

NOTE: This is a SAMPLE syllabus/itinerary and may not be the most up-to-date version. Please contact the faculty leader of this course for more recent information.



Modern Languages Department

ML 205

Instructor: Dr. Christian Rubio

Email: crubio@bentley.edu

Office: Morrison 127

Phone: X2694

Intermediate Language Immersion Course

Description:

This course provides an application of language skills in a foreign speaking environment by combining cultural understanding and language practice.

Taking advantage of Cuscos' rich history, students will be exposed to an environment that combines a unique experience of language with culture. Students will be involved in a total immersion living situation and will receive a minimum of twenty clock hours of formal language instruction per week.

The course will be divided into two main components a language instruction at EXCEL language school and a culture based content during the afternoon.

EXCEL is a language school located in Cusco, Peru. Founded in 1986 and licensed but Peru Department of Education, EXCEL offers total immersion courses to students from all over the world. All EXCEL teachers are native speakers and in fact, none of them speak English. Classes will be held every morning from 8:00am to 12:30pm, Monday to Friday.

Goals and Objectives:

Opportunity to learn from native teachers and be exposed to local dialect
To successfully communicate with locals about a variety of topics
To enhance proficiency levels in speaking, listening, writing, and reading the language
To enhance students' understanding of Hispanic culture

To experience a hands-on approach

Major topics: Students will learn principal structures including
Indicative:
Present tense
Subjunctive
Uses of subjunctive, volition verbs, hypothetical clauses
Imperative
Formal and informal commands

Additional work will be completed upon return to improve reading and writing skills.

Topics will vary.

In addition to classroom time, students will have an opportunity to be exposed to the Peruvian culture. Through visits to various ancient ruins and sites and by way of interaction with locals, students will obtain information and draw their own ideas and conclusions.

Method of delivery: 40 hours of classroom time
Class periods will be devoted to explanation of principal grammatical structures, group work and paired work activities.
Besides the classroom setting, cultural themes will be provided to students, and they will choose some specific themes and write about them.
The experience will facilitate the use of the target language and a deeper understanding of the host culture.

PLEASE NOTE: Physical activity during Machu Picchu trip

Prior to departure, the students will learn about two options. Regardless of the options chosen, both groups will spend the night at a hotel, wake up around 5:00AM and, after breakfast, visit the ruins of Machu Picchu around 6:00AM. The visit lasts until around 3:00PM and it is a slow pace and will have a guided tour.

1. Students can choose to take a four hour bus ride to Aguas Calientes leaving at 4pm and arriving at 8pm.
2. Alternatively participants can choose to hike the Inca trail which will entail a three hour bus ride to the beginning of the trail. Participants will then hike from approximately 10am until about 5pm. Lunch will be provided during the hike. This is a strenuous hike and only those who do not suffer from any respiratory illness or have any health concerns should not participate. The hike ends with a bus ride back to the town of Aguas Calientes (about 15 minutes ride). At 8:00PM, they will join the group arriving at that time.

Evaluation: 40% of the final grade will be assigned by the host instructional institution, EXCEL

The EXCEL instructor will determine students' grade from class participation, daily assignments, and exams

The remaining 60% will be determined by the Bentley professor in the following manner:

Journal 30%

Final Project 30%

Absences: Failure to attend classes at the EXCEL institute will result in 10% reduction in the grade for each day missed. **It is the Modern Languages Department policy** that three unexcused absences will result in the final grade being lowered at the discretion of the Instructor.

Assignments: They will be turned-in upon arrival. They will be completed in the target language:

JOURNAL

- ✓ It must be typed, double space and 12 pt. font as maximum. The only font acceptable is Time New Roman.
- ✓ Every day you must make an entry of what you did each day. It will start from the second day to the last day. Each paragraph has to be at least 7 complete sentences. The first page must be an introduction in which you will highlight what you liked or did not like about the trip. IT MUST BE A FULL PAGE in Spanish.
- ✓ The journal must contain at least 6 pictures. You can attach any way you want it. They can be between pages, at the middle or at the end.

FINAL PROJECT

Description: Based on hands on experience, students will explore topics based on research they will have done prior to arrival in the host country.

Objectives: To develop the ability to do research and to enhance the knowledge of Hispanic cultures.
To improve reading, listening, writing and speaking skills.

Method of delivery: Prior to the visit students will do research on various topics about the host country. Discussions with the professor will take place prior to the development of the topic. Students will maximize the exposure to native speakers and will interview them. Students will also take advantage of the native environment and will explore their topics based on visits to various places.

Topics: The main topics will be determined and reviewed by both the student and the professor.

Evaluation: Students will interview a person from the visiting country to expand the topic they have chosen. Students will turn in the interview to the professor

during the stay. This interview will have to consist of at least 2 pages (think of how and why questions) and to be turned in in the form of a transcript along with the final paper.

They will also complete a 10 page report (including the bibliography and one page can be of photos) on the topic they have chosen to be turned in upon the return to the US.

Prior Research 10%

Interview 40%

Final paper 50%

Academic Integrity

Academic Honesty Policy: All work which you submit for a grade must be your own work. Copying someone else's homework, using the "Translate" feature of a computer, and/or asking a lab tutor or friend to correct your homework constitutes a violation of Bentley's academic honesty policy for this course. <http://www.bentley.edu/handbook/integrity/index.cfm> . All such violations will result in a 0 for the assignment and will be reported in writing to the Academic Integrity Coordinator, via an Academic Incident Report.

Disabilities

Bentley University abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which stipulate no students shall be denied the benefits of an education solely by reason of a disability. Disabilities covered by law include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, visual, hearing, and mobility impairments, medical conditions, psychiatric disorders, and temporary disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this course and for which you may require academic accommodations, please make an appointment with Stephanie Brodeur, Coordinator of Disability Services, in La Cava 166 (Office of Counseling and Student Development, 781.891.2274) within the first four weeks of the semester so that such accommodations may be arranged.

Short-Term Program

Tentative Itinerary

Prior to Departure: 3 mandatory meetings of one hour each

Day 1- Departure from Logan Airport

Day 2- Arrival in Cusco Perú- Placement Exam and interviews at the school

Day 3- City Tour

Day 4- Language classes- afternoon cultural activities

Day 5- Language classes- afternoon cooking lessons

Day 6- Language classes-Sacred Valley Tour

Day 7- Language classes- afternoon visit to local businesses
Day 8 Departure to Aguas Calientes
Day 9- Machu Picchu Tour
Day 10- Rest
Day 11- Language classes- afternoon cultural activities
Day 12- Language classes- afternoon ceramic lessons
Day 13- Language classes
Day 14- Language classes- afternoon visit to local businesses
Day 15- Language classes- afternoon Closing Ceremony
Day 16- Departure from Peru
Day 17- Arrival to the US
Final Project due a week upon arrival.