

SPANISH 395

Spring 2013

Immersion Experience in Chilean Culture

1 hr. credit

Instructor: Dr. Julie Glosson

Office: A-27

Phone: 661-5030

email: jglosson@uu.edu

SCOPE OF THE COURSE

This course is designed to improve Spanish language skills along with providing an avenue for developing cultural awareness.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this experience is to enable students to further explore their understanding of some distinctive qualities of Costa Rica, both its people, as well as the country along with broadening awareness of the numerous contributions of Hispanic people to our world. Students will continue to develop speaking and writing skills through this experience.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

A notebook that includes pockets for journaling, interviewing, and collecting brochures, programs, or other items of interest. Students may also include pictures to document places and people visited.

TEACHING METHODS

Students will participate in various interviews with their host families as well as participating in cultural excursions. The student is required to document these in a journal in the target language. Students are encouraged to include reflective statements, thus exploring the target culture.

A. Entrevistas:

You must conduct 4 entrevistas with your family.

Topic 1: Your host family. Include various questions relating to the immediate and extended family. Ask to see pictures of the family or to meet the individuals if they live there. Other ideas might include how they enjoy spending time with their family.

Topic 2: Holidays and celebrations. Include various questions relating to how/when/what holidays your family celebrates.

Topic 3: Food. Discuss favorite foods and typical dishes of the region. Ask for a recipe. Ask your family to show you how to prepare a certain food.

Topic 4: Leisure Time: Where does your family like to vacation? Ask about places in the country that are popular destinations.

Optional Topic: Religion. Ask your family how/if they worship. Use your best judgement as to the direction to take in this regard. You may share your faith if you see that your family is receptive. Bear in mind, sometimes Catholics and Evangelicals have clashed in Costa Rica in the past.

B. Cultural events:

You must attend 2 cultural events and write a reflection about the experience. Ideas include but are not limited to:

- a play, ballet, or dance (Teatro Nacional)
- mass or church
- a birthday party (if you happen to be invited to one)
- a visit to a typical restaurant (such as Ram Luna)
- a visit to a coffee (such as Café Britt) or a banana plantation

C. National Park or other natural site:

You must visit at least one national park while in Chile. This may be a volcano, a beach, or any other number of options. You may include pictures, brochures or even video of this experience as well as writing a reaction about your visit.

D. Local Visits:

This means you must visit 4 local places frequented by the local people. Ideas include but are not limited to:

- the mercado
- a supermercado
- the post office
- a bank
- a bus
- a store (like a shoe store)
- a drugstore
- a coffee shop
- a quiosco (a newspaper stand on the street)

EVALUATION

I. You should write in your journal at least 4-5 times per week for a total of no less than 12-15 entries, depending on the length of your stay. The journal (80%) should also include a reaction or reflection of the following components:

- A. Entrevistas: (4)
- B. Cultural events: (2)
- C. National parks: (1)
- D. Local visits: (4)

A reflection can vary in length but should be no less than 1 page handwritten, 3/4 typed. You should also include any pamphlets, brochures, ticket stubs, or any other realia you gathered on your visits.

II. Presentation (20%)

Students must present their experience to Spanish students the following semester.