

LEHIGH IN SPAIN

December 27, 2009 – January 10, 2010

MLL 195: Tradition and Transition, Spain in the New Millennium (3 credits) (H)

This winter term study abroad program will allow students to examine significant Spanish cultural, social, and artistic paradigms to see how they have evolved from early modern Spain to the present time. For example, students will examine the status of women and populations on the fringes of society, the role of religion and sports in Spanish society, the artist's perceptions of war, the evolution of the urban experience and urban architecture, and the economic impact of Spain's entry into the European Union. Special attention will be given to the effect of the transition from the national currency to the Euro.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & REQUIRMENTS

- Internationalize your world-view
- Practice survival-advanced language skills (Spanish is not a requirement)
- Explore the host culture fully by staying with a family
- Experience classroom study which is complemented on a daily basis by first-hand learning events
- Visit unique and exciting cultural historical sites
- Learn about the politics and society of contemporary Spain by delving into the following topics:

Hispanic versus European identity of Spain	Islam in Spain
Regionalism and globalization	Immigration and the Spanish economy
The status of women in society	Gay marriage
Remembering the civil war dead	The 2004 Madrid March 11 bombing and the subsequent elections
The role of the media	
Youth culture	

Topics will include the evolution of significant cultural, social and artistic paradigms that have shaped Spain from the middle Ages to present. Students will be required to attend ALL lectures, study tours, and group activities throughout the program. Also required is a daily journal reflecting personal observations and commentary on study tours to the Prado Museum, the Reina Sofia Museum, the Synagogue of Santa Maria la Blanca, the Great Mosque of Cordoba, the Alcazar and the Cathedral in Seville, etc. Students will complete an 15-hour mini-course at the Centro Norteamericano de Sevilla (CC-CS). Active Involvement in contemporary Spanish life will be achieved through a 10-day family-stay in Seville. A final research paper dealing with a topic of personal interest must be completed by January 31st.