

Seminar: *Girona Province: from Wilfred the Hairy to The Frenchman War. Perspectives over the battles and the cultural heritage that shaped the territory and its society.*

Course: INTL 410 – Cultural, Educational, Active Seminars and Workshops

Series: Catalan and Spanish Language and Culture: A comparative

Leader: ALBA Study Abroad in Barcelona, Spain via the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Int'l Global Studies, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, USA.

Location: Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

Contact hours: 8–12 hours over the course of one day OR more than one day (inquire, pls).

Undergraduate Credit/CEU: 1 credit/1 unit

Day of the week offered: Most days except Saturday, year-round, open enrollment

Logistics: If you do not have your own vehicle you can pre-arrange to leave Barcelona at 8.30h with the group leader in the bus or vehicle he will be driving (free of charge).

Schedule: 9h to 19h (10 hours)

SEMINAR STRUCTURE

- **Pre-reading:** Downloadable PDF(s) or web based articles
- **Full-day field study:** composed of site visits, discussion and task(s). 8–12 hours.
- **Research Paper:** Topic and due date to be decided on day of the seminar

FIELD STUDY DESCRIPTION

This is a full-day seminar dedicated to the study of the history and culture of Catalunya from two very different perspectives: the coastline that was mainly developed starting in the 18th century and the interior of Girona Province and its capital, which has strong Roman and medieval roots which are still very visible today. Special emphasis will be given to analyzing and understanding the consequences that came along with the many battles and wars that took place in this area, since the 9th century and until the War against Napoleon. The day includes guided visits in Calella de Palafrugell, Begur and other villages along the way to Girona city. The coastal traditions are rooted in the small fishing and exporting villages whose commercial and cultural origins stem from the success of the Catalan merchants who journeyed to the Spanish colonies in the Americas and returned with wealth and incredible commercial skills. In Girona a local historian takes us to the most important monuments in the city with detailed explanations of the historical and cultural evolution since Roman times. Interactive, expert-led discussions throughout the day including exclusive visits and narration at each site and the chance to speak with local residents and merchants about the provincial history and cultural and commercial development. **Participants are required to take part in all discussions and activities**

ITINERARY

10.30h Meet in Calella de Palafrugell at the café in Hotel Mediterrani for introductions and overview.

10.45h Walk along the streets, boardwalk and commercial areas which used to serve as the central trade areas in the 18th and 19th century and still today.

11.30h Chat with a local Catalan merchant or fisherman about the local cultural evolution and the effects of the recent recession.

12.30h Visit to Begur center with guided visits to the city's historical center/museum and to one of the old Habanero, Cuban style houses. Walk around the small streets of Begur with narration by our guide.

14h Brief stop for lunch, rest and discussion in a local restaurant in Púbol village on the way to Girona.

15.30h. Girona historian leads our group through the old-quarter, Barri Vell, of Girona with narration of Girona's incredible history that began

with the Romans 2000 years ago. Stops and guided visits include the Girona Cathedral, the Jewish Museum (even for those that are not Jewish, the Masó Foundation, the history of the city museum, the architectural museum in Sant Pere de Galligans church and the walk along the top of the Roman/Medieval walls that still surround Girona today.

17.30 Seminar concludes. Participants can stay in Girona city or they may take the train or ride back to Barcelona with the **guide if there is space in the vehicle and previous arrangement had been made to do so.**

Program follow-up and completion: You'll receive a follow-up email within 24 hours from the group leader with a re-cap of the day's events and discussions, additional notes and research paper completion/submission instruction.