



Spanish contact:

Jane Tar, Ph.D.  
jdtar@stthomas.edu  
OEC 336

*“Studying abroad in Spain was one of the best decisions I made. Cultural immersion pushes you to use the Spanish language in ways you otherwise would not. To be living the culture and the language day in and day out is an education you could never receive in a classroom. To become truly proficient in a language you have to take the leap of studying abroad.”*

-Megan Trender '06

International Education Center  
Mail #44C  
Ph: 651-962-6450  
Email:  
[international@stthomas.edu](mailto:international@stthomas.edu)  
Web:  
[www.stthomas.edu/studyabroad](http://www.stthomas.edu/studyabroad)

# Study Abroad for Spanish

## Why study Spanish abroad?

- To improve your fluency
- To understand the relationship between language and culture
- To expand your cross-cultural communication, foreign language, and problem solving skills as you interact with faculty and students from around the world
- To broaden your academic horizons
- To develop intellectually, emotionally, culturally, and socially

## Yeah, but...

### • **When is the best time to go abroad?**

For Spanish majors and minors, it works well to go abroad after you complete SPAN300. At that level, you are ready to take all of your courses in Spanish and you'll have the opportunity to choose from language, literature, film, political science, history, art history and other topics courses.

### • **If I'm not a Spanish major, can I fulfill my language requirements abroad?**

Yes. Some study abroad programs have equivalent courses that will satisfy UST's core language requirement.

### • **Can I afford it?**

YES! The cost of studying abroad is within the reach of most UST students. Financial aid applies to semester study abroad, and students not currently receiving financial aid may be eligible for loans. In addition, there are special scholarships for studying abroad.

## So...what do I do next?


- Begin planning right away. It is never too early to start planning. Stop by the IEC, sign up for a "First Step" session (visit the IEC website for details), and use the resource library to begin researching destinations.
- Set some goals. There is not one program best suited for all Spanish majors. You need to determine which one best fits you. Prioritize your goals. Consider your long-term academic, professional, and career goals.
- Think about what you want to learn from (and what you can contribute to) the program and country where you want to be.
- Prepare academically. You may need to take prerequisites or plan for classes upon your return.
- Start a budget.
- To help with the above, talk to:
  - your academic advisor
  - Study Abroad Advisor at International Education Center (IEC)

## Academic Planning:

- In consultation with your academic advisor, create a tentative “4-year” academic schedule ASAP (see sample below). By doing this, you will determine when, during your academic career, studying abroad best fits you. Although most Spanish students go abroad during their junior year, you should go abroad when it fits into your schedule, including J-Term or summer.
- Some programs offer the option of taking one course in Spanish language and other courses in English. This option is best suited to non-Spanish majors and minors.
- The Spanish major and minor provide ample opportunity to take electives and special topics courses abroad. Study the list of courses available and discuss with your advisor/department chair about possible approval of these courses for Spanish requirements.
- As part of your application process, you will identify particular courses of interest and get them approved *before* you depart. Finally, in addition to studying abroad, you should also consider research, service-learning, internships, volunteer, and extracurricular experiences off-campus, just as you do when you are on campus.

*Sample Schedule* for a Spanish major wishing to study abroad:

	<i>First Year</i>	<i>Second year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>
<i>F</i>			SPANISH	SPANISH
			Language	Language
			Literature	Literature
			Culture & Civ	Culture & Civ
<i>J</i>				
<i>S</i>		SPANISH	SPANISH	
		Language	Language	
		Literature	Literature	
		Culture & Civ	Culture & Civ	

 \*Only Spanish courses are listed here, but don't forget about your core courses and/or electives abroad!  
= time periods when *most* Spanish students consider going abroad.

## Study Abroad Programs for Spanish Majors/Minors

### Spain

AIFS: Granada, Salamanca  
 Central College: Granada  
 CIEE: Seville, Business & Society  
 CC-CS: Seville  
 IES: Barcelona, Madrid  
 St. Louis University: Madrid  
 UW Platteville: Seville

### Latin America

#### Argentina

COPA: Buenos Aires, Mendoza  
 IES: Buenos Aires

#### Chile

COPA: Santiago, Valparaiso  
 IES: Santiago

#### Costa Rica

COPA: Heredia, San Jose

#### Ecuador

HECUA: Quito  
 IES: Quito

#### Guatemala

Augsburg: Guatemala City

#### Mexico

Augsburg: Cuernavaca  
 COPA: Merida

\*Please consider both short term (summer and J-Term) and long term (semester and year-long) programs.