

SPN 318: Spanish Immersion in the Dominican Republic

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Course credit: 3 credit hours

Course Description:

This course offers an intensive learning experience that focuses on language learning through conversations and immersion in the daily life of a Dominican host family. This course complements the knowledge gained during the students' regular Encuentro Spanish class, allowing them to apply this knowledge in their interactions during the immersions.

Course Objectives:

- To improve communication in Spanish
- To improve knowledge of Spanish language and Dominican culture
- To apply grammar gained in students' regular Encuentro Spanish class to oral and written expression
- To improve Spanish comprehension through interactions with a Dominican host family
- To increase knowledge of vocabulary and Dominican idiomatic expressions

General Information:

Santiago de los Caballeros and a rural village in the Dominican Republic
Encuentro Dominicano study abroad program
Margarita Dubocq, Academic Director of Encuentro Dominicano
829-333-6164

Address in the Dominican Republic:

Misión ILAC/CESI - Km. 7.5
Carretera Duarte, Licey al Medio
Santiago de los Caballeros, República Dominicana

Course Requirements	% of Total Grade
Participation in Immersions and Retreats	(40%)
Observed conversational abilities (listening and speaking)	(30%)
Reflection paper (reading and writing)	(30%)

Category Descriptions:

1. Participation in Immersions and Retreats (40%):

Students are required to participate in two immersions in a rural Dominican community. One immersion will last 10 days and the other 5 days, and they will both take place in the same community. Students are expected to actively engage in all aspects of the immersions, including the reflections, and to have an open attitude to this unique cultural experience. For the second immersion, students are also expected to do some preparation work at the ILAC Center for the educational activities that will take place during the immersion. Similarly, students are expected to run some of these educational activities on the second immersion.

Additionally, students are required to participate in two retreats immediately following the two immersions. Students are expected to be willing and able to share their immersion experiences with others in the group through a form of reflection/processing that is comfortable for each individual. On the second retreat, students are also expected to assist in facilitating one of the reflection sessions.

2. Observed conversational abilities (30%):

Students are expected to use Spanish on a regular basis throughout the immersions, especially with their host families and at the work site. Interactions in English with fellow students should be kept to a minimum.

3. Reflection paper (30%):

Los estudiantes deben escribir una reflexión de **3 páginas**, a un espacio, con letras #12 Times New Roman. La reflexión debe tratarse de las enseñanzas que los estudiantes aprendieron de sus familias en el campo y debe incluir una comparación entre las dos inmersiones. Esta reflexión debe ser subida a **BlueLine** a más tardar a las **5 p.m. del miércoles 19 de abril de 2017**. Con esta asignación se medirá la habilidad de los estudiantes de escribir y leer en español.

Grading Criteria:

90-100	A
87-89	B+
80-86	B
76-79	C+
70-75	C
65-69	D
64 and below	F

Policies and Expectations:

Attendance and Participation:

Students are expected to attend both immersion experiences and participate in all immersion activities. Likewise, students are expected to attend and actively participate in both retreats following the immersions.

Academic Honesty:

Creighton University expects and requires academic honesty from all members of the University community. The written assignment for this course must represent the students' own work. **Academic misconduct will result in failure of the assignment and possibly the course.** Please refer to the policy statement in the University Catalog regarding this subject, which can be found at:

<http://catalog.creighton.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/academic-honesty/>

Americans with Disabilities Act:

If you have a disability that will require academic accommodations, you need to do both of the following as soon as possible:

1. Contact the Office of Disability Accommodations (402-280-2166)
2. Make an appointment with your instructor to go over [this] letter and discuss what reasonable accommodations can be made

Class Cancellations:

In the unlikely event that this class must be cancelled, students will be notified in person or by email by the Academic Director or the Student Life Director of Encuentro Dominicano.

Disruption of Normal Classroom Activities:

In the event of disruption of normal classroom activities due to the flu or other medical/disease outbreak, or other emergency, the format for this course may be modified to enable completion of the course. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to this syllabus that will supersede this version.