

# Proposed Courses & Bios, Barcelona 2019

**Kirsten Swinstrom**

**Santa Rosa Junior College**

*Kirsten Swinstrom fell in love with studying biology as a student at Santa Rosa Junior College. She later obtained her undergraduate degree in Biology at UC Santa Cruz followed by a Master's Degree in Marine Science and then a PhD in Biology from UC Berkeley. Her research interests and experience include animal behavior, genome sequencing, and population ecology.*

*Kirsten now teaches Marine Biology, Human Biology, General Biology, and Biology of Marine Mammals at Santa Rosa Junior College. Kirsten's travels have taken her throughout the US, to Europe, Canada, Mexico and French Polynesia. She is very excited to explore the Mediterranean environment with you in Barcelona!*

## **BIO 12: Basic Concepts of Ecology**

*3 units; Grade or Pass/No Pass; CSU/UC transferable*

*No prerequisite required.*

The study of ecology and conservation is particularly timely, as the many threats to Earth's ecosystems have tremendous implications both locally and globally.

My approach for teaching this course in Barcelona will be to show how basic ecological principles are applicable all over the world, while comparing and contrasting environmental issues in Spain and the United States. Topics include function and structure of ecosystems, human population growth, extinction, and biodiversity. Barcelona prides itself on its sustainability initiatives so we'll discuss what they're doing and compare efforts by the U.S. and Europe to address climate change. Field trips and/or a semester project may be required that involve visits to Barcelona's Zoo, Botanical gardens, Aquarium, Natural Science Museum, CosmoCaixa (Science Museum), and/or local markets and sustainability projects.

## **BIO 13: Human Biology**

*3 units; Grade or Pass/No Pass; CSU/UC transferable*

*No prerequisite required.*

This class explores all aspects of human biology including cell biology, genetics, anatomy and physiology, reproduction, evolution, and human impacts on the environment. We'll discuss Crispr, first discovered in Spain, and now the basis of revolutionary gene editing technology that may lead to cures for Cancer or Sickle Cell Anemia, but many fear may also be used to make "designer" babies. We'll discuss Spain's "Mediterranean Diet" and compare it to our own diets to inform our discussion of atherosclerosis and diabetes. We'll visit the CosmoCaixa (Science Museum) to see the human evolution exhibit and visit the beautiful Recinte Modernista de Sant Pau hospital museum when we discuss infectious disease.

## **BIO 27: Biology of Marine Mammals**

*3 units; Grade or Pass/No Pass; CSU/UC transferable*

*No prerequisite required.*

The Mediterranean Sea is home to some of the largest and deepest diving whales in the world along with a number of dolphin species with fascinating social behavior and communication abilities. Unique oceanographic features provide a rich habitat for these mammals, however, the densely populated coastline puts a great deal of pressure on their populations. This introductory course explores the evolution, behavior, anatomy, physiology and population ecology of marine mammals, including whales, dolphins, pinnipeds, otters, manatees and dugongs. We'll discuss local efforts to better understand the cetaceans found near Barcelona, such as the Fin Whale project, along with research and conservation efforts throughout the Mediterranean. Field trips and/or a semester project may be required that involve visits to Barcelona's Zoo, Aquarium, and/or Natural Science Museum.

### **Anthony Gonzales** **Contra Costa Community College District**

*Anthony Gonzales holds a BA in English and Spanish (double major) from the University of New Mexico and an MFA in Writing from the University of San Francisco. He has been teaching at Diablo Valley College since 2014. Between teaching at the high school level and teaching for outreach programs, tutoring, afterschool programs, and test prep, he has worked with students from kindergarten through four-year colleges and has over 10 years of experience teaching and 15 years of working with students.*

*Anthony has traveled to 20 countries—mostly as a student discovering new cultures and societies while earning college credit. He has seen first-hand the impact that travel can have on a student and individual, and is dedicated to bringing that experience to as many students as possible. He has been to Spain multiple times and brings knowledge of the language, culture, history, and customs of Spanish society.*

### **English 126: Critical Thinking: The Shaping of Meaning in Language**

*3 Units; CSU, UC transferable*

***Prerequisite: ENG 122 or equivalent (first semester transfer level composition and reading course; SRJC equivalent is ENGL 1A)***

The cultures of Spain and Barcelona offer ample opportunities to develop critical thinking skills. Building on themes covered in the Spanish Life and Culture course, English 126 is designed to develop analytical and argumentative writing skills. Texts and topics will come from the society around us—Barcelona and Spain as a whole—and students will work to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills beyond the level of first semester freshman composition. Field trips and cultural events will be incorporated into this course to create a multidimensional approach to critical thinking and writing skills.

### **English 150: Introduction to Literature**

*3 Units; CSU, UC transferable; no prerequisite*

This course will focus on representative works from the four major genres of literature (poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel). With a reading list that focuses on Spain and Spanish culture, this course will teach the distinguishing elements of literary forms and will develop competency in analysis of literature. The choice of texts will reflect the historical development of each genre and the history, culture, politics, and society of Spain as seen from both Spanish authors and outside perspectives. Field trips and cultural

events will be incorporated into this course to reflect, reinforce, and solidify topics covered in assigned readings.

### **English 151: The Short Story**

*3 Units; CSU, UC transferable; no prerequisite*

This course is an introduction to the short story: themes, forms, history of the form, individual writer's techniques. Students read and discuss short stories set in Spain and become more independent critics of them. The reading list includes Spanish authors and examinations of Spanish history, culture, politics, and society. Field trips and cultural events will be incorporated into this course to reflect, reinforce, and solidify topics covered in assigned readings.

### **Riad Bahhur Los Rios Community College District**

*Riad Bahhur teaches History and Global Studies at Sacramento City College, where he also serves as Coordinator for the International Studies Program. Riad's teaching style centers students by bringing history alive, making it relatable and meaningful to their lives in the present. He received his academic training at the Ohio State University and Georgetown University, majoring in History, International Relations, and Contemporary Arab Studies. He has taught courses including Social and Political Themes in Literature; Contemporary Arab Culture; History of the World; History of the Middle East and North Africa; and Global Food Issues. He has eaten his way through countries around the globe, like Paraguay, Egypt, and Singapore, and has visited Spain several times. Riad believes history is a collective memory of how all people created meaningful lives, viewed through the hints they left behind. Investigating those traces of human meaning in places where students are also investigating themselves and the new societies they encounter – while studying abroad – makes for an endeavor both exciting and profound. Lastly, if there is a way to tie delicious food into the lesson, he will!*

### **HIST 302: History of Western Civilization**

*3 units; CSU/UC transferable; no prerequisite required.*

This is a study of Western Civilization from the Renaissance to the present. The course covers politics, economics, society, culture, and intellectual movements in the making of modern European societies. Spain is uniquely situated as host to a culture and civilization that informed the Renaissance in other parts of Europe, the culture of al-Andalus, or Islamic Spain. This course will look at the arts and culture of al-Andalus as precursor to the European Renaissance, and Spain's unique process of becoming Spain partly in dialogue and partly in tension with the 700 years of engagement with Africa and Asia through the period of al-Andalus. Highlighting Spanish history through its empire, the processes of nation-building, the Spanish Civil War, and fascism, and into the period of post-fascism and the European Union, will allow us to better understand both Spain and the rest of Europe.

### **HIST 308: History of World Civilizations, 1500 to Present**

*3 Units; CSU/UC transferable; no prerequisite required.*

This course is a survey of world history from the 16th century to the present, with particular emphasis on the increased integration of peoples and cultures as a result of the continuing process of globalization. The focus is on the revolutionary transformations of human society and human social relations caused by new ideas, technologies, economies, and power relations. It covers important trends of the last 500 years,

including the prevalence of global migration, the changing nature of warfare, the harnessing of fossil fuels, the growing integration of global economies, and scientific and technological breakthroughs. After the 1492 conquest of Granada, the last Arab kingdom in Iberia, Spain embarked on a remarkable journey of nation-building and empire-building that culminated in an influence that spanned the globe. This legacy offers a unique backdrop for studying the history of the world. Spain is one of the “borderland” countries between the Global North and Global South -- where Europe meets Africa in this case -- and both its past and its present are microcosms through which this course will explore the great themes of world history. Spain’s famous markets and cuisines are also delectable palimpsests of world history and trade, so food is a special theme of this course, connecting Spanish and Catalan cuisine to the global movements that brought ingredients together in local kitchens to produce food cultures that tell the story of world history.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDIES 305 – Introduction to Middle East Studies**

*3 Units; CSU/UC transferable; no prerequisite required.*

This course introduces the contemporary Middle East from global and interdisciplinary perspectives. It covers the major developments and events that have shaped the socio-economic and political institutions and structures within a distinct geopolitical area. This course examines processes of state formation, colonialism, independence movements, major power players in the region, and the modern challenges of globalization. It also covers the foreign policies of major world powers and competition for influence and resources. Immigrants and refugees from the region have long found a home in Spain, and new waves of refugees have also made their way here. Guest speakers and cultural programs will enhance the curriculum for this course by bringing it closer to Barcelona, where many people from the Middle East now live.

### **Monica Malamud San Mateo County Community College District**

*Monica was born in Argentina and she studied “abroad” twice in the United States. After obtaining a Masters degree in Engineering and a second one in Computer Science, she started teaching Spanish while working towards her Ph.D. in Linguistics. However, her love for languages started at an early age, and she continues to study languages today. She is fluent in Spanish, English and Portuguese, she can manage reasonably well in French, Italian and German, she took one semester of Japanese and one of Mandarin, and she is currently studying Catalan and Hebrew. In addition to her academic interest in languages, she is passionate about them because she loves to travel and learn about peoples and cultures. She likes to immerse herself in the local culture and participate in traditions and celebrations when traveling. So far she has been to over 40 countries and she is an expert at traveling on a shoestring.*

*She was the SMCCCD faculty selected to teach abroad in Fall 2012, the first time the program went to Barcelona. From her participation in study abroad programs both as a student and as a teacher, she knows that a study abroad experience is a unique opportunity for learning and self-growth. In the courses she will be teaching in Barcelona, Spanish speakers will get to use their language on a daily basis and become fluent bilinguals, students at the intermediate level will improve their Spanish while watching and discussing Spanish movies specially selected to enhance the Life and Culture class experience, and all students will be able to put their detective skills to work when trying to decipher Spanish and Catalan, among other languages, in her Introduction to Linguistics course.*

## **LING 200: Introduction to Linguistics: A Survey of Language**

*3 units; CSU/UC transferable; no prerequisite required.*

In this course you will learn about words, sentences, meaning and sounds. But that's just the beginning! We will also explore questions such as: How do children and adults learn languages? Why do languages change over time? What is a dialect? How is language used in society? What is the relationship between language and thought? What can language tell us about the brain?

In Barcelona, you will play "language detective" by asking questions to local people who speak Spanish and Catalan, as well as tourists from all over the world.

## **SPAN 145: Spanish Conversation Through Film**

*3 Units; CSU/UC transferable.*

**Prerequisite: SPAN 132 (SPAN 3 at SRJC) or equivalent Spanish level. Contact Prof. Malamud ([malamudm@smccd.edu](mailto:malamudm@smccd.edu)) for assessment if you want to enroll in this course and have not taken SPAN 132.**

Would you like to learn even more about the topics in the Spanish Life and Culture course? Do you want to improve your conversational skills in Spanish in a relaxed setting? Watching movies is an excellent way to sharpen your listening comprehension skills while learning about culture. Analyzing and discussing films is both thought-provoking and fun. Popcorn anyone?

## **SPAN 150: Spanish for Heritage Speakers** *3 Units; CSU/UC transferable; no prerequisite required.*

This course is designed primarily for Spanish speakers, but it is open to all students who are comfortable with oral communication (class is conducted entirely in Spanish). Course includes vocabulary development, spelling and accents, registers, dialectal variation, cultural readings and an introduction to Spanish language literature. To fully immerse ourselves in Spanish, we will go on several field trips and attend cultural events in Barcelona instead of meeting in the classroom for every class.