



Middlebury Schools Abroad Evaluation: 2007-2008

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students planning to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to International Programs and Off Campus Study a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for Middlebury College students who studied at Middlebury Schools Abroad (this does not apply to non-Middlebury students). Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.

The staff of the Middlebury Schools Abroad/International Programs and Off Campus Study welcomes the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

This document contains respondents between 1 and 6 inclusive.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

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2. Your academic program

Major

Art History and Spanish

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

In Córdoba, the class style was basically a lecture with minimal student input except for a few classes. This made classes sometimes more boring, to me. That isn't to say the experience wasn't worthwhile, however. It meant that perhaps classes moved more quickly, for instance. Instead of having constant homework and reading assignments, the nature of most of the classes in Córdoba is to have a final exam and perhaps a final essay, those being practically the only grades. A final essay would tend to be fairly long, perhaps 10-30 pages, depending on the class. These assignments were challenging and useful in that I had to do a lot of research and do a lot of reading and writing in spanish. It definitely improved my language skills to have to write so much in spanish. The library, unfortunately, was pretty unwelcoming, and while I did find it useful at times, it cannot even be compared with the library system here. Sometimes I found resources at the public library.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Spain and the US have much in common in terms of cultural tastes (television, movies, sports), but Spain is distinguished by a deep sense and pride for its own history, which sometimes translates into a suspicion of the new (new art, new people, etc.). Americans might encounter blatant racism and political incorrectness to which we are unaccustomed. There was also a sense, in Córdoba at least, that it was ok to do the minimum possible in terms of making a living, passing a class, etc. This was quite a change from the ambition of the US, and was in some ways refreshing, although perhaps not entirely admirable.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Studying abroad has definitely made me more open to new experiences and ideas . It has also made me braver in terms of exploring and planning on my own. I think I found my independence and determination useful while I was abroad- sometimes you need a bit of self-encouragement to do certain things.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Studying abroad has certainly enabled me to narrow down interests for my senior thesis in Art History. Furthermore, I think it really opened up some new doors to me career-wise, because I got a lot of great exposure to contemporary art in Spain and now I am considering a career in the contemporary art world. In terms of my personal goals, now I want to do everything I can to be able to work towards my career goals, and also I hope to live among spanish-speakers again to continue improving my language.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I lived in an apartment with a young spanish woman, with whom I became friends. Watching tv with her, talking to her, and going out with her certainly gave me insights into the culture.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

In lecture-based classes, it was very hard to develop friendships with the other students, especially because they already had friends, and because I wouldn't really have a reason to see them outside of class.

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

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all	Only slightly helpful	Somewhat helpful	helpful	Very helpful
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- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|

16. 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 interned at Córdoba Acoge, and made friends with the really great staff there and met some really nice immigrants, whom the organization served. I also participated in a Catholic Youth Group. I made a lot of friends through that and had a lot of fun with them.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I think my listening and speaking improved a lot because of the nature of the Spanish spoken in Córdoba - pretty fast, with a very strong accent that's hard to understand at first. When you first understand everything a thick-accented person says, it's a big feeling of accomplishment; similarly when you can say something back with a decent imitation of that accent.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

the Universidad de Córdoba offers a lot of Art History classes, though some are definitely better than others- it depends a lot on the professor.

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

I took a literature class with which I was not very pleased, but that may have been just that professor.

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Arte Andaluz Contemporáneo

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

Graded papers, oral presentation

Please describe the course content:

Art and Architecture in Andalucía from the late 19th century to present

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

26. 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"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Hermenéutica de la Obra de Arte

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

Two papers, oral presentation, blog posts

Describe course content

Theory of contemporary art with discussions of beauty and the role of the museum

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

29. 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"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

El Arte del Romanticismo

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

paper, exam

Describe course content

survey of 18th and 19th century art related to the romantic period

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

32. 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"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Gramática

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

papers, homework, exam

Describe course content

spanish grammar and cultural topics

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

This was the course Middlebury required us to take for our language credit

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

35. 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"/>

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Textos Literarios del siglo XX

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

papers, exam, quizzes

Describe course content

Spanish texts of the 20th century

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

38. 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"/>

39. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

El Español de América

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

Papers, exam, homework

Describe course content

linguistic study of the spanish spoken in South and Central America and its spanish and native origins

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

41. 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"/>

42. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

Historia de la Fotografía

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

Papers, portfolio project, exam

Describe course content

A history of photography from its origins to present

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.

See previously submitted course evaluation

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

44. 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"/>

45. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

Internship at Córdoba Acoge

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Córdoba

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

paper, supervisor evaluation

Describe course content

I worked at an organization that serves the local immigrant population. I taught english classes to interested immigrants and I took on an independent project of making a map of useful resources in Córdoba for immigrants

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.

N/A

Other comments about this course:

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

47. 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"/>

48. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

49. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

50. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

51. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

52. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Occasionally North African men were extremely forward in flirting with me, which was very annoying and hard to avoid. I would recommend that women be wary around these men (from Morocco, Algeria, etc.) if they seem overly-friendly, although I certainly knew some who seemed to be just genuinely nice people with no ulterior motive.

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

It's a great independent experience, and a great opportunity to improve your spanish and explore.

54. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

It's definitely worth it. Only go to Córdoba if you want to be more independent and not have your hand held.

55. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

56. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

57. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I found myself leaving for Spain feeling woefully underprepared- but when I got there, I felt better. Maybe a longer meeting, more like the orientation we had in Madrid, would be useful.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

Religion

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May, 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

Effectively, the concept of a liberal arts college is impossible to describe to the average Spanish student. Their education is streamlined and profession-specific. This difference was important to keep in mind whenever I felt frustrated by the general lack of intellectual stimulation in my classes. It made me appreciate that much more what a privilege it is to receive the citizen-building education we're able to get here at Middlebury.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Baseline: both commercialized, technologically advanced societies. However, divergent foundational values (Catholic Spain vs. Protestant states) and I think this results in differences that can be seen quite plainly in even simple things like the pace of daily life.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I now KNOW -- fully KNOW -- that I'm capable of building a community for myself in a totally foreign place. You hear so much about the challenges of breaking into pre-established friend groups and just into another culture in general, but I discovered that curiosity, a willingness to put yourself out there and try new things can really open up a lot of opportunities.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It reaffirmed once again my love of Spanish. My senior thesis topic will have to do with the history of the Iberian Peninsula and a large part of the research will be in Spanish. I would love to live abroad again at another point in my life.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

Also an apartment. I changed situations at the semester.

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

The girls at the residence were kind, but I didn't truly connect with any of them, and this made integration less desirable, I guess. In the apartment, it was surprising to find that the Spanish students were hardly ever around. For example, the two girls went home to their neighboring towns every single weekend.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

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

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. 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.

Local hiking group.
Political cycling group.
I did some tree planting.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I was incredibly satisfied with the improvements I experienced in all aspects of my language skills. I feel like I came into the year "classroom fluent" and came out "fluent fluent." Our Middlebury group did a great job of keeping the language pledge. I kept a vow to myself to read only in Spanish for the year. I did my best to put myself in predominately Spanish (rather than ERASMUS) classes, so as to hear native speakers.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

art history

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

religion

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Origenes del cristianismo

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Summaries of the reading. Vocab test.

Please describe the course content:

The early, pre-New Testament formation of Christianity.

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.

Lectures. Lousy ones.

Other comments about this course:

Probably the worst professor I've ever had.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

26. 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"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Filosofía de la historia

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Written responses to readings. Verbal presentation.

Describe course content

Looking at the way in which specific philosophers have conceptualized the course of human history

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.

Some lecture. Discussion.

Other comments about this course:

I love Pedro.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

29. 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"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Arte mudéjar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Final paper. Final exam.

Describe course content

Specifically Spanish form of architecture -- blend of the Christian and Islamic styles over the course of the reconquista

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. Straight up, professor talking for 2 hours. But some great field trips

Other comments about this course:

Taken straight from a book. Look for it in the library

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

32. 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"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Spanish grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba but a special class for Middlebury students

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

Presentation. Final in-class essay. Some small pieces of writing throughout the semester

Describe course content

Wee bit of grammar. Mainly chatting about culture and colloquialisms and whatnot

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.

Lots of chatting

Other comments about this course:

Antonio was great, but I don't think he's teaching this again

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

35. 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"/>

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Historia de la música española

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Two presentations. Short ones. Like, five minutes.

Describe course content

Supposedly, a history of Spanish music

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:

Awful. Incredibly boring. We didn't actually cover any material

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

38. 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"/>

39. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

Historia de la fotografía

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Photography project. Final exam

Describe course content

History of photograpy, from its invention to the present day

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:

Pablo is a great professor. Young. Really cute. Warning, though: you will be graded on photos that you take! This is not a purely theoretical course.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

41. 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"/>

42. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

Hermeneútica contemporánea

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Written responses to readings. Final presentation and paper

Describe course content

Looking at the rise of contemporary hermeneutics, from its foundations in Marx and Nietzsche, through Schleiermacher, Dilthey, etc., up to Heidegger

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.

Some lecture. Mainly discussion.

Other comments about this course:

Small class. Pedro is fabulous.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

44. 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"/>

45. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

Averroes and his world

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Independent course with my advisor at Middlebury

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

Weekly response papers, 2 bigger papers, 1 final paper

Describe course content

Thought and context of Spanish Muslim philosopher, Averroes

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.

Lots and lots of reading. Emails back and forth

Other comments about this course:

It was great. Tons of work but very stimulating

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

47. 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"/>

48. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

49. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

50. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

51. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

52. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Asian people are not common in Spain, and they receive a lot attention.

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

The university is rather less than strong but Córdoba is a great-sized city to have access to a more traditional Spanish lifestyle

54. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Consider your personal goals and what you're hoping to get out of the experience. If it's language and cultural immersion, I would definitely recommend a smaller, non-Middlebury Center site like Córdoba.

55. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

56. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

57. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

It was nice to have housing options before we showed up. The visa information was generally helpful. It's just tough to truly prepare people, I think, because how do you get them in the proper mindset?

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

Environmental Studies and Geography (joint)

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

February 2010

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

One of the most difficult things to adjust to was the lecture-style that most classes were taught in. You were expected to sit there while the professor talked for a couple of hours, non-stop, and you were expected to write down exactly what they dictated to you. There was hardly any discussion or participation on the part of the students, which was different than my experience here at Middlebury.

Also, the expectations weren't always set in stone or crystal clear for classes. Sometimes the professors changed their mind about expectations, or there would be lists of assignments in hidden places that they didn't tell you about, but that other spanish students knew about.

There wasn't much work to do outside of classes, and I sometimes had to ask for extra work to do, if the subject was of interest to me.

I at least improved my listening skills in class, from listening to professors lecture for hours on end. This academic environment made me appreciate the environment here at Middlebury.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

In Spain, the daily schedule is different, with different eating habits (ex: peeling every fruit and vegetable including tomatoes), and different hours (lunch at 3pm, dinner at 10pm), and there was always time set aside for the siesta... all stores were closed during this time, which was hard to become accustomed to.

Everyone in Spain smokes, this is something I expected, but never became accustomed to.

The Spanish students always seem to go home to their towns on the weekends. They treated their apartments in the city as a place to eat and sleep, and less as a social setting. It was hard to make Spanish friends in class, as well as in my particular housing arrangement because the Spaniards I lived with were all very serious students and hardly ever picked their heads up from their books.

The clothing style is very different in Spain--everyone seems to be dressed in black when it's cold out, and always dressed up fancy. I felt very casual in my American clothing.

The food is different, the night scene is different (mostly in that they party from about 2, 3am until dawn), the music is different...lots of things.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Studying abroad forced me to be an outgoing person. Without being outgoing, you have no chance of making friends abroad, or at least in Spain. I definitely left Spain with more confidence to putting myself in an unfamiliar context and going with the flow, meeting new people and having a good time.

I had never really lived as independently as I was living in Spain. I had a lot of fun shopping and cooking for myself, and living even more independently than here at Midd (where so many things are handed to us on silver platters-which I'm not complaining about). I had to be a lot more proactive than here at Midd to become involved in extracurricular activities outside of the classroom. Here at Middlebury, it's easy to get involved in so many things through all the fairs we have and emails that are sent out. In Spain, you had to do all that work on your own to find activities-which was frustrating a lot of the time, but more realistic for future living situations.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

In terms of my major here at Middlebury, ES and Geography, I took an environmental class in Spain that I thought was very interesting, but didn't in any way change my academic goals in terms of what I'm studying at Midd. I do think, however, that the language skills that I acquired in Spain have given me the confidence to possibly incorporate Spanish-speaking into a future career or job, or a Spanish-speaking location at least.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

House (bigger than apartment)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I was living with 2 other American students studying in Córdoba through Middlebury, and with three Spanish students. At first, I was going to be living with 1 other American and 4 Spanish people, which sounded great. However, one Spaniard was kicked out of the house and another Middlebury student moved in due to lack of housing. The three remaining Spanish students were very anti-social and essentially used the house as a place to eat and sleep. I had very little interactions with the two girls, and more with the guy (usually around meal times). However, because I was living with the other two American girls, as a default, and because the Spaniards weren't going to hang out with me, I ended up spending a lot of time with the other Americans. In the end, I had fun with this, but this was not how I'd envisioned my semester abroad, and was certainly less than ideal that the three of us were living together.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

Spanish students had little to no interest in talking to us- they sat on the other side of the room.

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

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

16. 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 a language partner, which was the way that I felt most integrated into the culture. I ended up becoming good friends with my partner, and hung out with her a good amount. I had to set this up myself, and was super disappointed that Middlebury hadn't even established this simple activity, even though they'd advertised to have done so in Córdoba.

Otherwise, I did a weekend trip with the Aula Forestal, a forest club through the university, to the mountains. I had a blast with this, and met some really fun people, and luckily was the only American on the trip. However, my connections with people were short-lived and I didn't make any lasting friendships. I also did a weekend photography workshop, joined a gym and went to a couple of dance classes. All of these things were fun, but they didn't really help me feel integrated.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

It was hard to realize the progress that I was making along the way, but toward the end of the semester was when I really realized that I had improved a lot in all aspects of my Spanish. In Andalucía, many people have an accent that is super hard to understand. I had a lot of difficulty with certain people at the beginning of the semester, and realized at the end of the semester that I had no problem understanding them whatsoever. I also improved with my speaking, for sure, though I think that I would have improved a lot more had I made more Spanish friends. This was something I really tried to do, but had a lot of difficulty with. Living with the two other American girls actually seemed to help my Spanish--we were really good about speaking Spanish to each other and were able to answer each others' questions about the language, and fix each others' spoken mistakes.

I wrote a couple of long papers in Spanish toward the end of the semester, and it came a lot easier and more natural to me than at the beginning of the semester--my writing definitely improved throughout my time there. However, I really didn't have many writing assignments, and I know that if I'd had more that I would have improved that much more.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
 No

Please explain:

I took a great class with Rafael Garzón García- he was the only legit professor I had there, who actually wanted to spur discussion in class and have students think on their own, and express their thoughts.

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

- Yes
 No

Please explain:

Many classes are a straight-up lecture where you just sit there and write for a couple of hours. I guess this is what you'll find in general in Spain, or at least in most classes in Córdoba.

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Historia de la España Actual (History of Current/Recent Spain)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Córdoba

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

paper, exam

Please describe the course content:

The content was about the history of Spain during Franco's regime.

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 a straight-up lecture... the professor talked for the whole two hours, and you were expected to write down everything she dictated.

Other comments about this course:

Professor was really nice, but this was a pretty dull class to go to. I learned a lot, and it was interesting, but I could have just as easily read it in a book.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

26. 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"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Grandes Problemas Medioambientales (Enviro. Problems)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Córdoba

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

presentation, multiple papers

Describe course content

This course was about the evolution of the environmental crisis, particularly focusing on the economic perspective.

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 taught with power point, but there was a lot of discussion that went on, and the presentations were provided for each student, so note-taking was only your own reflections on what was being conveyed. The professor wanted us to really put in our own opinions on written pieces, and tie them into outside readings we'd done for the class.

Other comments about this course:

Rafael Garzón García is awesome.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

29. 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"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

La Historia de la Literatura Hispanoamericana (Hispanic Lit)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Córdoba

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

presentation, final exam, paper, book discussion

Describe course content

We went through the timeline and the different genres of Hispanic 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.

The professor lectured for the first half of the semester, and the whole second half was presentations by students- this was an awful way to fill half of a semester of learning!

Other comments about this course:

The professor himself was good at teaching, and was very engaging, but the presentations were not effective at all.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

32. 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"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Gramática (Spanish grammar)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Córdoba-

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

papers, homework, exam

Describe course content

We learned Spanish grammar, as well as everyday spoken spanish that you head more commonly on the street.

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 did exercises during class, and held some classes outside in the "real world" to practice what we'd learned, which was fun. We could have used a lot more writing exercises, small easy papers for which we'd get feedback and improve on our writing. We were supposed to do more, but only ended up doing 2 I think.

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

35. 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"/>

36. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

37. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

38. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

39. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

40. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Any of the harassment that I received was on the streets from men whistling and making comments. They don't hold back, and will not hesitate to pick you out and harass you. If you have blond hair-seriously consider dying it, you will attract less attention that way. Also, in Spain people tend to (at least in cold weather), wear darker colored clothing. I found myself wearing all the black and brown I'd brought with me just to fit in. Also, women really don't wear shorts. When it gets warmer out, they primarily wear skirts, or shorts with tights underneath. So much of what you wear, and whether or not you fit in clothing-wise, will determine whether or not men will harass you on the streets.

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

Córdoba is a great city- there are not as many American exchange students there as there are in other bigger cities, and I liked it for that reason. It's also a great size in that you can walk from one end of it to the other, and can really get to know the city within a matter of months.

42. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Housing is tough, but as much as you can do to live with people you think you'll be friends with, the more integrated you will become in your host country. Try as hard as you can to not live with other Americans, even if Middlebury is trying to convince you that there are no other options. There are other options- other people find them, you should too. Córdoba doesn't have any on-site staff, so it might be frustrating at first with the lack of information provided on things you can do outside of the classroom to become integrated. Go to the Casa de Juventud, right away, and you'll find a wealth of information and free activities to participate in on the weekends, or week days.

43. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

44. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

45. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I found the meeting useful because it provided me with a checklist of all the documents and paperwork I needed to put together before going abroad. It was also nice to talk to other students who'd been to Spain before, to get an idea of what their experience was like.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

Geology

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

June 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

While the Spanish educational environment was not as different as I had expected it to be, it was certainly challenging on occasion to find materials, find teachers for help, and, of course, to do all this in a foreign language. I learned a lot about my own ability to be independent and take initiative.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Spain has a different culture in terms of its daily scheduling (people spend more time outside during the course of the day, but take naps in the afternoons, stay out late, etc), but I did not find the people to be altogether very different than people I am used to here: approachable, friendly, on occasion frazzled and busy. The biggest difference was their acceptance and lack of xenophobia.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I have grown more independent, able, and innovative, which were all useful, and even necessary, characteristics

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It inspired me more to branch out more from my science major, and try to find a career that encompasses more than just a research/analytical field.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I lived with a Spanish boy and a German girl. The Spanish boy was great, but was dating another German girl and hung out with very few Spanish people, making it difficult for him to help me integrate. The German girl was very nice, but rather introverted and kept to herself a lot.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

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

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

16. 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 took dance classes with a group of mostly Spanish people (in their 40s). They were fabulous people, and I looked forward to the class every week, but it didn't help me make any friends my own age.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

While in Cordoba I thought my progress was decent, but not great. Upon returning to Middlebury, however, and going to my first Spanish class back here I realized how much I improved-- it was SO MUCH easier to understand and participate than it had been before leaving.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Art history is great at the Universidad

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Espanol de America

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

Homework, research paper, exam

Please describe the course content:

Linguistics course about the development of spanish is Hispanoamerica

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.

basic lecture-- not very interactive nor effective

Other comments about this course:

The course was not especially exciting, but I did like the teacher.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

26. 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"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Geografia Humana

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

practicass, exams, summaries

Describe course content

the development of the field of human geography

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.

powerpoints and lectures

Other comments about this course:

very sympathetic, approachable teacher.

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

29. 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"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Historia del arte gotico espanol

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Cordoba

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

summaries, readings, exams, one research paper

Describe course content

History of Spanish gothic architecture, sculpure, and painting

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.

powerpoints and lecture

Other comments about this course:

my favorite course-- great teacher

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

32. 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"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Middlebury's grammar class

At which institution/university did you take this course?

UCO Idiomias, through Middlebury's program

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

notebook work, short writing assignments

Describe course content

review of complex grammar

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.

workbooks, packets

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

35. 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"/>

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

37. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

38. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

39. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

40. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

41. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

42. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

43. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #12

n/a

At which institution/university did you take this course?

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

Describe 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:

44. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

Poor

Good

Excellent



45. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

46. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat
helpful

Very helpful

47. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

GREAT city, and one semester there was great because I felt like I really became a local within that semester.

49. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Be prepared to have to be innovative and help yourself out a bit, but it's worth it for the experience and in the end you will feel so good for standing on your own two feet. Also, don't be afraid to ask anyone for help! Spaniards are fabulous and helpful!

50. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

51. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

52. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I don't really remember. E-mails from the Middlebury staff in Spain were probably the most useful for me, as well as talks with people who had studied abroad.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Pomona College

2. Your academic program

Major

Spanish

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

i didn't have much trouble making the transition, partly because i was prepared for how different it would be. the learning/teaching style there isn't as conducive to my learning personally, and there wasn't much academic learning outside the classroom besides what we were assigned to read in some classes. i don't think the environment there is better academically than at Pomona, but it was nice to better understand the academic/education system in another country.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

you could argue that there are my similarities, but i think there were more differences than similarities. starting with the daily schedule, how late they eat dinner, siesta etc to the education system to the night life to the activities of youth. but it was amazing.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

what contributed most to my personal growth were the personal relationships/connects that i made there, and also the travel opportunities that i had while studying abroad, both during the semester, and the following summer. my personal characteristics that most helped me were my ability to adapt to just about every situation, my prior travel experience, my ability to relate with others and meet people, and the ability to rely on myself.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

it has not. my travel experiences over the summer made me want to give more back to the world and play my part in the global community.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

lived in a house owned by a family but only the son lived there. rented a room. it wasn't really a homestay.

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration



11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

there were 2 other american girls, 2 spanish girls, and the spanish son living in the house. the spanish girls studied all day and night and went home on weekends, so we didn't really talk to them much, and fabio, the son, was a real character...not as welcoming as expected but he did help me gain insight into the spanish culture.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

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

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. 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 participated in an intercambio which was one of the best things i did in cordoba.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

it was just about what i expected. speaking spanish 24/7 helped a lot. make sure americans speak spanish together and that when they speak spanish with native speakers they ask to be corrected!

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

the lecture style environment was not my favorite

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Textos Literarios del Siglo XX

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Facultad de Filosofia y Letras

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

a few small exams and a final plus an optional paper

Please describe the course content:

we read a few books and commented on them

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.

it was mostly lecture with a little discussion

Other comments about this course:

i would recommend it

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

26. 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"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Historia de la Espana Actual

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Facultad de Filosofia y Letras

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

one paper

Describe course content

she lectured about the history of Spain starting with Franco's dictatorship

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. only lecture.

Other comments about this course:

i don't like lecture. but she was nice

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

29. 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"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Literatura Hispanoamericana

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Facultad de Filosofia y Letras

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

an oral presentation, a book report, and a final exam

Describe course content

Studied different traits of the Hispanoamerican texts

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, presentation, some discussion

Other comments about this course:

i loved it!

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

32. 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"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Gramatica

At which institution/university did you take this course?

UCO Idiomias

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

an exam and a few little papers

Describe course content

Grammar!

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.

homework from practice book, lecture, and real world practice

Other comments about this course:

it was effective. could be more so though. not sure what specific suggestions to make...

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

35. 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"/>

36. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

37. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

38. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

39. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

40. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

not much, but be sensitive to the views of others, and try to be easy going, and not to take anti-american sentiment personally

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

it was amazing!

42. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

go do it! i loved the program. it was an amazing location very conducive to travel...make sure you travel as much as possible! don't be afraid to branch out and make an effort meeting people. and don't go away for the academics. speak only spanish!!

43. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

i thought there was enough information. and pomona prepared us pretty well. not really sure what other advice to give. except that i would really like to see course reviews made available to students so that they have something to go off of when they are deciding which courses to take.

44. How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

i called middlebury to ask about the study abroad programs

45. Why did you choose this particular program and site?

location mostly, and the fact that we got to take classes in the university.

46. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

47. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

48. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

49. How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

i thought it was fine.

50. Were there particular challenges unique to you as a student from another institution? Please explain.

nope. except that we have to pay much higher tuition!!

51. Further comments:

thanks!

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Whitman College

2. Your academic program

Major

Spanish

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

The language was one of the most difficult things to overcome. Their thick Andalucian accent took a while to get accustomed to. Their classroom structure and grading was very different because their classes last longer and meet less often. This was beneficial because it allowed me to travel more often and allowed to explore the city instead of just being in class all the time.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

I had to make an even bigger adjustment coming back to the United States after being in Spain for only 5 months. I felt like I was expecting Spain to be different, but when I returned, I was shocked by how the American culture is far more individualized and I was used to the European way of life.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I became much more independent and self-sufficient. My personal characteristic that helped me the most was my ability to be flexible to changes and to adapt to things quickly.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I would like to return to Spain someday after I graduate to teach, I think it would be a great experience.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

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

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I lived with two Costa Rican Medical students but I had already established connections outside of my living situation before they moved in.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

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

- Yes
- No

15. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

It was a lot different than I expected. I was definitely presented with the differences between Spain-spanish and Latin American-spanish since I lived with two Costa-Ricans.

20. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Both of the Literature classes I took were very good.

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

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Their history of Music course was less than satisfactory, I believe it was a new instructor.

22. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Literary texts of the twentieth century

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

in class essays, essays

Please describe the course content:

We discussed the different Spanish literary movements within the twentieth century, read books and analyzed them in class.

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:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

24. 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"/>

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Introduction to Hispanoamerican Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

Papers, presentations

Describe course content

We discussed the diversity and the unity of Hispanoamerican 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.

Lecture

Other comments about this course:

.....

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

27. 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"/>

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

History of Spanish Music

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba

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

presentations, papers

Describe course content

We studied the progression of Spanish Music and it's influence from other countries

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:

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

30. 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"/>

31. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Advanced Spanish Grammar

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Universidad de Córdoba (required course by Middlebury)

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

papers, exams, homework, presentations

Describe course content

An in-depth look at difficult grammar

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:

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

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	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"/>

33. 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"/>

34. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

36. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

37. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Please explain:

The University of Córdoba had a great staff and they were very nice to us foreigners.

39. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Look for a location that will make you happy. Courses should be the second criteria considered, but not the first since classes can change or conflict.

40. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I would have liked a little more direction with the Visa application process.

41. How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

.....

42. Why did you choose this particular program and site?

I always wanted to go to Spain and I knew that I didn't want to Study Abroad near a large city, Madrid. Córdoba was a good option and I spoke to my current Spanish professor and she assured me that it was a beautiful city.

43. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

.....

44. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

45. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

Yes

No

46. Were there particular challenges unique to you as a student from another institution? Please explain.

I felt a little lost and whenever I had questions I would have to wait a while to get a response and sometimes my questions weren't answered.

47. Further comments:

I was very pleased with my overall experience and would recommend a study abroad experience for everyone.