

UNC Study Abroad in Santander, Spain Spring 2018

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Faculty Director



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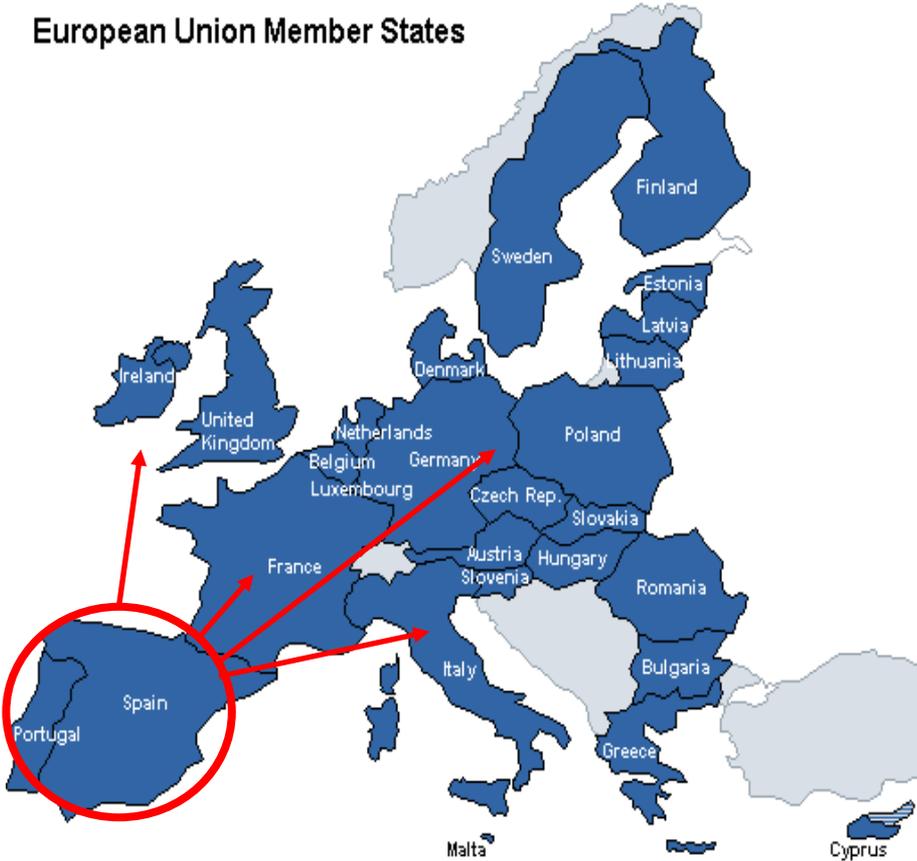
The Faculty Director's role is to co-teach as well as to facilitate all logistics of the program in regards to program events and excursions. This professor will be the main point of contact on-site in the event that students have concerns, need to be escorted to the doctor or hospital, or find themselves in an emergency.

Spain (the Kingdom of Spain – el Reino de España) is ...



European

European Union Member States



The Euro Zone



Decentralized



17 autonomous communities

Central government responsible for:

- Immigration
- International relations
- Defense

Each autonomous community has control over:

- Education
- Health System

A Constitutional Monarchy

(Since 1978 after 40 years of dictatorship)

June 3rd, 2014



**Linguistically
and
culturally
diverse**

Politically diverse

- Partido Popular (*People's Party*)—Right
- Partido Socialista Obrero Español (*Spanish Socialist Working Party*)—Center Left
- Podemos (*We Can*)—Left
- Ciudadanos (*Citizens*)—Center Right
- Izquierda Plural (*Plural Left*)—Left
- Convergencia (*Convergence*)—Center Right, Catalan Independist
- Many more political parties...

Concerned about:

- Political Corruption
- Economy (19% unemployment, 34% in people younger than 25, higher unemployment in people with no university degree).
- Welfare State (universal health, access to public and affordable education).
- Rights and Freedoms (abortion, freedom of expression, freedom of the press).
- The Model of the State (Catalunya out of Spain?).
- Monarchy vs. Republic.
- Soccer (fútbol)—Number 1 topic on Twitter.

Multilingual, Multicultural, Multiracial



Largest Ethnic Groups in Spain

Rank	Nationality	Population
1	Romania	798,104
2	Morocco	773,966
3	Ecuador	316,756
4	UK	312,098
5	Colombia	250,087
6	Bolivia	183,626
7	Italy	177,520
8	China	171,127
9	Germany	153,245
10	Bulgaria	150,878

Modern and Urban

- Population: 48.5 million
- Largest cities: Madrid 5.2 million, Barcelona 4.5 million, Valencia 1.5 million, Sevilla 1.3 million
- Economy: 13th economy in the world ; 4th economy in European Union
- 4th tourist destination in the world
- Main economic activities:
 - Services: 71.6% (tourism, banks, telecommunications, clothing)
 - Industry and energy: 15.6%
 - Construction: 10.1%
 - Fishing and agriculture: 2.7%
- Religion: 76% catholic (many in name only); 20% atheist, 1.6% other



Full of traditions that you know ...



Waiting to take your breath away with its beauty ...



Santander is ...



The Capital of Cantabria



Interesting Facts

- Population: 180,000.
- One of the safest cities in the European Union: 36 incidents per 1000 inhabitants (compare to Spain: 50, European Union: 70).
- Moderate climate: usually not lower than 50°F in winter nor higher than 80°F in summer (compare to Charlotte 48°/87°).
- Wet: Average of 49.9" (compare to Charlotte 41.63").

Prosperous and Historical

Roman Empire: Testimonies and artifacts show that its port was used by Romans for commerce and mining activities.

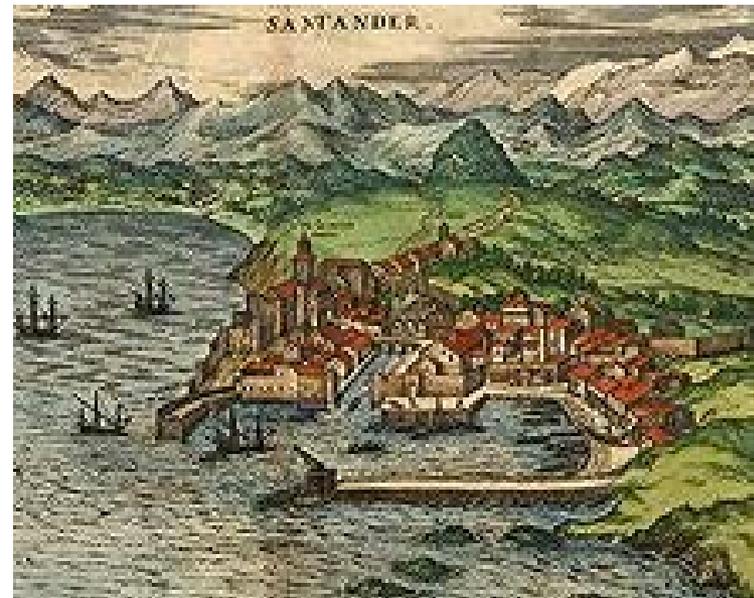
1068: First written document in which Santander is mentioned by name.

19th Century: Most important port for import-export with the Americas.

20th Century: Preferred vacation destination of wealthy Spaniards.

Home of Banco Santander: World's 10th-largest financial services company by revenue (\$108.8 B).

Santander, end of 16th century



Well Connected



Expect to use this award winning bus system daily to move around Santander. It has an affordable rechargeable card, 0.66 € per trip.



National railway system. Connects you to Spain and Europe. Easy to use and affordable. Check out the Youth Interrail Global Pass or the Youth Interrail One Country Pass. (Careful! Do you have a visa to stay more than 90 days?)



Low cost airlines flying out of Santander. If you plan your trip right, you can fly directly and inexpensively to Barcelona, Madrid, Sevilla. **REMINDER! Don't forget to let me know about your travels so we know where you are in the event we need to contact you**

A Perfect Mix of Culture and Nature

The Palace of the Magdalena houses the world-renowned International University Menéndez Pelayo. Its summer courses are a who's who of literature, politics, and economics. Just an example of the active cultural agenda of the city.



Because of its location, Santander has some of the best fish, seafood, meat and cheese in Spain. Since most products are local, prices are reasonable in comparison to other cities. **You have not eaten fish and seafood until you do so in Santander and Cantabria!** Don't be afraid to explore the *gastronomía* (and yes, they have heads and eyes). Enjoy some shopping at the Mercado de la Esperanza!

Santander has 12 beaches, and it is surrounded by spectacular natural parks easily accessible from the city. The city is full of nature walks and has a system of public bicycles (Tusbic, 27€ all year).



Some important advice ...



Study Spain

- **Study Spain** instead of Study in Spain. If you pay attention, you will learn something new every day.
- **Don't tweet about it, live it!!** If you are tweeting about it constantly, you may be missing out on living it more fully. Keep an electronic journal once a day, tell your family and friends (and yourself) that you will not be posting constantly.
- **Leave your comfort zone behind.** This trip is not to make friends with someone from one of the UNC campuses (which will also happen), but to make friends with Spaniards and Erasmus students. Feel free to sit by yourself in a "terrazza" and start a conversation with someone new. Be willing to get together with someone. Use every second to speak Spanish. (Hint: old people will talk to anyone about anything!).
- **Don't fret about your level of Spanish.** Only the voice in your head is thinking that your grammar is not perfect or you don't know the right word. They care about the message. They are in awe that you chose to study their language, their culture, and their city. They want to know you as well.

Be Responsible

- Your first priority is to be successful in your studies in Santander and when you return to the US.
- Don't change your plan of studies without talking to Dr. Gonzalo Martínez Camino, me **and** your advisor in the US (NC State students: be particularly careful about this)
- Challenge yourself. Don't focus on your grammar or conversational Spanish only, take literature and culture courses. You will improve your grammar and vocabulary by discussing complex topics. Think about it: when discussing a short story you will be practicing four language skills: listening, reading, writing, speaking.
- Make appointments with your professors or me if you are struggling or want to share a thought.
- Attend all your classes (**this includes excursions, they are NOT free time, they are classes**).
- Keep all syllabi and documentation from your courses, you might need them when you return.

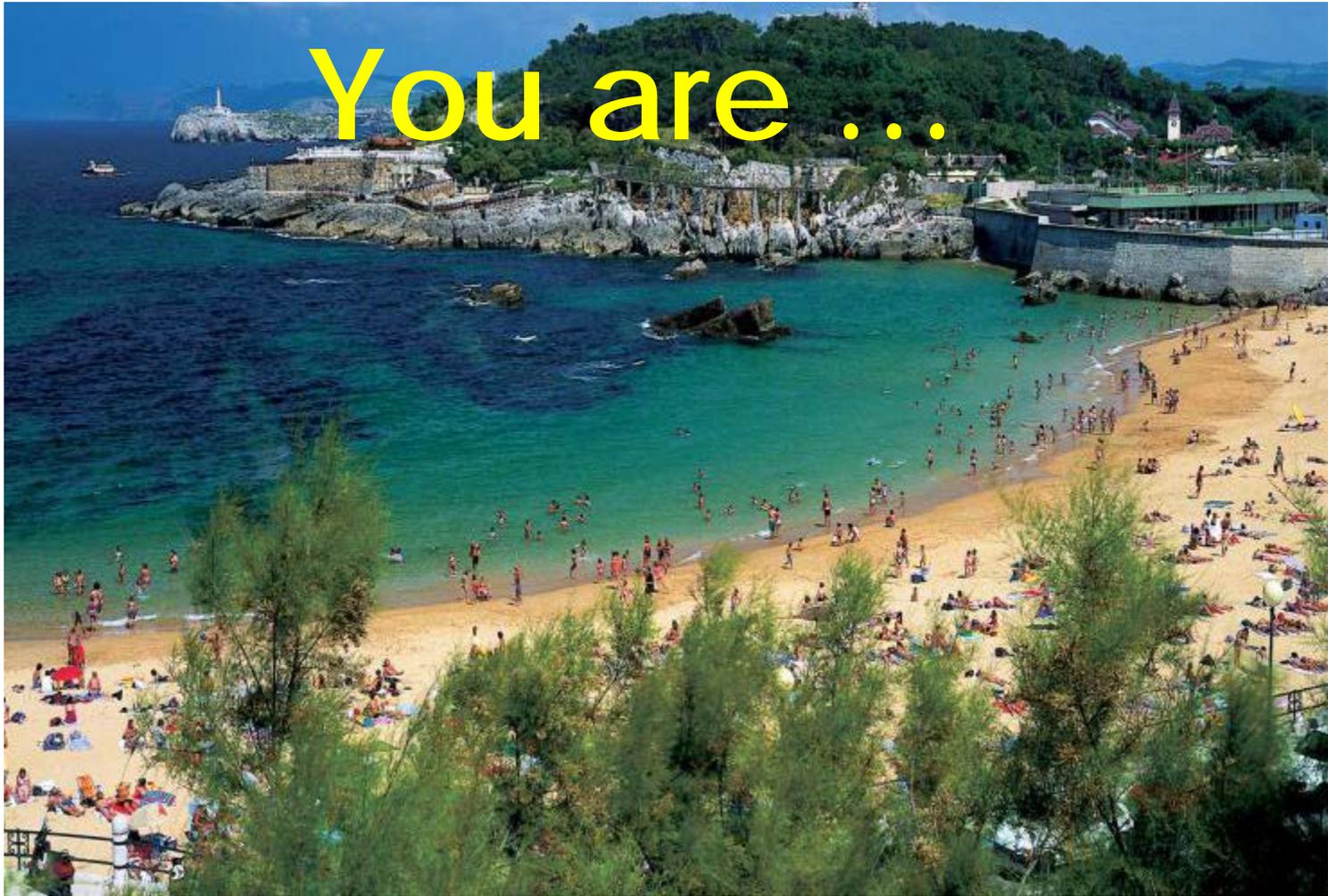
Be Careful

- Manage your money carefully.
 - Remember that the exchange rate of the US dollar to the Euro changes daily, so make sure that you are aware of the exchange rate.
 - Current exchange rate is 1 euro = \$1.18
 - If you need euros, use your ATM card instead of the exchange bureaus, you will receive a better rate and lower commissions.
 - If you use your credit card and they ask you if you want to pay in dollars or euros, always pay in euros, the rate exchange is better.
- **Don't abuse alcohol or other substances. Spain may have different laws and regulations from the U.S., but their abuse can lead to serious problems!**

Be Respectful

- Households in Spain are run differently than in the US. You are a member of a family, as such you should behave responsibly and with respect for the family.
- Be open with your family about special accommodations or needs. Explain to them why. Don't be overly picky.
- Discuss with your family if they have rules for you: do you have a curfew, are you expected to do chores in the house?
- Spaniards are very mindful that the use of resources such as water and electricity are very expensive. As a rule, they take shorter and less frequent showers (once a day usually), don't usually wash their pants or sweaters after only one use; always turn out the lights when leaving a room. . . Observe how your family does things, if you are not sure, ask!
- **Don't hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing difficulties.**

You are ...



about to start a
great semester
in your life!!!







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