



2010 JANUARY TERM ABROAD

Hiking the Pilgrimage Trail: Religion, Art and Experience in Spain

January 1 - 24, 2010

Itinerary

Orientation at University of St. Thomas	11/21	Leon/Ponferrada	01/13
Twin Cities Departure	01/01	Ponferrada/Sarria	01/15
Barcelona Arrival	01/02	Sarria/Lugo	01/16
Barcelona/Pamplona	01/05	Lugo/Arzua	01/17
Pamplona/Najera	01/07	Arzua/Santiago de Compostela	01/18
Najera/Bilbao	01/08	Santiago de Compostela/Avila	01/20
Bilbao/Burgos	01/09	Avila/Madrid	01/21
Burgos/Leon	01/11	Madrid/Twin Cities	01/24

T3615

Price: \$5,995*

We often think of our lives as a project. We organize our choices and hopes around some particular goal in an aim to make meaningful the life each of us is given. For the Christians of Medieval Europe that goal was the "beatific vision," to be enjoyed eternally by those who merited heaven. The "beatific vision" was understood as the culmination of a life spent in pursuit of perfection. To achieve this, faithful Christians devoted themselves to a process of spiritual formation in imitation of Christ's life and journey. For them, a pilgrimage was both a strenuous physical journey to a sacred geographic destination and an inner, spiritual journey leading to heaven.

This course reenacts the physical journey of these long departed pilgrims by retracing their steps along one of the most heavily traveled medieval routes—the pilgrimage across northern Spain to Santiago de Compostela. At Santiago de Compostela, we will encounter the patron saint of pilgrims, St. James. Like the medieval pilgrims, we will visit the religious churches and shrines along the route that sheltered travellers and fostered their faith. We will study the medieval pilgrimage in terms of its original significance and in terms of its modern relevance.

Our pilgrimage will invite each of us to consider the inner pilgrimages we undertake in our modern quest for meaning. What are the projects that give purpose to our lives? How does modern media express faith today in terms of sacred spaces, symbols, and art, liturgy and Scripture. In the 21st century, along what sort of roads, and towards what end?

Our pilgrimage will also encourage us to examine the modern relationship between the three world faiths of Abraham, that is, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. St. James was not only the protector of pilgrims, he was also the champion of European warriors in their battles against Muslims. Spain gives us the opportunity to trace how adherents of the three faiths alternately pursued policies of peace, war, suppression and exile. We will ask ourselves what are the most productive policies for interfaith cooperation today and what can Spanish history teach us to help us achieve understanding.

Daily walks along the Spanish pilgrimage road, depending upon weather and terrain, will be led by an experienced hiking guide. Whenever possible, three lengths of walks will be offered, ranging in length from 5-15 miles. Strict limitations on luggage are necessary. The group will be accompanied by a motorcoach that will drop our group off and pick us up at appropriate points along the road.

Comprehensive Fee Includes: Transportation and course arrangements as indicated, hotel accommodations in twin and triple rooms, continental breakfast daily, five lunches, two group dinners and one cultural performance. (subject to change)

Prerequisites: The course does not have any academic prerequisites.

Required Readings: Simon Coleman and John Elsner: *Pilgrimage: Past and Present in the World Religions*, Harvard University Press, 1995.

William Melczer, *The Pilgrim's Guide to Santiago de Compostela*, Italcia Press, 1993.

Chris Lowney, *A Vanished World: Medieval Spain's Golden Age of Enlightenment*, Oxford University Press, 2006

Vivian B. Mann, Thomas F. Glick, and Jerrilyn D. Dodds (ed.s), *Convivencia: Jews, Muslims, and Christians in Medieval Spain*, George Braziller, New York, 1992.

Evaluation:

Participation in Classes and Course Experiences	20%
Art workbook with visual exercises	15%
Experiential responses	15%
Reading responses	15%
Oral presentations	15%
Final essay	20%

*Each home institution may have supplementary fees in addition to the price listed.

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Dr. Wren is an art historian at Gustavus Adolphus College. She has taught art history for 25 years, including courses on medieval art. Dr. Wren has taught travel courses in Paris on three occasions during the 1990's and has been in France for frequent study trips and professional conferences. She has recently undertaken an academic trip to Anasazi sites in the American Southwest that involved extensive hiking. She has traveled in Spain in the spring of 2006 and J-Term 2007. Dr. Wren has also co-led 5 travel courses to Europe.



Prof. Gaebler is an assistant professor of religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. She holds a Masters of Divinity and has served parishes. Prof. Gaebler co-taught the course with Linnea Wren in January 2007, where she was an effective teacher both in the classroom and in one-on-one interaction.





UPPER MIDWEST ASSOCIATION FOR INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION

www.umaie.org

RULES AND PROCEDURES

For the forty-fifth consecutive year, UMAIE offers unique opportunities for cross-cultural study during January Term and starting in 2005, May/June Term. UMAIE, a consortium of five colleges and universities, cooperates to provide the educational depth and resources necessary for an intercultural curriculum.

This year UMAIE offers courses in many locations around the world including: The Americas (North, Central and South), Antarctica, Australia, Egypt, Europe (Western, Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern), Hawaii, India, Jordan, New Zealand, Russia, Thailand and Turkey.

APPLICATION AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS — Applications and required documents are available via the UMAIE website (www.umaie.org). Applications are accepted between **April 15 - October 2, 2009**. When applying for a course, please submit the following to your campus UMAIE Board Member:

- Three copies of your completed application.
- One copy of your valid passport photo & signature page OR if you do not have a passport, a copy of your passport application. (Actual submittal of your passport application to a passport agency is not required until acceptance into a course. Please visit <http://travel.state.gov/passport>.)
- One copy of your January Term Abroad Agreement.
- One copy of your unofficial transcript.
- One deposit check in the amount of **\$400** made payable to **Seminars International, Inc.** (All checks will be cashed upon receipt. Returned checks will be assessed a service charge of **\$50**.)

***UST students please see your study abroad website (www.stthomas.edu/studyabroad) for application procedures.**

No application will be considered without **ALL** the required signed documents, copies and deposit as listed above. If you have any questions please contact your campus UMAIE Board Member.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS — Faculty Directors will screen each application to ensure all prerequisites are met, and that equal access is given to students from all consortium schools. **For applications received by April 15th, the UMAIE Secretariat will notify each participant via e-mail by May 8, 2009, to inform if applicant is: 1) accepted into the course; 2) on a waiting list; 3) not accepted into the course.** Please be aware that if you are placed on a waiting list, your deposit check will still be cashed upon receipt. In the event a course is filled or cancelled due to low enrollment, students are contacted regarding a second choice. Students who choose not to transfer to another course will receive a full refund. **LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED ONLY ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS AND LATE FEES WILL LIKELY BE APPLIED.**

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND IMMUNIZATIONS — All applicants must send a copy of a valid and signed passport to their campus UMAIE Board Member upon acceptance into a UMAIE course (if one was not turned in with application). This is not required for students travelling to Hawaii. **Passports must be valid at least six (6) months beyond your return date.**

If your course requires a visa it will be stated in the course description. A country specific visa application will be sent to you 1-2 months prior to departure.

Information regarding recommended and/or needed immunizations can be found at the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/travel/. If you are traveling to a destination that requires an immunization, the UMAIE Secretariat will inform you in a timely manner. Additional information regarding passports, visas and immunizations is available from your campus UMAIE Board Member.

COMPREHENSIVE FEE — Costs listed are based on planned enrollments for each course. Every effort is made to operate the program at the stated price. However, if fewer students enroll, costs may be increased or the course cancelled. **NOTE:** UMAIE reserves the right to adjust fees due to dollar devaluation, fuel surcharges and general inflation.

The comprehensive fee includes round-trip air transportation from Minneapolis-St. Paul to the course location; airport transfers; visas (where required for U.S. citizens who meet the visa application deadline and have the correct accompanying documentation); transportation to most course activities while abroad; lodging, primarily in twin or triple rooms in hotels, pensions, university dormitories, or family homes (where indicated); continental breakfast daily (exceptions noted on individual course descriptions) and other meals as indicated; tickets for required cultural performances; planned excursions; and administrative costs (however, individual institutions may assess additional charges). When rail passes or entrance fees are included, they are based on the utilization of youth rates (25 years or under). Any additional amount incurred will be the participant's responsibility.

EXCLUSIONS — Expenses and items not specifically mentioned herein are not covered, including but not limited to: passport fees; airline checked and/or excess luggage fees; local subway, bus and tram fares (if not included in course price); departure taxes (except U.S.); optional entertainment and excursions; beverages; individual room service charges; travel insurance; porter's fees; laundry and cleaning; telephone and fax; personal gratuities; transportation to and from point of course departure.

FINAL PAYMENT — Accepted applicants are notified of the final price during the last week of October. Students at Gustavus Adolphus College will bring their final payment to their International Education Office on or before Tuesday, November 3. Students from Elmhurst College will bring their final payment to their Student Accounts Office before Tuesday, November 3. Students from all other institutions will have their fees billed to their student account.

WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

- No cancellation fee for students withdrawing on or before **September 14, 2009**.
- A **\$100** cancellation fee is withheld for students who withdraw between **September 15 and October 2, 2009**.
- Beginning **October 3, 2009** the course deposit of **\$400** is non-refundable.
- A refund for cancellations occurring after **November 3, 2009** is based upon recoverable costs. The ENTIRE COURSE COST may be forfeited.
- **If cancellation occurs 30 days or less prior to departure, there will be no refund. Trip cancellation insurance is recommended for students with pre-existing medical conditions.** This insurance must be purchased at the time of registration. Please discuss this with your UMAIE Campus Board Member.
- If a course price increases by more than 6% (due to general inflation or lower enrollment) a student may cancel without penalty.
- No refund is given to students who wish to omit portions of the course.
- **NOTICE OF CANCELLATION MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO YOUR CAMPUS UMAIE BOARD MEMBER.**

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS — are secured by Seminars International, Inc., 33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1160, Chicago, IL 60603-5303, (800) 541-7506, TRAVEL@semint.com. Applications are processed by the Minnesota office, 21530 Vernon Avenue, Prior Lake, MN 55372, (952) 440-1338, kathy@semint.com. Participants desiring additional information may contact Seminars International Inc., or visit their website - www.semint.com.

ORIENTATION SESSION—Will be held **Saturday, November 21, 2009** at the University of St. Thomas. **ALL MUST ATTEND.**

DEVIATIONS — Course prices are based on group air arrangements and the air carrier may assess a service fee. Not all airlines allow deviations on group reservations. In addition to the airline service fee(s), an additional fee must be paid to Seminars International, Inc. as follows: before **October 2, 2009 the charge is \$75; from October 3, 2009 until November 3, 2009 the charge is \$125. After November 3, 2009, no deviations will be accepted.** Deviation requests must be made in writing to the Chicago Seminars International office via fax (312) 332-5509 or email TRAVEL@semint.com. Once the deviation has been booked, any changes may incur additional costs. Students who deviate are responsible for providing their own transportation to or from the actual course location abroad. **Faculty Directors are not expected to provide assistance. Students from Augustana College and Elmhurst College will receive further information on course flights upon acceptance.**

CAMPUS UMAIE BOARD MEMBERS

Augustana College, Nancy Wright, (605) 274-5417 • Elmhurst College, Wally Lagerwey, (630) 617-3604

Gustavus Adolphus College, Center for International and Cultural Education, (507) 933-7546

St. Catherine University (formerly College of St. Catherine), Global Studies Office, (651) 690-6031

University of St. Thomas, International Education Office, (651) 962-6450

UMAIE SECRETARIAT: Kathy Willemsen, (952) 440-1338, email: kathy@semint.com