DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of contemporary travel writing (19th and 20th century). After defining the reaches and limits of the travel genre and examining issues in canonical contemporary travel texts, we focus on travel writing in Spain and Europe through texts by European and American authors. Special attention is paid to the ways in which travel writing negotiates notions of identity and otherness, the self and difference. Because we are aiming at a truly intercultural focus, texts in both English and Spanish are read (readings in Spanish are optional for those students able to read in Spanish). Students also produce their own travel writing in a workshop-style format.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Lectures
- Discussions
- Student presentations
- Hands-on workshop format
- Course-related trips

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
Assignments and Grading
1. Travel Portfolio made up of in-class and out-of-class brief analytical and creative exercises: 20%. Each student will have his or her own portfolio by the end of the course, made up of brief writing prompts. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced in 12 point font. This portfolio will be handed in on the last day of class.
2. Travel essay #1: 15%. focuses on your hometown. It should be approx. 5 pages long and intended as an article for a magazine.
3. Travel essay #2: 25%. focuses on your travel experience in Europe/Spain/Barcelona. Should be roughly 15-20 pages long and its form will be defined throughout the course (through a combination of students’ ideas, and other students’ and teacher’s feedback).
4. Participation 20%: insights about readings, responsiveness to classmates’ contributions, comments during workshop classes.
5. Midterm exam 20%.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course, students are able to:
- Explain the ways in which a travel writer’s works are linked to cultural identity;
- Identify how travel and travel writing are determined not only by novelty, but also by awareness of oneself;
- Recognize some conceptual tools required to study literary texts;
- Examine the patterns of culture and identity inscribed in travel discourse;
- Develop critical thinking;
- Produce literary texts that involve the previously stated notions.

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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• Dickens, Charles. “To Rome by Pisa and Sienna” from *Pictures from Italy*. 297-345 Galaxy Gutenberg (online). |
| Session 7 | Workshop for first assignment. | |

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