

Proposed Courses & Bios, Barcelona 2017

Santa Rosa Junior College

Faculty: Terri Frongia

Dr. Terri Frongia is a full-time professor of Italian and Art History at Santa Rosa Junior College. She received a Bachelor's degree in Art History, and a MA and PhD in Comparative Literature/Aesthetics from the University of California, where she studied English, Italian, French, and Spanish literatures and visual arts. The first member of her family to attend college, Ms. Frongia first learned Spanish growing up in Southern California, and then Italian at the age of 19 when she received a full year scholarship to study at Loyola University in Rome. The experience literally changed the course of her life. Today she is married to an Italian, has three wonderful children, and "lives all'italiana" at home in Sonoma County. She has written several articles and books, and has traveled to such diverse places as Mexico, Europe, Singapore, Bali, and Turkey. She is excited by the opportunity to discover the rich traditions of Spain with you, and to savor the vibrant, unique contemporary culture of our new home in Barcelona. ¡Bienvenidos a España!

ART 2.1: History and Aesthetic Appreciation of Western Art from Prehistoric through the Gothic Period

3 units; grade or P/NP. CSU: G1; IGETC: 3A

The arts of what today is known as Spain have their roots in the ancient land of the Iberian Peninsula, which straddles Atlantic Europe and the Mediterranean Basin, home of the "cradle of civilization." During our journey we'll explore Neolithic cave and rock paintings from over 15,000 years ago, trace the artistic and historical contributions of Celts and Iberians, and identify the unique flavors of trade, conquest, and "Mediterraneanization" brought by the Phoenician, Greek, and Roman empires during the Classical Age. In the centuries known commonly as the Dark and Middle Ages we'll discover the powerful influence on the arts of the "Religions of the Book": Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, as we follow cycles of conquest, conversion, and cross-fertilization in the arts of España's diverse kingdoms well into the late 1300s.

ART 2.2: History and Aesthetic Appreciation of Western Art from the Late Gothic Period to Impressionism

3 units; grade or P/NP. CSU: G1; IGETC: 3A

Two major artistic styles—the Gothic, originating in France, and the Renaissance, beginning in Italy—emerged in the late Middle Ages and expanded throughout the Mediterranean basin and beyond. We will uncover cultural, philosophical, symbolic, and artistic influences on the arts during this explosive period, and explore how native traditions melded with this new thinking and vision of people and the world to create unique expressions of Spanish nationalism, conquest, and imperialism. Our particular focus will be on Spain's Golden Age in the 16th and 17th centuries, and the emergence of such unforgettable world-class artists as El Greco,

Velázquez, and Goya, who in turn paved the way for the modern titans Gaudí, Picasso, Miró, and Dalí.

HUM 8: Comparative Mythology

3 units; grade or P/NP. CSU: C2; IGETC: 3B

In the broadest sense, myths are a collection of stories told by a people to explain their customs and history, and the natural world around them. The human urge to 'tell our truths' through myth is still alive and well today: in our urban legends, our blockbuster films, our graphic novels and video games, schools of psychology, and more. In this course we'll focus on a variety of myth traditions and archetypes informing Spanish history, religion, art, and culture, such as Celtic, Greco-Roman, Judeo-Christian, Chivalric, and Moorish/Islamic traditions. We'll also identify mythological components underlying Spain's unique history, such as the miracles and legends of the Camino de Santiago, the Reconquista stories of El Cid, the epic wanderings of Don Quixote, and popular folktales of Andalusia, which gave rise to many characters and events in the operas and literature of the 19th century, such as Carmen, Don Juan, Figaro, and Washington Irving's *Tales of the Alhambra*.

INTDIS 90, Spanish Life and Culture

3 units; Letter Grade only.

This is an introduction to Spanish society and civilization through presentations by Spanish guest lecturers and related field trips across Barcelona. It takes a social, historical, and cultural approach to the study of contemporary Spanish society. Topics include government, political parties, Church-State relations, Independence, as well as literature, art, and general aspects of Spanish life. This course is required for those students enrolled in the Semester in Barcelona whose program applications are processed through Santa Rosa Junior College.

Contra Costa Community College District (Diablo Valley College)

Faculty: Jennifer Saito

Jennifer Saito teaches humanities, mathematics and philosophy at Los Medanos College and is known for her interactive and high-energy teaching style. Whether she is leading hikes in Yosemite for the Honors Program or attending local symphonies, plays and museums with her students, Jennifer relishes encountering art and ideas in the real-world. No stranger to travel, Jennifer's recent adventures include trips to Iceland, Spain, Sardinia, Mexico City and 50 glorious miles of the John Muir Trail in the Sierras. When not dragging her teenage daughters to Fred Astaire festivals, she enjoys singing Balkan music, reading geeky math books and performing cantastoria pieces at Bay Area art festivals.

HUM 105: Introduction to Humanities- Arts & Ideas

3 units, grade or P/NP. CSU: C2; IGETC: 3B

- Did you know that you can “read” gardens to determine what a culture thinks about power, death and beauty?
- Why are there so many references to nature in Barcelona’s architectural jewels?
- How did three Catalan artists change art forever?
- How do artists and writers respond to tragedies like WWI and the Spanish Civil War?

If these questions intrigue you, or if you just love the idea of understanding the ideas and history behind the splendor of Barcelona, then take this fun interdisciplinary class. Through our unit on the cultural history of European gardens you’ll analyze the metaphysics inherent in places like Gaudi’s *Park Güell*, Granada’s *Al Alhambra* and Paris’ *Versailles*. We’ll study the philosophical roots of the Catalan *Modernisme* movement and see how Barcelona’s buildings were part of a larger trend of urban planning. You’ll learn the amazing story of how art was radically changed by Picasso, Miró and Dalí, three impoverished Catalan painters who saw “reality” a completely different way. Finally we’ll study the impact of WWI and the Spanish Civil War on the arts, from Picasso’s *Guernica*, to works by American writer Ernest Hemingway. This class will incorporate many field trips (maybe even an optional one to Paris), so be prepared to explore.

MATH 124: Mathematics for Liberal Arts

3 Units, Letter Grade only. CSU: B4; IGETC: 2A **Prerequisite: Intermediate Algebra (SRJC’s Math 155) or placement through assessment**

- What’s the meaning of the “magic square” carved on the Sagrada Familia cathedral in Barcelona?
- How did Spain’s economy come to the brink of collapse in 2008?
- Whose election rules are more equitable, Spain’s or the United States’?

There is no better place to complete your required transfer math class than Barcelona, where we can take advantage of its rich atmosphere. With an emphasis on contemporary Spanish issues, this course will make mathematics come to life for you. Specially designed for students majoring in a non-STEM/non-statistics based fields, this class is organized around a series of units that explore different areas of math. On field trips around town we’ll examine a variety of geometrical systems revealed by Islamic tile designs, Gaudi’s architecture and the symmetries of Gothic rose windows. Our financial mathematics unit will reveal how Spain went from being a prosperous country to one requiring a \$100 billion bailout in 2012. Finally we’ll explore the world of voting math and see how different systems used by countries for elections impact a culture. You’ll never think about mathematics the same way again!

PHIL 130: Critical Thinking

3 Units, grade or P/NP. CSU: A3; IGETC: 1B **Prerequisite: Composition and Reading (SRJC’s ENGL 1A)**

- What is the explanation behind the recent unsustainable Spanish building craze?
- Is reality as you understand it really true? And what does this mean anyway?
- Why do people often change their world views dramatically after study abroad experiences?

From Spain's recent housing bubble to the 17th century Dutch Tulip craze, people and societies have suffered real consequences because of disastrous thinking errors. This class, a great choice for fulfilling your transfer critical thinking requirement, explores various decision making systems to see how humans analyze information and reach conclusions. Using Kathryn Schultz's best-selling book *Being Wrong*, and drawing on myriad examples from Spanish culture, we'll explore how and why we make mistakes. We'll delve into the world of deductive and inductive reasoning, study bizarre medical phenomena and even turn our analysis skills on ourselves. You'll never think about *how you think* more deeply than in this class, which ends with a unit on travel writing narratives as an exploration of paradigm shift.

San Mateo County Community College District (Skyline & Cañada Colleges)

Faculty: Alison Field

Alison Field is a professor of History at Cañada College, where she has been teaching for eleven years. Alison earned both her BA and MA in Latin American and U.S. History from San Francisco State University, where she was honored with the Distinguished Graduate Student Award. Before finding her passion for learning and teaching history, Alison worked for twelve years doing international human rights and social justice work. She has traveled in Latin America, Europe and Asia; studied abroad in Mexico; lived in the Caribbean; led educational trips to Cuba, Haiti and Mexico; and volunteered on an archeological dig in southern Spain. Alison believes that history is a verb, something that people "do" and "make." Barcelona is one of her favorite cities in part because it has been at the center of so many significant historical happenings.

HIST 202: History of the United States 1877 to Present

3 Units, grade or P/NP. CSU: D6; IGETC: 3B

Explore the history of the United States, from 1877 to the present, beginning with post-Civil War industrialization and the rise of modernity and continuing to the present day and current events. As we proceed, we will make connections and identify significant points of compare and contrast between the U.S. and Spain. For example, how did Spain experience modernization and the rise of popular culture in ways that were similar to the U.S.? What were the impacts of the two World Wars and/or the global "Great Depression" of the 1930s? How and why did the U.S. avoid fascism and dictatorship, whereas Spain did not? Studying HIST 202 in Barcelona presents a valuable opportunity to internationalize the U.S. History curriculum and give students a unique "outsiders" perspective on their own country.

HIST 245: History of Race, Ethnicity & Immigration in the United States

3 Units, grade or P/NP. CSU: C2, D3, D6; IGETC: 3B, 4C, 4F

This course explores the meaning and historical significance of race and ethnicity, and the experiences of diverse racial, ethnic, and immigrant groups in U.S. history. Themes include: the history of race as an idea; the intersections of race, class and gender; interethnic relations; changing immigration patterns and policies; struggles for equality, and current issues. Doing history in Barcelona will give us a chance to identify and analyze moments when the histories of race, ethnicity and immigration in the U.S. and Spain have intersected and/or diverged. Why, for example, did so many African Americans volunteer to fight in the Spanish Civil War? How and why did ideas about race evolve differently in Spain than they did in the U.S.? And -- do Spaniards today deal with any of the same issues that we deal with in the U.S. – regarding racial profiling and/ or immigration, for example?

HIST 246: History of Latinos in the U.S

3 Units CSU: C2, D3, D6; IGETC: 3B, 4C, 4F

Explore Spanish legacies and influences, and the contested heritage of Spain in Latino/a history in the United States! This course will not only delve into the politics and economics of the Spanish empire in what became the United States, but also trace the development of hybrid (mixed) Latino/a identities and different forms of cultural expression from pre-Columbian times to the present day. We will explore the origins and expansion of *LatinoUSA* and cover topics such as the Mexican American War, the Spanish-American War, the Mexican “Great Migration”, the Zoot Suit riots, *Chicanismo* and the struggle for civil rights, and current issues, such as the debates over immigration and the development of an immigrant rights movement.

Los Rios Community College District (Sacramento City College)

Faculty: Steve James

Steve James has been teaching biology at Sacramento City College since 1998 and taught for the Northern California Study Abroad Consortium in Barcelona in 2015. He teaches in SCC's Field Ecology Program, specifically courses in Environmental Biology, Natural History, Marine Biology, Environmental Regulations, Field Methods in Ecology, and the Natural History of Baja California. Academically, he has an Associate Degree (AA) in Liberal Studies from Glendale Community College (1978), Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Environmental Studies (1979, with an emphasis in History) and Biology (1984, with an emphasis in Aquatic Biology) from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Master of Science Degree in Biology (1996) from California State University, Sacramento. Steve has also worked as a consultant on endangered species issues for numerous public and private interests.

Steve has visited 23 US states as well as the District of Columbia and the US Virgin Islands. He has led classes and ecological tours to Baja California (Mexico) and Belize. His travels have also taken him to Canada, French Polynesia, England, Ireland, Spain, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Germany, the Czech Republic, and Switzerland.

BIOL 350: Environmental Biology

3 Units CSU: B2; IGETC: 5B

This course provides both biology majors and non-majors with instruction in human interactions with the environment and resolutions to potential conflicts that develop due to this interaction. Understanding how life affects environments and ecosystems is an integral part of the biological sciences. To achieve this understanding, biological and ecological principles are examined as they relate to the natural environment. Major topics include the function and structure of ecosystems and ecological processes, the effects of natural selection on populations, the role of biodiversity on the maintenance of ecosystems, the variety of human impacts on terrestrial, aquatic, and atmospheric systems, potential solutions to adverse impacts, and the application of the scientific method in the examination of these effects. Attendance on one class field trip that will incorporate local Catalonian resources is required in this course.

BIOL 351: Global Climate Change

3 Units CSU: B2; IGETC: 5B

This interdisciplinary course explores the natural and human factors causing the Earth's climate to change. Whether alarmed, skeptical, or just curious about climate change, students will acquire the scientific tools to analyze the evidence that climate change is a looming threat. Through lectures, readings, discussions and projects, students will examine the Earth's present and past climates as well as the influence of climate on the geographical distribution of plants, animals and human societies. Discussions and student projects will focus on differences between European and American approaches to climate change issues. Field Trips and/or a semester project may be required.

BIOL 352: Conservation Biology

3 Units CSU: B2; IGETC: 5B

This introductory course covers biological and ecological principles involved in understanding and analyzing environmental problems and exploring scientifically sound conservation techniques. Major topics include the nature of science, basic principles of ecology, genetics and evolution, patterns of biodiversity and extinction, and the interdependence between humans and our environment. This course places emphasis on scientific processes and methodology and the application of science to conservation issues. Field trips and/or a semester project may be required that involve visits to Barcelona's Zoo, Aquarium, and/ or local markets.