

---

**IN 395 Internship Seminar**  
IES Abroad Madrid  
Language and Area Studies Program

**DESCRIPTION:**

The internship seminar seeks to enhance the working experience of students participating in an internship in a non-governmental, business or educational organization in Spain. The course seeks to adequately contextualize this experience by providing the students with the necessary background to the Spanish political and economic systems. The core topics that will be examined in the context of this class will be: the Spanish political system and its political parties, leadership and ideology, the Spanish economic system and its productive sectors, the main IBEX 35 companies and the key business leadership. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the Spanish working environment from each other through in-class formal presentations and structured informal discussions on particular issues related to the idiosyncratic Spanish social, economic and political contexts such as: the quality of political and economic leadership, the Spanish party system, the structure of the Spanish state and its administrations, the particular strategies of selected companies of the IBEX 35, the media, etc. Students will also analyze the economic sector in which their internship is situated at the Spanish level. Most importantly, the course aims to improve students' critical thinking about their working life and careers.

**CREDITS:** 3

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** Spanish

**PREREQUISITES:**

None.

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

- Lectures
- Structured debates on internship related themes and class topics
- Videos and student presentations.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Understand the broader economic, social and political context in which the student's internship organization is embedded.
- Identify the main political parties and businesses in Spain, their leaders and political and business strategies.
- Critically analyze their internship organization's business or political sector its competitors or comparable organizations as well as the organization's strategy, institutional culture and organizational structure.
- Evaluate the internship experience's place in the context of the student's future career development.
- Prepare powerpoint presentations in Spanish.
- Write analytical papers in Spanish.

**REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:**

- 1st Presentation: previous work experience in the USA expectations and goals: 10%
- 2nd Presentation: critical evaluation of the experience: 10%
- Midterm sector analysis: 20%
- Final Exam: Spanish political and economic system: 20%
- Readings and Participation: 10%
- Supervisor evaluation: 30%

### First and Second Presentations

They will also perform two PowerPoint presentations one at the beginning of the course and another at the end analyzing their previous work experience, expectations and personal goals about their Spanish internship and, finally, critically evaluating the entire experience and how they expect it to affect their future career development.

### Mid-term Research Paper

Students will write a short mid-term research paper on the broader productive or NGO sector in which their organization is located looking at similar NGOs or businesses and their relative comparative advantage regarding their organization..

### Final Exam

The students will also take a final exam on the main themes learned in the class lectures: that is, the Spanish political and economic system.

### Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related excursions. 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 two classes in any course half a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade. Additionally, students who do not meet the minimum number of required internship placement hours at their internship location are subject to course failure. It is the student's responsibility to reach out to the Madrid academics team with questions or concerns about fulfilling the required placement hours. It is also the student's responsibility to submit the required attendance forms verifying their internship placement site hours throughout the term by Center deadlines.

### COURSE CONTENT:

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 1	Introduction	None
Session 2	1st student presentation	Presentation 1 guidelines
Session 3	Leadership: The case of Spain	Video. <a href="#">"All watched over by machines of loving grace"</a> Charles Duhigg. "Keystone habits", "The power of a crisis"
Session 4	The parties of the left	John Hooper. "Socialist Spain", "Not so Socialist Spain".
Session 5	The parties of the right	John Hooper. "Conservative Spain"
Session 6	Nationalist parties	John Hooper. "Autonomy in action".
Session 7	The media	John Hooper. "The press: more influence than readers".
Session 8	The primary sector in Spain	Tamames. "Introduccion a la economia española".
Session 9	The secondary sector in Spain	John Hooper. "Housing through the roof".
Session 10	The tertiary sector in Spain	Tamames. "El sector terciario".

Session 11	The tertiary sector in Spain	Tamames. "El sector terciario".
Session 12	2nd student presentation	Presentation 2 guidelines

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- Course reader, syllabus and presentation guidelines available in Moodle

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**

- Charles Powell. España en Democracia. Barcelona: Plaza y Janes, 2010.
- G. Tortella. El Desarrollo de la España Contemporánea: Historia Económica de los Siglos XIX y XX. Madrid. Alianza Editorial, 1999.
- William Chislett. La Inversión Española en América Latina: Retos y Oportunidades. Madrid: Real Instituto Elcano, 2003