life and North American life through artistic expressions, history, food, and values. You will engage with the local culture, discover new places, and be exposed to new perspectives; ultimately, this experience will likely re-shape your identity in the global context.

**The course is wholly taught in the English language**
Learning Outcomes

As a result of participating in this experience, you will have the ability to:

• Demonstrate cultural awareness of the values you have acquired in your international and intercultural experience

• Rethink your identity and deepen your knowledge about your culture and yourself

• Compare artistic expressions and reflect on how these have evolved throughout time;

• Communicate with a wider range of people;

• Respect, understand, and relate to others’ voices

• Accommodate yourself into different socio-cultural realities

• Tolerate and appreciate intercultural differences by recognizing the value of identity
What is Experiential Learning?

- A hands-on experience you obtain by applying theoretical knowledge in a real-world setting

- Aka. Learning outside the classroom

- Promotes the development of teamwork, leadership, initiative and communication.

- By engaging with the new sights, new sounds, new smells, new tastes, new music, etc of Barcelona, you will bring your learning about Barcelona to life
Overview of Course Flow

- Application through CareerCentral due by October 23 at midnight
- $50 administration fee due to Modern Languages and Literatures once application submitted (check or money order)
- Students accepted by November 6 and notifications made
- First payment of $500 due November 27 at MLL
- Students registered into the Winter course by MLL
- Attend a few sessions of the course in Winter Term (January 15 and April 1)
- Pre-Departure sessions and requirements
- Travel to Barcelona for 3 weeks in Intersession Term (May 8 – May 25)
### Cost of the Course

- Regular tuition fees paid for Winter Term (no tuition needs to be paid for Intersession)
- Cost of some items depends on number of students traveling. Maximum: 20 students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paid to Western</th>
<th>Individual Student Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations at Generator Hostel (breakfast incl.)</td>
<td>Flight**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground Transportation</td>
<td>Individual trip cancellation insurance***</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Meals</td>
<td>Lunch and dinner (except 3-4 meals)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions to Cultural Sites, Museums, etc - Health Insurance*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Leader Contribution ≈$2,305</td>
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*Western purchasing a standard health insurance plan is a mandatory part of participation (non-negotiable); health insurance extends only through Western portion of trip

**This will allow students to determine how long they’ll stay abroad

***Up to the discretion of the student
A Glimpse into Barcelona
A Glimpse into Barcelona: lodging

Shared Rooms for 4 to 8 Western students, depending on group size.
Washrooms in the room and space for your personal belongings.
Breakfast included.
The History Museum, Roman Barcelona
Parc de la Cuitadella
Born Centre
La Pedrera
Sagrada Familia
National Art Museum of Catalonia
Content of the Course

The construction of the city, history and culture:
- Roman Barcelona
- Medieval Barcelona
- XIX\textsuperscript{th} century Barcelona
Content of the Course

The Art production of Barcelona and its region: Modernism and Gaudí

La Pedrera
Sagrada Familia
Parc Güell
Content of the Course

Catalonia and its National Identity

Catalan Parliament

Born Centre

National Museum of Catalan Art
Evaluation

• Self-reflection diary: 30% (blog entries)
• Group Exploration and Presentation: 20%
• Essay on the obligatory readings: 10%
• Active Engagement and Participation in activities: 15%
• Final Project: 25%
Funding Opportunities

International Learning Award

• Cumulative 80% average with full-time course load at the end of Year 2, you will automatically be eligible for a $1,000 award for an international learning experience in Year 3
• Students in a second-entry undergraduate degree do not qualify (i.e. business, dentistry, law, medicine)
• Recipients of National Scholarships are not eligible
• Students registered at affiliate university colleges are not eligible
Funding Opportunities

Global Opportunities Award

• $1,000 or $2,000 scholarships for international learning
• Full-time undergraduate and graduate students registered at Western who have completed at least their first year of study. Students in all faculties except Ivey
• Students from affiliate university colleges are not eligible
Get Involved!

- Application through CareerCentral due by **October 23 at midnight**
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- Students accepted by November 6 and notifications made

Questions for Application

1) What are three specific learning objectives you have regarding your participation in this course?
2) Describe any previous experience that is relevant to international travel, intercultural communication, or experiential learning.
3) In what ways will participation in this course relate to or enhance your current academic studies and future career goals?

Experiential Learning → Curricular CEL → International CEL Course Applications → Barcelona