DESCRIPTION:
Today, Barcelona is a cosmopolitan city and a global leader, boasting such labels as the "coolest city in Europe," the "Paris of the Mediterranean," or the "City of Marvels." Its architectural landscape features one of the best preserved "Gothic Centres" in Europe, gems from the fin-de-siècle modernist movement, and the recent creations of international star architects, including Frank Geary, Jean Nouvel, and Arata Isozaki. It has hosted two world fairs, the 1992 Summer Olympics, and the 2004 Forum of World Cultures. It is now home to the largest conference on the planet, the Mobile World Congress, which currently generates 500 million dollars of annual income and attracts distinguished guests such as Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg. The Sagrada Familia of Antoni Gaudí, the primary-color paintings and sculptures of Joan Miró, and the canvasses of Pablo Picasso remain the iconic images associated with the city around the globe.

All the same, the history of Barcelona does not consist of a triumphal march toward contemporary success. Behind this glossy façade is a gritty city that experienced periods of rise and decline, beginning with rather humble origins as a small Roman village in 10 BC. During the medieval period, it grew into a political and ceremonial capital of a powerful empire extending throughout the western Mediterranean. It later became absorbed into Imperial Spain and entered a prolonged period of population stagnation and socio-economic reorientation. The resurgence of the city began in the industrial period when the coming of modern factories turned it into one of the most dynamic cities in the Mediterranean. The coming of working-class violence and anarchism -- paired with police and army repression -- earned it the reputation of the "city of bombs." Repression returned under the dictatorship of Francisco Franco (1939-1975) who prohibited residents from speaking their native language, Catalan, in public. Its population changed dramatically in the twentieth and twenty-first century with the arrival of Spanish-speaking immigrants from Spain and Latin America, and most recently from Asian and African countries, particularly China, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Morocco. Today, Barcelona consists of a complex human, linguistic and physical map of peoples, languages, and buildings representative of distinct periods and places.

This course provides an introduction to Barcelona by studying its past and analysing its present. It will focus on how seminal historical events have transformed the urban plan, the built environment, and its international image, and discuss how Catalan and Mediterranean identities become expressed and embedded in art, architecture, and tradition. It will employ an interdisciplinary methodology by complementing readings in history and art history with those of literature, urban geography, and film and cultural studies.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
Class discussion: The majority of each class will consist of discussions of key themes. Students will be provided with the texts to read for each class on Moodle, together with a list of reading questions designed to focus their attention on key points and concepts in the texts. These will form the basis of the class discussions.

Course-related trips: There will be three in-class field studies. The first consists of a walking tour around the medieval center. The second will consist of a visit to the Spanish Civil War sights in the city. The third will be a visit to the Montjuic, the site of the 1992 Olympics and the 1929 International Exhibition. In addition, there will be three the self-guided field studies: Museum of the History of Barcelona; Courtyards of the Eixample; and Block of Discord. They will take place on the students' own time.

Lectures: The professor will supplement class discussions with lectures to help the students interpret the material provided in the class readings, to tie the readings together, and provide summaries of theoretical approaches to the subject.
Film viewing: There will be one film viewing during the course. The film will be screened prior to class. Students will be provided with viewing and discussion questions to be completed on Moodle before the class starts. The films will serve as material for discussion of the theoretical concepts covered in the course.

Guest Speaker: The course will feature a guest speaker who will discuss issues regarding Catalan separatism in Barcelona today.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Journal (20%): During the class, students will be required to keep journal that reflects their personal impressions of the self-guided course-related trips. For each of these activities, students are required to write a 2 page long journal. The journal will be submitted electronically 10 days after it is assigned.
- Midterm exam (15%): This will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes in the first half of the course. The question formats will include essay questions, multiple choice questions, maps, short answer questions, and justified True/False questions.
- Final Paper (30%): This consists of an original research project, 7 to 10 pages long, on a topic to be discussed and agreed upon with the professor and later presented to the class for discussion.
- Presentation of Final Paper (10%): During the last days of class, students will be required to present their research paper, which will be evaluated independently of the paper itself.
- Class participation (10%). Students will be expected to come to class prepared, and to participate actively in class.
- Final exam (15%). Like the midterm exam, this will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of this course students are able to:
- Analyze how past occurrences have shaped the physical layout, the built environment, and the symbols of identity and traditions of the city.
- Identify global phenomena that have impacted the city at a local level.
- Explain the idiosyncrasies and peculiarities of the city through its art and architecture.
- Appraise the future prospects of the city of Barcelona in light of its past.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related trips. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

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<td>• Rossi, Melissa (February 2004). &quot;The Barcelona Model.&quot; In <em>Newsweek</em> International: 1-3.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Resina, Joan Ramon (2008), &quot;The Bourgeois City&quot; in <em>Barcelona’s Vocation of Modernity: Rise and Decline of an...</em></td>
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| Session 15 | The Divided City  
| Session 19 | Olympic Barcelona  
| Session 20 | Global Barcelona in the Digital Age: The 22@ Project, the Challenges of Immigration, and Increasing Inequality  
| Session 22 | Barcelona Today  
Guest Speaker on secessionism in Catalonia | ● Professor will assign a series of current newspaper articles and provide links on the web. |
| Session 23 | Barcelona: Current challenges | ● Students will bring to class articles about the current situation of the city. |
| Session 24 | Students Class Presentations  
Preparation for Final exam |  |
REQUIRED READINGS:


RECOMMENDED READINGS:

● VV.AA. (2002). *Jewish Catalonia*. Barcelona: MHC.