



Middlebury

Middlebury Graduate Studies Abroad Evaluation: SPAIN 2008-2009

Evaluating your experience abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future M.A. candidates wishing to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. Thank you for your participation. Since you should have already evaluated your fall semester courses, only courses available during the spring semester appear here.

This document contains respondents between 1 and 9 inclusive.

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

I would have liked another section of the translation course and the phonetics course. If the courses are that popular, there should be more sections or they should be offered the second semester as well. Literature classes were well represented, and with independent studies these students had no problems getting their credits.

Please Comment:

My favorite language class was Teresa Bordón’s Grammar class because she patiently explained everything. You had to know every thing we studied, but she went over it all meticulously and never tired answering our questions. Excellent teacher.
For lit, Professor Figueroa was also incredibly competent in making an hour and twenty minute class fly by, and getting all the students to contribute to the discussion.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

Like I said, the translation course was really helpful to those who took it, and I would have really benefitted from that being here in Spain because they added to their vocabulary and the idiomatic expressions that were not familiar or were unique to Spain. It would have been helpful to have 2 sections or a repeat in spring semester.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

Take all your language in Spain, because nothing will be left in Guadalajara, since people are being FORCED to take courses they don’t need to fill up the three-course requirement for financial aid. AEveryone finished their lit in Spain to have the long semesters to read, and that was all that was "left" in Guadalajara.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

Obviously, this mistake that was communicated NEVER can be repeated. I am seriously trying to figure out if i can just pay the whole thing myself so I can just have 2 classes like I thought I would have from the beginning. I don’t know what is worse: the financial stress or the time stress for six weeks.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

I experienced firsthand how hard it was to rent an apartment in Madrid, how expensive it was, and that if we had an ap't everyone thought they could visit from the US for free!! But I loved going to the cafés right downstairs, I met tons of people because I lived here, and I taught English because of people I met in the restaurant.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

If you answered yes to the question above, please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My extra-curricular activities were helpful in assisting my integration into the host culture.

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

The choir was difficult for me because I am not a good singer, but I loved going on the excursion to Linares, the concert, and the lady music teacher was a gem. She was very knowledgeable, as they all were. I really did learn a lot from the music class.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Teresa Bordón's class is the best. The subjunctive class is a bear, but I learned a ton.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I did NOT learn anything from the "skits" or dialogues that we had to do in the subjunctive class. For one thing, I could never hear the other students because many were self-conscious about making a mistake so they would mumble or talk very low so as not to be heard. Then, the teacher would react so fast to what they had said you had NO idea what had been communicated, nor why it was correct or incorrect. It was basically a waste of time for the entire class except the two or three who were "performing" at the time

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

Learned a ton, but not from the dialogues in class, as stated before

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework and paper helped a lot--Exams tough but fair

Please describe the course content:

Enormous amount of material covered

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Much better if teacher covers material and goes over exercises...the made up dialogues were too hard to hear and understand from classmates..many were just focused on what they were going to say in their skit and didn't pay attention to the material in other's performance

Other comments about this course:

Teacher doesn't have to be afraid to answer questions about analysis before handing in final paper...that is honest learning

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Ideology and Composition of Quijote

I learned a lot about the book

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

I would have done better with exams on the course content, because I obviously didn't write the kind of paper the professor wanted.

Please describe the course content:

I furiously took notes and learned so much about the book, the culture of Spain during Cervantes' time, and why people call the book modern, but I also had questions as to why it had endured so long, because it seemed like a cartoon to me at times... like Scooby Doo and Shaggy. Obviously I either have missed something or

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

There was very little room for discussion, and no room for disagreement

Other comments about this course:

It wasn't for me, but that doesn't mean it isn't worthwhile. I have done it so I can at least intelligently discuss the contents now and refer to characters and happenings, and I could teach excerpts if it is part of my curriculum, but I am certainly not a Cervantista by any stretch of the imagination.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Women in Novels

Great course, gifted professor

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Fair, clear, steady graduate load

Please describe the course content:

Just what the title says

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The professor makes the time fly by. He presents the material briefly, then pulls each student into the discussion. Everyone is included, no one is left out, every one gets a chance to express something they know.

Other comments about this course:

Keep it and the professor. I don't think anyone would have a bad word to say about him. And I don't get A's from him either.....writing papers is tough for me and I still struggle with it. He is just very fair and honest.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

Lena was super with me and my health problems..very attentive and accompanied me several times to physician's offices.

Carlos is super as a mentor and a tutor. He and Lena both should be professors.

Kim was also very open and helpful.

Phoebe was great with the administrative duties. She was far more effective than Laura, and more personable. She refunded the culture fund money in a day...not a month.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

The experience overall was great. I would change the things i have mentioned, but that was basically based on false info before I ever got here so that affected the rest of the year. But the program itself is wonderful

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

Take a lit course prior to enrolling if you haven't taken one lately, take the translation course in Spain, don't agree to pay twice as much for your apartment than your roommate...you will regret it when they start bringing all their friends and family over from the US for "free" to stay with you, and take all you language in Spain because you will probably not get to in Mexico if you plan on going there for the fourth semester.

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

1. BUY PENCIL SHARPENERS FOR THE ROOMS AND THE FRONT DESK.
2. LOSE THE "NO COFFEE" IN THE SCHOOL POLICY: WE ARE ADULTS. WE CAN KEEP A LID ON A COFFEE CUP AND NOT SPILL IT. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A BEER. COFFEE GOES WITH COLD MORNINGS AND 9 AM CLASSES.
3. STRESS GETTING HERE EARLIER IN THE FALL BEFORE CLASSES START FOR THE HOUSING HASSLE. RENTING AN APRATMENT IS A PAIN.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

I am going back to teaching high school with a new appreciation of what it is to be a student; a more patient, understanding, and (finally!) better-paid teacher.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

I felt I was able to achieve my goals in broadening my areas of study; the course offerings and challenging projects were stimulating and have prepared me well for a future PhD program.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

There were a wide variety of graduate course choices, all of which were intense and in-depth. I felt the option to create independent studies was a good one, while students were also able to choose from Spanish and Hispanic culture, literature and language courses. The variety, even within each of the three required areas of the Spanish Masters program, allowed students from various academic backgrounds to create an appropriate course load.

Please Comment:

The course, "Quijote" with Dr. Layna (and only with him) is designed in such a way that students who have taken literature courses and those who haven't can enjoy it and learn a great deal. I found that "Sociolinguistics" works in the same way for students with and without a linguistics background, as did "Arte del Prado" (providing a solid introduction to Spanish art). On the other hand, courses such as Advanced Literary Theory are more challenging for students who have a background in literature and eventually wish to obtain a PhD. The only problem I found was with the disparity-- the transition from "beginning" Literary Theory to Advanced Literary Theory was dramatic, and left all students this year without an idea of the expectations of how to produce the kind of paper required of that level of theory. The four students who took Advanced Theory absorbed theories but lacked the guidance to write in an appropriate style, no matter the intensity of their previous academic preparation.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

No, I thought that in general the transition was fine. The only issue my friends and I came across with some local-based teachers in Madrid (who do not also go to Vermont), from various countries of origin, was that we did not often understand exactly what was expected of us on assignments, and when they were due. Encouraging each professor to keep a clear and consistent syllabus would be helpful for North American students who have been educated in systems which express expectations, and remove a great deal of stress.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

The advising was excellent. Dr. Griffin helped me design a course load which was very challenging but also broad in the material covered. Permitting students to create independent studies allowed for more flexibility which helped form us as future academics.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

It would be useful to have more of a cultural introduction to Spain. Many students already spent some time in Spain, but perhaps giving those who did not some awareness would be beneficial. The siesta custom of closing all businesses, the difficulty of opening a bank account, certain norms of behavior would have been good to have been understood.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

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Please comment on your response to the question above.

My friendly relationship with my host mother and her family taught me about their history and lives in Spain while giving me first-hand insight into local culture and norms.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

The intensity of the graduate school program (4 then 5 courses) makes it impossible to do well and have time for extracurricular, career-building or cultural activities.

I would like to advise students not to complete the program in 1 year so that they can truly enjoy Spain.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

literature courses are excellent, particularly with Dr. Layna, Dr. Figueroa, and Dr. Gil

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Spain and Latin America: Common Culture

The subject matter is very important and interesting

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

The means of assessment were unusual, unpredictable, interesting, and often not appropriate to truly evaluate individual students (which is required for individual grading)

Please describe the course content:

Pertinent documentaries, academic readings, news articles on the subject. Very varied and strong

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture-based with some discussion.

Other comments about this course:

Opinions were conveyed in a way which did not make shy students comfortable with expressing their own. I found myself feeling like an aggressor when I expressed slightly different perspectives even if not in disagreement.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Teaching Spanish Literature

Great course to include, good preparation for teaching literature

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers and presentations

Please describe the course content:

presentations /lecture format, useful handouts orienting us to the periods discusses

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture format, very little discussion. allowed for more material to be presented. formulaic / unchanging but useful

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Sociolinguistics

Good material. please keep

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

short paper, longer paper, exam

Please describe the course content:

powerpoints of concepts, several related videos

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture format with active engagement with students' interests and concerns

Other comments about this course:

interesting and excellent. the final exam was unreasonably brief- more questions would have more fairly allowed students to show what they understood.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Independent Study

Advanced Literary Theory- Dr. Eduardo Camacho

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final paper, weekly or bi-weekly partial drafts

Please describe the course content:

broad overview of theory, discussion of students' projects /advice

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the lecture format allowed very effective teaching of the theories; what was less effective was the presentation of students' ideas for each other on a frequent basis- students were often unaware of how to present their research and it often ended up seeming like a private 1student/ teacher meeting attended by all students.

Other comments about this course:

students needed to be more familiar about writing about theory before completing their projects

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

OTHER

"Poetic translation" - Independent Study with Rafael Castillo

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

bi-weekly translations edited over the semester, culminating in a final annotated translation of 20 poems by Neruda, with a short essay exploring the challenges and process

Please describe the course content:

readings of Neruda and contemporary English and American poets (to get a sense of his voice), drafts and corrections of papers, modern criticism of Neruda's poetry, specifically his love sonnets

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the style was challenging and effective. I was never sure whether I was doing all that was expected of me, but my drafts were returned with useful commentary. bi-weekly analysis of current translation drafts and discussion of style, use of meter, literary devices etc

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Please evaluate the following statement:
The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

Carlos' tutorials were excellent and extremely helpful. Dr. Griffin is a first class adviser in all aspects. Concha is a delightful and helpful person. All other staff were very effective and good at their respective jobs.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

A great learning experience and challenge

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

If you are not sure you want a PhD, but want to broaden your professional options in the fields of Spanish teaching or translating, etc., Middlebury is for you. It prepares you well, even for a PhD program, and its credentials are widely recognized. I secured a teaching job within two weeks of applying--my very first job for which I interviewed after returning from Spain. Many friends in the program found jobs teaching English in Spain, as early as March, because of the respect for the school and reputation of its alumni. I'm sure that the program will open doors for you, make you more confident in spoken and written Spanish and intellectually ready for your next step, whatever you wish it to be.

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

Nope. They do a great job.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

I want to teach in a high school, and then I wish to obtain a PhD in Spanish literature in order to become an associate or full professor at a major university. Middlebury has prepared me culturally and intellectually to take that step, and provided relevant coursework.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
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With which program did you study?

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- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
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How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

The Language Pledge really encouraged an immersion experience and greatly improved my speaking and comprehension. The rigorous schedule kept me busy and hard-working. I feel I accomplished a great deal in a short period of time.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

I like that there was a great variety of courses but feel that the specific subject requirements should be smaller to allow for a deeper concentration in a desired area.

Please Comment:

In my case, I would have liked to specialize in literature but because we only had 3 elective courses making up a "specialization," by taking one pedagogy class I had already made myself a "generalist." The narrow allowance of electives discourages exploring other fields.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

It was not my personal experience as I got to choose one of my summer courses, but have heard others complain that being in the lower-level grammar class and therefore having 3 classes already chosen (and apparently less demanding than some of the other courses) didn't prepare them well for the intensity of the coming year.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

see #5

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

I feel like we needed much more information about the difficulties of finding housing in Madrid. Many were very unprepared and spent a great deal of time finding a place to live.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

I was very fortunate to be able to find a Spanish girl of my age to live with. We became good friends and I know not many had such luck. Most end up living with Americans or other foreigners and lose a valuable opportunity for cultural integration and daily language exposure.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

incredible professors, language pledge, interesting courses

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

library, some inflexibility in specializing

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

very helpful; I learned a great deal

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, exams and a project

Please describe the course content:

use of the subjunctive in the Spanish language

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

explanation, practice/situations in class to illustrate

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Dali, Bunel, and Spanish Surrealism

very interesting

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams, presentation, paper

Please describe the course content:

lives and work of Dali and Bunuel and the surrealism movement

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

reading, watching films, discussion, trips to museums

Other comments about this course:

interesting and all new to me

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Women in Novels

wonderful class

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams, papers

Please describe the course content:

looking at female authors and characters throughout Latin American Literature

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

reading, discussion

Other comments about this course:

a very well-taught course; Prof. Figueroa is a great teacher

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Native Like Creative Writing

helpful, interesting and enjoyable

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

written assignments

Please describe the course content:

techniques and criteria of creative writing in Spanish

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

reading, discussion, practice in class

Other comments about this course:

I think this class was valuable and broadened my experience

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:
The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

I had great experiences with most of the staff. I felt that Phoeble Knowles did a much better job and was more approachable and helpful than Laura Hernandez (who had been on maternity leave during the first semester). Laura left around 3 most days and it was therefore sometimes difficult if you needed her help.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

It has something that many other master's programs do not: the opportunity to live immersed in the language and culture you study and a language pledge

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

If you are very strongly decided in studying a particular field, another program might better suit your needs but Middlebury is a great program. You really get out of it what you put in.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

teaching Spanish and possibly pursuing a PhD. It has been an important and helpful stepping stone.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

The design of the program encouraged students to form academic relationships with the professors, allowing them to question and expand their knowledge.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

Efficient, varies from professor to professor

Please Comment:

Each professor has his or her own teaching style, allowing differnt amounts of material to be covered during the semester.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

The summer program is much more intense than the year abroad, understandable given the shorter duration of the program, however a better balance between the summer and abroad programs could be reached with either using the same professors or having the directors communicate clearly with eachother.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

yes, sufficient flexibility and I am very satisfied with my specialization and the advising given by the staff.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

I was living in an international student residence, so in addition to the many Spanish students in the house, there were other European cultures represented.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

The best course offered

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams, final project, participation

Please describe the course content:

Grammar analysis

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

repetition, excersises

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Ideology and Composition of Quijote

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, paper

Please describe the course content:

the 2 novels of Don Quijote

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Women in Novels

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams, presentation

Please describe the course content:

literature analysis

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

very interactive

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Sociolinguistics

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, research project

Please describe the course content:

social analysis of Spanish linguistics

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture, films,

Other comments about this course:

interesting

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

Mix of members who are approachable, but not necessarily productive, and productive, but not necessarily approachable.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

Be prepared to be completely submerged in the culture and language, both in and out of the classroom.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

I feel that the program was well organized. The distribution of classes was neither too relaxed nor overwhelming and there was a good variety in the classes offered.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

Very good.

Please Comment:

I feel that there was quite a variety of courses offered. At the same time, I feel that the classes went into a lot of detail in regards to the topic they covered.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

I feel like the Language Pledge needs to be continually emphasized abroad. It seems easier to maintain that pledge for 6 weeks than two semesters, but I feel it is crucial to the success of the student. Obviously, being abroad for such a long time creates more instances in which English will be used (Intercambios, keeping in touch with family, etc.) but I feel that sometimes the students were a little laxidascal in maintaining the pledge once they left the school. I understand that it is easier to maintain that pledge in the contolled envoronment in Vermont, but I feel like an emphasis needs to be placed on maintaining the spirit of the Language Pledge abroad.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

I feel like there was a wide variety of classes offered in the Linguistics focus. The advising was also very helpful. I began without a focus (Generalist) but after meeting with Kim Griffin, she pointed out that I would have enough courses to have a Linguistics focus after the first semester. This meeting helped me to uncover my interests and refocus my study plan. There are no recommendations I have at this time for improving the structure of my track.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

No. I feel that the summer laid a nice foundation to go abroad.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree



Please comment on your response to the question above.

I had the fortune of living with a Spanish professor (not from Middlebury) who was renting a room. Through my discussions with him and his introducing me to other colleagues of his I feel that I was able to take part in the authentic culture of Madrid.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My extra-curricular activities were helpful in assisting my integration into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

Some of my Middlebury friends and I would play soccer twice a week. The more we played, the more people we met. When we began, we were four Middlebury guys kicking a ball around. At the end of the semester, we had a list of over 30 people who had played with us at soem tiem from over 11 countries, including Spain, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, and Argentina. This was possible due to the innitiative of the Middlebury students, as the reservation of the fields and all of the organization involrdr was done by us.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

The professors are the ones that make this program so successful. They are very willing to meet with you and help you out. All you have to do is ask them.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

The Middlebury library is very limited and poorly organized.

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Written exams, homework and a final project.

Please describe the course content:

We analyzed complex and simple phrases and the uses of both the indicative and the subjunctive in different structures.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We had a packet that detailed instances in which the subjunctive or the indicative is used and why. We also looked for examples in real life situations and analyzed the mode used in these instances. There were also exercises in the booklet that served to reinforce what was presented in the text.

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Ideology and Composition of Quijote

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

A written midterm exam and a final research paper

Please describe the course content:

An annalysis of both Parts I and II of Don Quijote

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We read the book outside of class and then reviewed the chapters, focusing on the important details of each chapter. We tried to piece the individual chapters together in order to take an overall look at the book and reach some global conclusions about the text throughout the course.

Other comments about this course:

It is obvious that Professor Layna has a passion for this work which makes it enjoyable for the students. It is a shame that there is only one semester to cover this book.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Way of Saint James

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Three small papers, one final research paper, blogs, a mandatory trip, and class participation.

Please describe the course content:

This class took an overall look at the religious, historical, social, and political implications of the Camino de Santiago on Europe in general and Spain in particular.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Mainly lectures with some class participation. The weekend trip and the optional trip over Semana Santa were very useful in getting a good feel for the actual experience of the pilgrimage.

Other comments about this course:

I feel that sometimes there was bias against the Catholic Church in this course which influenced the presentation of the material. Many times there were stereotypes or misunderstandings presented as facts. For example, the Catholic Church's teaching in regards to relics was misrepresented as a superstition that attributes divine powers to remnants of saints. This simply is not the case. I know we all have certain biases, but we should try to present a class as objectively as possible.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Translation: Politics, Society, and Economics

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams, homework and an oral presentation

Please describe the course content:

We practiced this skill by translating current news articles from Spanish to English and vis a versa.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The constant practice really helped to improve our translation skills and the constant reading of articles helped to broaden my knowledge of the field, which is necessary in translation. In class, we would go around in a circle and take turns in translating articles and Professor Castillo would offer suggestions and correct our translations.

Other comments about this course:

Professor Castillo is very skilled in translation and it is important that he understand that for many students, it is a new skill that they are learning. At times he would get a little impatient with students if they were struggling or would interrupt before they could finish or clarify what they were saying, especially regarding questions about the "anotaciones" we did on our own for homework. The oral presentations were very effective in expanding our knowledge on a specific topic and improving our communication skills. I truly enjoyed that part of the course. One suggestion htat I have is that instead of always going around the class and translating articles as a group, maybe the students could split into smaller groups, translate the articles and then review them as a class. This would allow each individual to translate more in the classroom setting.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

As a whole, the staff was very friendly and willing to help when needed. At times, though, I felt that by approaching some staff members to ask a simple question I was bothering them.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

This is a very good learning environment for student who is serious about the subject. In general, the students who study here take their studies seriously. The time abroad and the language pledge are crucial.

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

Take the Language Pledge seriously, even outside of the classroom. The students who abided by the Language Pledge had a distinct, and I would argue fuller, experience than those who did not. Pluse, I encourage everyone to get out and to meet Spaniards. This was crucial to my experience, to my adquisition of the language and to my incorporation into the culture.

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

Organize the library in Madrid. It was a mess. In the first place, there are not many books. More importantly, it is grossly unorganized. One time I was looking for a book that was supposedly in the library. I looked where it was supposed to be and did not find it and it was not checked out. I was told that I had to search through all of the books in the section that it was under (history or linguistics, I cannot remember which). In the end, I never found the book. There is no alphabetical organization nor organization of any other type that I could discern. As the seat in Spain of the Master's program of one of America's finest schools for language, the library should be better organized.

There should also be some flexibility in regards to the "no-food" policy. I understand that we cannot eat in the classroom area, but if this is the case, there needs to be somewhere to eat. The

Tertulia closes around 3pm and that leaves us no where to eat. One weekend that Middlebury was open, I brought my lunch with me and was told that I could not eat it, neither in la Tertulia (since it was closed) nor in the academic area. I understand the preoccupation with wanting to not create a mess, but there should be some alternative. For instance, if the school is open, the Tertulia should be open. And I am not suggesting that the Tertulia need to offer food, just that there needs to be a place for students to bring their food and eat it. I am a diabetic and need to eat at certain times. I don't want to feel like I'm breaking a rule by eating a snack outside the locked door of the Tertulia. And for all students, diabetic or not, there should be somewhere for them to be able to eat, since many students spent about 8-10 hours in the university everyday. We should not be obliged to leave the university to go home and eat (for me, 30 minutes in each direction) or to go to a cafe or bar to grab a bite, which can get expensive if done often.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

One thing I had never considered before attending Middlebury is being a teacher or a professor of Spanish. I am looking for a high school teaching position for a few years and then I may go on for my Doctorate in Spanish or perhaps Law School.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

There was an extreme lack of resources in the Sede Prim in Madrid to do true academic work. While I loved the location of Sede Prim, the small library and computer lab (and lack of quiet space to study or do research) really impeded my desire to work there and the ability to do graduate level work. Considering the amount of money we spend to attend the program, I think that Middlebury could better manage the resources and provide for a better academic environment.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

The summer in Vermont was more academic and had more interesting course offerings than in Madrid. I was disappointed by the lack of depth in many of the classes (for example, The Spain Culture Class first semester and the Literary Theory Independent Study).

Please Comment:

I realize that the experience of living abroad is ESSENTIAL to this program. Therefore, courses in Spain tended to be less difficult than those in Vermont. However, some of the classes were so superficial that they seemed to be a waste of time (again, the Spain culture class in the Fall).

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

The summer was good preparation for me.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

In general, the classes in Madrid were less interesting than the ones in Vermont. Most of the professors were teaching in other programs and had very little time to spend outside of class with the students. I think that there were many professors who never knew my name (even in small classes and not because I did not participate). Too much of a big deal was made of finishing the program by May. I did not feel overwhelmed at all.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

No, I think that aspect was relatively well planned. The advantage is that most students already had been abroad once before and while Middlebury made it out to be so much different from undergraduate study abroad, it really was not vastly different.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

I lived in an apartment with a Spanish girl and another girl who was also part of the Middlebury program. I wish I had lived with only Spaniards. While I do not think that Middlebury should regulate where students live, I think that Middlebury should continue to strongly suggest living with ONLY Spaniards (or in an SPANISH only environment).

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

If you answered yes to the question above, please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My extra-curricular activities were helpful in assisting my integration into the host culture.

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I had an internship with a non profit organization in Madrid during the Spring semester. It was something I had to seek out on my own since Middlebury does not offer too much information for graduate student internships. Teresa was extremely helpful once I expressed interest and, while I am satisfied with my experience, I think Middlebury should encourage and provide more opportunities for graduate internships.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Lack of options for literature classes, especially for students with a strong literature background

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Teaching Spanish Literature

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers

Please describe the course content:

how to teach AP spanish literature

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

enjoyed the class; this was an example where class participation was extremely low, especially for a graduate course.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Native Like Creative Writing

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, homework

Please describe the course content:

creative writing techniques, grammar, analysis

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

This was the best class at Middlebury. Mercedes Gil is a fantastic teacher and I wish that I had taken her Formal writing class.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Translation: Politics, Society, and Economics

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, tests, in class translation

Please describe the course content:

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

Extremely important and useful content; Rafael Castillo is a wonderful professor. Wish the class had been a bit more structured.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Independent Study

Literary Theory

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one paper

Please describe the course content:

.....

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

.....

Other comments about this course:

This class was extremely disorganized. I had no idea what the expectations were for my final paper and felt discouraged by the professor. I think that the final grade was arbitrary considering he took very little time to work with us on our ideas. He did not take any time to edit our papers for errors.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

I was disappointed with the lack of relationship I had with the director of the program. The only time I spoke with her was in the beginning of Fall semester when I had to choose my classes. I wish there had been more of an advisor role (or more staff to act as advisors). I felt like I was just hoping that I had made the correct decisions (course-wise, for example) and that I was going to pass the program.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

It was a worthwhile experience but I think that Middlebury needs to reevaluate the program instead of sticking with what seems like a status quo program that has been in place for decades.

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

Keep the PALABRA DE HONOR and do not live with people from the program. Try to spend as much time as you can outside of Middlebury. Take advantage of Madrid because it is a WONDERFUL city.

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

I felt like the staff, in general, treated the masters students as undergraduates. I did not feel like I had enough academic support or contact with the staff or with the professors.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

A stepping-stone towards other educational goals (law-school or an MBA).

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

The classes were difficult but we were not so absorbed by the homework that we didn't have time to focus on applying what we learned in the real world.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

I thought it all was about right.

Please Comment:

Whether your focus was on linguistics, literature or general studies, there was a wide variety of classes from which to choose that went as deep as they could given the time available.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

There are a couple of classes that are only available in the summer versus the year abroad and there end up being some classes that one never gets to take. For example, I would have liked to have taken "The history of Romance languages" but I never got the opportunity because it was only offered in Vermont and I had to take other classes there.

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

Based on the requirements of the program, I think the structure is good.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

No. The amount of work was overwhelming at times, but there was nothing that I could have been told to be better prepared for it.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

Finding an apartment in Madrid was one of the most difficult and challenging things I have ever done, but it was totally worth it. I lived with several Spaniards who immediately introduced me to their very large group of friends. Within no time I had a huge group of Spanish friends who made my year extraordinary, not only in terms of friendship, but also in terms of language acquisition.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I played pick-up soccer once or twice a week with other Middlebury students and other Spaniards and other students studying abroad. This also helped my language acquisition.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

The language pledge.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Ideology and Composition of Quijote

Yes.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Papers.

Please describe the course content:

An analysis of Don Quijote based on the readings.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture.

Other comments about this course:

A world-class professor, Professor Lanya.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Sociolinguistics

I audited this class.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams and presentation.

Please describe the course content:

Lecture & readings.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Literary Space: Modern Latin American Literature

Yes.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Papers and exams.

Please describe the course content:

We examined works from celebrated 19th and 20th century Latin American authors.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Analysis of the readings and class discussion.

Other comments about this course:

A good professor who assigned a strenuous workload.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Translation: Politics, Society, and Economics

Yes.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams and outside of class work, finding citations from newspapers and translating them.

Please describe the course content:

Translation of modern and old works, mostly from the Constitutions of Spain and the U.S. as well as translations from contemporary newspapers.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The professor called on each student to translate in front of the entire class. Sometimes it proved to be a baptism by fire, but it was very effective.

Other comments about this course:

An outstanding professor, Professor Castillo.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Spanish Pragmatics and Grammar

Yes.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams and assignments.

Please describe the course content:

A study of the pragmatics "real world" uses of Spanish.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

A study of grammar with examples provided by the professor.

Other comments about this course:

A very knowledgeable professor, Professor Gutierrez Araus.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

OTHER

Oral Communication

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Presentations in class.

Please describe the course content:

Working with the professor along with a workbook of modern-day "real world" uses of the Spanish language.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture with examples.

Other comments about this course:

A fantastic professor, Professor Mercedes Fernandez Isla

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:
The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

All of the staff, particularly Phoebe, Carlos and Lena were involved with our lives and our studies and in addition, were extremely helpful whenever we had a question or concern. Kim Griffin was also a very good director of the program.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

The opportunity to be immersed in the language by living in a country where the language is spoken was the best part about the program. The quality of the professors also proved to be invaluable.

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

That they do NOT do it right after college. Instead, it would be better if they worked for a few years first. It makes them appreciate the experience more and also makes them take it more seriously. Also, the most important thing is to take the language pledge seriously at all times. Sticking to the language pledge is the most fundamental part of ensuring language acquisition. Oh, and all students should try their best to live with native speakers. This will also improve their language development and make their time abroad much more well-rounded.

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

Actually, if I were the program director, I would not admit any students who had just graduated from college. I would require everyone to have spent at least two years out from their college graduation. There were too many young people in the program who didn't appreciate the program for what it was. Too many just saw it as another "study abroad" year and did not take the language pledge seriously outside of the classroom setting. I would also require everyone, if possible, to live with native speakers.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

I hope to work either for the federal government or in private industry while using my Spanish language skills on a daily basis.

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

It was rather effective in aiding me in my academic goals.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

Sufficient for a Master's degree in the language.

Please Comment:

I feel that my knowledge of the language is currently very high (upper advanced) and that I've attained a base that I will never lose, no matter how long I might go without speaking it.

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

It was fine, overall. For me personally I felt that Advanced Academic Writing - 6505 seemed like a waste of time, as it basically was an overview as to how to brainstorm, structure and write a paper. This is pretty basic stuff, both for a non-traditional student like myself (who hadn't been to school in 15 years) as well as someone who had recently graduated from college. The format really doesn't change. So I would scrap that class, or expand it to make

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

I feel that the misinformation given to me (and others) regarding financial aide for the subsequent summer cost my GPA a little because I had no idea about it. I was going to take 4 classes in the fall, 2 in the spring and 3 in mexico. While I was taking the 4 in the fall, I found out that i had to take 3 in the spring and 3 in the summer in order to qualify for financial aide in the summer session. This was contrary to what we were told initially in the summer by the director Susan Calvaho (sp). So, I got a B+ and 3 A-'s, and I feel that I could've gotten all As and no Bs had I known this. As a result, I am graduating with 13 credits instead of 12.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

No.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please comment on your response to the question above.

In Madrid, I lived alone.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Word of honor helped fluency a lot.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

There is no Master's Thesis to be completed as in other programs. This makes for an important distinction from other programs.

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

Excellent course!

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

all of it was adequate, especially the final project which I thought was extremely useful.

Please describe the course content:

Reviewing all the different uses of the subjunctive while seeking out and seeing real-life examples

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

there were a lot of role-play situations.

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Ideology and Composition of Quijote

very good course

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

mid-term exam and one final paper.

Please describe the course content:

The class was simply this: read an average for 4-5 chapters a class, and then listen to Paco Layna explain what each chapter meant.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The teaching style was not very interactive, as it was Layna paraphrasing each chapter as well as going into depth behind significant ones.

Other comments about this course:

Having said that, Layna is a very inspiring figure to me, and his knowledge on el Quijote and just about everything else in the world, was both inspiring and useful.

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Way of Saint James

good course

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers and pilgrimages

Please describe the course content:

not much homework, more of a direct lecture-style class with three teachers, two of which focused on art and history and the third which simply organized and went on the pilgrimage.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the teaching was apt for the course: i learned a lot about the political and social history of Hispania and how the pilgrimage came to be,

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Native Like Creative Writing

excellent course

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers (short stories), blog entries

Please describe the course content:

we read excerpts from short stories and discussed how and why they were good, also pointing out various techniques that we had to use in our own compositions.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

i thought the class was very good, but i would've liked have read more short stories of equivalent length of the ones we were expected to write, so we would have a better idea as to what was expected. i once wrote one at 3.5 pages and was told that it had to 1.5-2, like the instructions said. i understood her reasoning but expected some models from which to follow.

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

As I had lived in Madrid before studying at Middlebury, I felt that I needed little help from them in terms of adapting to living there. But when I had concerns about the curriculum or other school-related issues, they were more than helpful.

Every single member of the onsite staff were, in my opinion, excellent, many times going way out of their way to help me (and others -- from what I could see).

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

Quite simply, DO NOT socialize only with other Middlebury students. If you spend more than 50% of your free time with other Middlebury students, you are missing out on most of what the program offers you.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

I am going to be a interpreter and the Middlebury MA really helped me to improve my linguistic foundation, achieve a very high level of fluency and strong general knowledge of the canon of literature as well as differences between peninsular and Latin American Spanish.

May we use your comments in future publications?

- Yes
- No

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012

With which program did you study?

- Middlebury School in France
- Middlebury School in Germany
- Middlebury School in Italy
- Middlebury School in Russia
- Middlebury School in Spain

What was the period of your study abroad?

- fall semester
- spring semester
- academic year
- spring semester followed by fall semester

How did the design of the program affect progress toward your academic goals?

Fit in nicely. It was very convenient to attend 1 summer and follow that with the academic year abroad.

How would you assess the balance of breadth versus depth in terms of the course offerings?

There was a wide variety of courses offered.

Please Comment:

very good

Recognizing that there is a significant cultural difference between summer Language School in Vermont and the graduate program abroad, do you have curricular recommendations in terms of the articulation between the summer program and the year abroad?

No

In your opinion, did the requirements for the particular area of specialization you chose give you sufficient flexibility, sufficient focus, and sufficient balance? Was the advising about these requirements, during the summer and while abroad appropriate? Looking back at your year of work, what recommendations would you offer in terms of the structure of your track?

I would have preferred the literature track, but the scheduling of courses was not conducive to that. Instead I chose a general focus and am happy with the selection of courses I took.

Do you have recommendations for future summers, in terms of preparing you better for the cultural, personal, financial, and academic aspects of the program abroad?

No, I felt comfortable during the summer at Middlebury.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

My housing situation provided me with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided me a context for gaining insight into the host culture.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

I did not live with Spaniards, but interacted with them around my apartment.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

did not participate

Are there any particular academic strengths of your program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

The Subjunctive

.....

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework, exams, final paper

Please describe the course content:

.....

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

.....

Other comments about this course:

absolutely wonderful course; learned a lot!!

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Spain and Latin America: Common Culture

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, final project

Please describe the course content:

very vague; didn't cover much: immigration, conquest

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

This course was highly disorganized and a waste of time. I was very disappointed with this course and the professor as I found our bi-weekly meetings lacking structure and highly un-academic.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Women in Novels

.....

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams and presentation

Please describe the course content:

.....

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

.....

Other comments about this course:

wonderful course!

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If taken, please evaluate the following course; otherwise, please skip this and the next two questions.

Literary Space: Modern Latin American Literature

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

paper, exams, presentation

Please describe the course content:

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"This course helped me to improve my knowledge about the subject."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

Middlebury provided me with adequate information prior to departure.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
Middlebury provided me with an appropriate orientation upon arrival.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: Middlebury provided me with sufficient support while I was abroad.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement: The on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) were helpful to me during my study abroad?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:
In my opinion, the on-site staff were effective in their roles.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please evaluate the following statement:

The on-site staff were approachable and concerned about my general well being and success.

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Please briefly evaluate the on-site staff in your own words.

I felt comfortable approaching the on-site staff, but did not find them concerned about me, my academic experience or my time in Madrid. However, the director was different--I felt Kim really wanted to hear about our experiences and make us feel comfortable.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I learned so much and really enjoyed the academic experience.

What advice would you give to other students considering the Middlebury College M.A. degree in general, and this program in particular?

To take advantage of all that is available and to really enjoy the summer at Middlebury--it's wonderful!!!

Do you have any other recommendations for the on-site staff or staff on the Vermont campus?

I would just like to comment again on the course: Spain and Latin America: Common Culture. The course truly felt like a waste of time. The professor was very, very unorganized and class time was not spent in an academic manner. Sometimes we would have coherent lectures, but they were very repetitive and did not really focus on what we were going to cover. For example, instead of focusing on Latin American immigration to Spain, the professor would repeat over and over again about the hardships of African immigrants to Spain. While somewhat related, I took the course to learn more about the cultural aspects of Spain and Latin America, not the difficult plight of poor African boys en route to Spain in a make shift raft.

At this point, what are your career goals and how does the Middlebury MA degree fit with those goals?

I am planning on applying for Teach for America. Having a Master's in Spanish should be a huge benefit for me!

May we use your comments in future publications?

Yes

No