SP 444 CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP: SHORT STORIES IN SPANISH
IES Abroad Barcelona

DESCRIPTION:
This course is designed for students with an advanced Spanish level in order to improve written expression, taking advantage of linguistic and cultural immersion. The students will read a number of short narratives that will serve as examples for their own original writing. The stories are taken from a number of authors from Spain and Latin America, as to provide a broad spectrum of samples for our students. Some of the stories will be shared with peers in class and there will be a couple of exercises of collective short story writing. Students will also critique works and work in teams, in addition to their reading strategies. By the end of the course the student will know about the theory behind short story writing and will have studied a number of examples and implemented several narrative techniques in Spanish.

Research has demonstrated that study abroad can enhance every aspect of language ability. One of the most important general findings of this research is, however, that study abroad is most beneficial for the development of abilities related to social interaction. Students who go abroad can learn to do things with words, such as requesting, apologizing, or offering compliments, and they may also learn to interpret situations calling on such speech acts in ways that local people do. In short, and logically, study abroad has been shown to enhance the aspects of communicative competence that are most difficult to foster in classroom settings (IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication, p. 6).

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Spanish

PREREQUISITES: Completion of IES Emerging Independent Abroad II outcomes, determined by placement test

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
This course focuses principally on the correction of students’ written production and reading comprehension:
- **Short Story writing**: Different stories written following lexical and grammatical steps reviewed in class.
- **Short Story REVISIONS**: Once corrections are turned back to the students the students will review their own work and provide a corrected copy to the professor.
- **Response papers to readings**: reactions and analysis of the readings of short stories that will be discussed in class.
- **Class discussion**: discussing the structure, the characters, the plot and the narrators of the stories.
- **Class participation**: Students will be expected to come to class prepared, and to participate actively in class sessions, Moodle activities, working groups and course-related trips. As well, activities are to be delivered on due time.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
Writing assignments:
Compositions:
- Drafts 30%
- Corrected papers 30%
- Reaction-Analysis Papers or Group Creation Project (Can be replaced by a 12 page research paper when required by university) 25%
- Class participation 15%

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students who are placed in this level should be capable of achieving the outcomes in the Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication.
By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve the outcomes for the Emerging Independent Abroad level as defined by the MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

Intercultural Communication
A. Students will be able to describe and analyze key host cultures, subcultures, habits, norms, and behaviors in a variety of settings, and they will be aware of the risk that generalizations can lead to stereotypes as shown in the readings and writing assignments.
B. Students will be able to analyze the validity of their own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and norms by contrasting and comparing them with the host culture through their readings and observations.
C. Students will demonstrate openness and acceptance of different beliefs and styles even when they do not agree with them.
D. Students will assume responsibility for their own learning by defining their linguistic goals and demonstrating independence in their exploration of the culture.

Listening
A. Students will be able to identify a wide range of social and cultural dialects of the spoken language.
B. Students will be able to understand most native speakers and non-native experts and comprehend a wide array of moderately complex interactions.

Speaking
A. Students will be able to participate fully in most academic and social interactions using, when appropriate, complex language including slang, colloquial expressions, double meaning, and humor, with increasing confidence.
B. Students will be able to make arguments to support hypotheses and opinions on topics of their interest.
C. Students will talk about abstract topics, but only if they are topics previously studied or which they are personally familiar.
D. Students will be able to understand different levels of formality.

Reading
A. Students will be able to read and understand textbooks and academic articles for classes taught in the host language as well as a wide range of popular texts for enjoyment.
B. Students will be able to read and understand authentic materials including newspapers, short stories and critical commentaries.
C. Students will take responsibility for the selection of their reading materials based on their own interests.

Writing
A. Students will be able to write for a wide range of native audiences and express themselves quite clearly and effectively.
B. Students will be able to write essays for classes incorporating aspects of appropriate academic style with limited assistance.
C. Students will be able to use a variety of formal written styles with accuracy.

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 three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every unjustified student absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Corresponding Learning Outcome(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Presentation of the course...</td>
<td>Grammar Review</td>
<td>I.A, II.A, III.A IV.B, V.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Functional:</td>
<td><strong>Required readings</strong> in MOODLE:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Write an individual short story (tales).</td>
<td>o CUESTO: <em>De barro estamos hechos</em>, Isabel Allende</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Grammatical:</td>
<td>o Análisis de <em>De barro estamos hechos</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Address grammar issues that come up in class work.</td>
<td>o Morfología del cuento, por Vladimir Propp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Vocabulary:</td>
<td>o La mirada del escritor, cómo encontrar tu fábrica de historias, Francisco Castro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.</td>
<td>o ... ... ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speech connectors.</td>
<td><strong>The structure of tales</strong> according to Vladimir Propp + <strong>Types of narrators</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Culture:</td>
<td><strong>3rd person narrator</strong> (omniscient)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Short Story across continents.</td>
<td><strong>Composition 1: Re-writing (Draft) I. Allende’s tale.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>1. Functional:</td>
<td><strong>Voices and dialogues</strong>: Re-writing exercise and character delimitations</td>
<td>I.B, II.A, III.B IV.B, V.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Write an individual short story (tales).</td>
<td><strong>The structure of tales</strong> according to Vladimir Propp + <strong>Types of narrators</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Grammatical:</td>
<td><strong>3rd person narrator</strong> (omniscient)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Address grammar issues that come up in class work.</td>
<td><strong>Required readings</strong> in MOODLE:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Vocabulary:</td>
<td>o CUESTO: <em>De barro estamos hechos</em>, Isabel Allende</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.</td>
<td>o Análisis de <em>De barro estamos hechos</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speech connectors.</td>
<td>o Morfología del cuento, por Vladimir Propp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Culture:</td>
<td>o La mirada del escritor, cómo encontrar tu fábrica de historias, Francisco Castro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Composition 1: Re-writing (Final Version)</td>
<td>3rd person narrator (observer)</td>
<td>Required readings in MOODLE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn about short story structure and narrative structure.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cómo escribir un microrrelato, Ana Maria Shua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Grammatical:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>... ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject/verb use with different narrators. Speech connectors.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Composition 2 (Draft): Microrrelatos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Vocabulary:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Composition 2 (Final version): Microrrelatos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Group Project: Production of a short story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Culture:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myth creation explored as a cultural construct.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Composition 3 (Draft): Cover Letter</td>
<td>I.C, II.B, III.C IV.B, V.B</td>
<td>Composition 4 (Draft): Re-writing Andrea’s tale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Functional:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Group Project Production of a short story or play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of Narratives and crafting of realities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The writing of letters in literary and professional works.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Grammatical:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Vocabulary:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Glossary and/or FORUMS. Speech connectors.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Culture:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture as reflected implicitly in short stories, and also creation of culture.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Epistolary tale + 2nd person narrator</td>
<td>I.B, II.A, III.B IV.B, V.A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1. Functional:  
Creation of Narratives and crafting of realities.  
The writing of letters in literary works. | Required readings in MOODLE  
CARTAS: Cartas de amor de un sexagenario volupcuoso, Miguel Delibes  
- CUENTO: El protagonista eres tú, por Andrea  
- Análisis de El narrador en segunda persona gramatical, por Teresa Dey  
- COVER LETTER  
- ... ... ... | |
| 2. Grammatical:  
Punctuation. | Composition 3 (Final version): Cover Letter | |
| 3. Vocabulary:  
Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.  
Speech connectors. | Composition 4: (Final version)  
Re-writing Andrea’s tale | |
| 4. Culture:  
Culture as reflected implicitly in short stories, and also creation of culture. | Group Project | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>3rd person narrator (omniscient) in a tale with itineraries</th>
<th>I.D, II.B, III.B IV.C, V.C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Functional:  
Speaking of the deepest pillars of cultures. | Required readings in MOODLE:  
- CUENTO: 25 Cuentos Tradicionales Españoles, José Mario Guelbenzu  
- Análisis de los cuentos españoles  
  ... ... ... | |
| 2. Grammatical:  
Discuss interesting grammar points in texts and do the correction analysis from the student’s texts. Speaking about the past, present, and future. Some conditional structures. | Composition 5 (Draft): American Folktales & Stories | |
| 3. Vocabulary:  
Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.  
Speech connectors. | Group Project Production of a short story | |
| 4. Culture:  
Differences between cultures with same languages: imperceptible cultures.  
Colonial times mindset... | | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>3rd person narrator (omniscient) in a tale with itineraries</th>
<th>I.C, II.B, III.B IV.B, V.C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Functional:  
Speaking of the deepest pillars of cultures. | Required readings in MOODLE: | |
| 2. Grammatical: | | |
| Week 8 | 1. Functional: Cross cultural: professions, customs, traditions... | 3rd person narrator (omniscient) in a tale with some dialogues |
|       | 2. Grammatical: Using hypothetic conditional and speaking about emotions in the past. | Required readings in MOODLE:  
   - CUENTO: La romería, Camilo José Cela  
   - ... ... ...  
   Composition 6 (Draft): Re-writing Cela’s tale  
   Group Project: Production of a short |
|       | 3. Vocabulary: Course Glossary and/or FORUMS. Professions, customs, traditions... |  

| Week 9 | 1. Functional: Cross cultural: professions, customs, traditions... | 3rd person narrator in a tale with interspersed monologues and many dialogues |
|       | 2. Grammatical: Using hypothetic conditional and speaking about emotions in the past. | Required readings in MOODLE:  
   - CUENTO: La tata, por Carmen Martínez Gaite  
   - Análisis de Gaite y la mujer en la época de Franco, por Poisson Vymont  
   - ... ... ...  
   Composition 6 (Final version): Re-writing Gaite’s tale  
   Group Project Production of a short story or play |
|       | 3. Vocabulary: Course Glossary and/or FORUMS. Professions, customs, traditions... |  

| Week 10 | 1. Functional: Speaking about selves. | 1st person narrator Travel literature: autobiographical experience |
|        |  | I.C, II.A, III.C IV.B, V.C |
### Week 11

1. Functional:
   Editing self productions and others' productions.

2. Grammatical:
   Expressing agreement and disagreement.

3. Vocabulary:
   Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.

4. Culture:
   Barcelona through the five senses.

#### Required readings in MOODLE:
- Análisis de *La fiebre argelina*
- ... ...

#### Composition 7: “El peor o mejor viaje de nuestras vidas”

**Group Project:** Production of a short story

#### Preparation of Final Assignment:
- “El peor o mejor viaje de nuestras vidas”

**Week 12**

1. Functional:
   Speaking about people’s opinions. Expressing relief, surprise, needs and preferences about people opinions.

2. Grammatical:
   Last correction of interesting grammar points in short stories included in the semester CuentIES.

3. Vocabulary:
   Evaluating Course Glossary and/or FORUMS.

4. Culture:
   Analyzing written peer’s views of the Barcelona Culture as reflected on their work.

#### Final Assignment: “El peor o mejor viaje de nuestras vidas”

**Group Project:** Oral Presentation

| I.B | II.B | III.B | IV.B | V.A |
| I.D | II.B | III.D | IV.B | V.C |

### 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 three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every unjustified student absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:
All materials are found in the Moodle Platform. The readings have been listed in order of appearance.

- Delibes, Miguel. *Cartas de Amor de una sexagenario voluptuoso*. Ed. Destino, 2010
- Editorial Cátedra. Morfología del cuento. PDF. [https://catedralengua2.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/morfologc3ada-del-cuento-de-vladimir-propp1.pdf](https://catedralengua2.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/morfologc3ada-del-cuento-de-vladimir-propp1.pdf)
- Franco, Jean. *Spanish Parallel Text, Spanish Short Stories 1*, Penguin. –Cela, Camilo José. *La Romería*, pág. 104-133
- Jacobs, Bárbara. *El género epistolar*. [http://www.jornada.unam.mx/2013/03/03/opinion/a05a1cul](http://www.jornada.unam.mx/2013/03/03/opinion/a05a1cul)
- Monterroso, Augusto. [https://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/monterroso/](https://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/monterroso/)
- PowerPoint/Análisis: *Las 31 funciones de Vladimir Propp* [http://www.slideserve.com/shelly/morfolog-a-del-cuento funciones](http://www.slideserve.com/shelly/morfolog-a-del-cuento funciones)

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:
Will be suggested to students based upon their own literary interest.