

BARCELONA, MEDITERRANEAN METROPOLIS

Language: English

Level of Spanish required: Not required

Hours: 45

Course description

The main objective of the course is to provide students with a general vision of the city of Barcelona, not only from an historic point of view but also artistic, literary or cinematographic. In the first term, students will see how the original Roman city grew to be a typical European medieval town and how, centuries later, it was the center of an artistic movement called the Modernism which changed its appearance forever.

In the second term, we will follow the steps of some of the writers or movie directors who fell in love with the city to learn how they understood it and will be also seeing the most important changes of the city, especially the Olympic Games in 1992 to end up with the future Barcelona.

Methodology

In the first part, each session will be presented with a power point that students will study and prepare; then we will put it together and define or clarify it with the teacher. Active participation of students is expected.

The second part will be more practical, we will watch some of the movies related to the city, study the music, etc.

An important part of the class will be guided visits to important monuments of Barcelona.

Assessment

Attendance and class participation: 20%

First part - exam: 40%

Second part - essay: 40%

Syllabus

First part: Barcelona, a European town

- Barcelona, an introduction
- Barcino, in the path of the Romans
- Myths and legends of the Gothic Quarter
- The ages of decadence
- The geniuses century: a Bohemian and Modernist city

Second part: Barcelona, an international city

- Barcelona opens to the world: Universal Exhibitions, Olympic Games and Cultures Forum
- A movie set in the city
- Barcelona and the music
- Reading the streets of Barcelona
- Gastronomic city: from La Boqueria to Ferran Adrià
- Future Barcelona

Bibliography

Casteller, J.: Barcelona, a history, Edicions de 1984, Barcelona, 2000

Vila-Sanjuan, S.; Doria, S.: Walks through literary Barcelona, Grup 62, Barcelona, 2005

Miralles, Roger: Barcelona, noucentista and art Nouveau architecture, Edicions Polígrafa, Barcelona, 2008

Rubio, Albert: Barcelona, old architecture, Edicions Polígrafa, Barcelona, 2009

Vidal-Ribas, Olympia: Cool Barcelona. A non-standard guide, Edicions Polígrafa, Barcelona, 2010

Ingrosso, Chiara: Barcelona. Architecture, city and society. 1975-2015, Skira, Milano, 2011

Mas, J.; Ubide, O.: Boquería Gourmand, Viena Ediciones, Barcelona, 2011

Mendoza, Eduardo: The City of Marvels, London, 1988

Hughes, Robert: Barcelona the Great Enchantress, Washington, 2004