

WEB-SPANISH-CENTRO DE LINGUAS-UNIVERSITY OF VIGO

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTRE

Language Centre of the University of Vigo Foundation

The Language Centre was created in 2004 in order to promote and develop learning activities in modern languages, taking into account the linguistic needs of the university community and of people in its surroundings. After these ten years of experience, the Language Centre is a model in teaching languages and in the accreditation of language levels. It is validated by the most prestigious examining bodies (Cervantes Institute, ACLES, TOEFL, etc.). One of the main activities of the Centre is to teach tailored language courses to the university community with the aim of contributing to teaching and research quality and to the internationalization of the University of Vigo. Alongside these activities, the Language Centre stands out for its Spanish language and culture programmes aimed at exchange students and other people interested, for its tailored courses and for its S/FL teacher training course in cooperation with the Cervantes Institute.

The Language Centre is in Vigo, which is the largest city in Galicia. Vigo is located on the Atlantic coast, between Santiago de Compostela and Portugal, on the bay of the same name and surrounded by one of the most breath-taking landscapes on the Iberian Peninsula. With its mild climate and beautiful beaches, the city has become one of the main tourist attractions in the region. It is a modern city with a vibrant university atmosphere, an intense cultural life and artistic activity, as well as a lively nightlife.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University

With a consolidated academic project in which the technological, humanistic, scientific and socio-legal fields are represented, the University of Vigo has been able in barely two decades of existence to establish itself as a high-quality public university, open to society and firmly committed to knowledge transfer. With three campuses which are the faithful reflection of the evolution experienced, especially during the last decade, the University of Vigo focuses its primary aim on the quality of teaching, research and services, as well as on internationalization and student and teaching staff mobility. To meet the challenges that the institution is facing, the University of Vigo has a Strategic Plan which sets ten goals which will allow to transform the institution into a university connected with the environment, participative, committed to comprehensive training and knowledge transfer and economically sustainable.

COURSE

A Course in Spanish Language, Culture and Teaching

DURATION

This is a 3-week course (60 hours of theoretical-practical in-class sessions + assignments) which will be held from July 3-21, 2017. The course has a workload of 4 ECTS credits.

SCHEDULE

The course will be scheduled into 4 hours/day in the morning, as follows: First session from 9:30 – 11:30, break from 11:30 – 12:00, and second session from 12:00 – 14:00. Optional supplementary activities may be performed in the afternoon.

PARTICIPANTS PER GROUP

The course is aimed at teachers of Spanish as a foreign language, teachers of bilingual programmes, of immersion programmes and of Spanish for Spanish speakers, Grades K-12, as well as at Community College and University teachers, all from the USA and Canada.

SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN THE FEE

- Welcome reception and guidance
- Guided tour to the main points of interest in the city of Vigo
- Visit to the Museum of the Atlantic Islands and to the Sea Museum
- A catamaran trip to the Cies Islands, including a hiking route and lunch on the beach
- Gastronomic workshop. This workshop provides a chance to enhance course contents such as vocabulary dealing with the area's typical gastronomy (fish and seafood), and cultural questions (designation of origin, typical gastronomy from different Spanish regions, etc.). It includes preparation of typical Galician recipes and tasting.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES NOT INCLUDED IN THE FEE

Any activity organized by the Language Centre of the University of Vigo Foundation during that period.

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- Popular Galician dance workshop: the *muiñeira*. The workshop gives students the opportunity to learn about musical instruments that are typical of traditional Galician music such as the bagpipe, and to learn the traditional Galician dance, which is the *muiñeira*.

ACADEMIC VISITS

- Visit to a winery making *Albariño*, which has *Rías Baixas* designation of origin. This designation is named after the area in which the winery is located: the most southerly Galician estuaries, or *rías*. The visit includes a tour around a winery and its vineyards to discover the harvesting and winemaking processes and will end with a little wine-tasting.

EXCURSIONS

- Way of St. James. Santiago de Compostela is the capital of Galicia and the place of pilgrimage par excellence. The visit, which lasts two days, will start in Padrón on Saturday. Participants will learn about the history of this town through a ludic activity around the town. The group will walk part of the Way (23 kms.) to enjoy firsthand the marvels of Galicia, its history, legends, people... On arrival in Santiago on Sunday, the group will go on a guided tour to the cathedral, to the university campus, to the old town, etc. This two-day activity includes explanations of the history of the city and of pilgrimage, thus introducing students to the mysterious world of the legends of Santiago.

ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

The University of Vigo offers different accommodation options.

Accommodation at university halls of residence and at hostels facilitates the learning process through a warm and friendly atmosphere, with open-minded people who collaborate regularly with the University of Vigo and are therefore used to dealing with people from other countries and cultures.

It is possible to change accommodation during the first few days of the course provided it does not meet your needs after having settled in. In this case you should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

It is of course possible to enrol in the course without booking university-owned accommodation. In this case, the student has to mention it when he/she first registers for the course. For other options referring to accommodation and meals, please contact the University of Vigo Foundation at centrodelinguas@uvigo.es

TRANSPORT

Participants will have to travel from Peinador Airport (in Vigo) to their corresponding accommodations in the city of Vigo. There are several means of transport to make this journey:

1) By taxi

It is the fastest and most direct means of transport. A taxi from the airport to the city centre costs approximately 22€. To get to the city of Vigo you must take the A55 (*Autovía del Atlántico*) and drive about 12 kms until you reach the city centre. It takes approximately 10 minutes.

2) By bus

To make the journey by bus, participants have to take line C9A at the airport, which connects the airport with America Square (*Plaza de América*). The bus ticket costs 1.50€. For any queries about transport, please contact the *Centro de Linguas* of the University of Vigo Foundation at centrodelinguas@uvigo.es

HEALTH INSURANCE

It will be valid through the study period with us. The insurance covers primary medical care at a national level as well as hospitalization, but it does not cover specialists' care. Neither does it cover medication prescribed by doctors; these expenses must be paid by the insured person.

CERTIFICATE

The University of Vigo issues a certificate at the end of the course to each student who has attended and participated in at least 85% of all scheduled classes, has submitted the assignments, has passed the final exam and has obtained a positive assessment.

CREDITS

At some American universities you can receive transfer credits for the courses taken. For more details see information at <http://www.educacion.gob.es/eeuu/convocatorias-programas/convocatorias-eeuu/cursos-verano.html>

FEE

The cost of the course is 1700€.

ENROLMENT

Online enrolment at <http://www.educacion.gob.es/eeuu/convocatorias-programas/convocatorias-eeuu/cursos-verano.html>

For information about enrolment and courses see profesores.usa@mecd.es

More information about this course at centrodelinguas@uvigo.es or contacting Centro de Linguas. Campus Universitario - 36310 Vigo (Pontevedra) España. Telephone: +34 986 812 250 // E-mail: centrodelinguas@uvigo.es

PROGRAMME

Description of the course

This course offers the most novel aspects of the Spanish language and culture (with special emphasis on Galician traditions) and provides students with the necessary methodological tools to teach these aspects in the classroom.

Aims of the course

- Introduce students to the Spanish linguistic, historic, literary and artistic environment and provide them with information related to the specific features of Galician geography, culture and folklore.
- Work thoroughly on grammar, lexis and culture through aspects which present problems to Anglophone speakers.
- Provide theoretical and teaching support to S/FL teachers and offer a wide range of teaching resources that can be implemented in the classroom.
- Improve teaching skills and develop innovative methodological strategies.
- Provide new resources to implement course contents in the classroom.

Contents

The course comprises several modules of different duration which are supplemented with optional activities in the afternoon. The schedule of the modules is the following:

First module, from 9:30 to 11:30 (30 hours): Grammatical, lexical and cultural issues adapted to the students' level and needs. Specific problems with grammar, lexis and culture.

Second module, from 12:00 to 14:00 (30 hours): Methodological and didactical issues related to the teaching of S/FL. Approaches to teaching Spanish as a foreign language, how to plan an SFL course and class, the role of grammar, lexicon and culture in an S/FL programme, presentation of teaching materials and resources, the use of TICs, paying special attention to networking, and assessment in the S/FL classroom.

Methodology

The approach adopted is communicative, adapting linguistic complexity to the level of each group through the four skills. The programme is distributed into: theoretical and practical sessions in which linguistic contents will be covered through communicative tasks; field work with visits to emblematic places where students will have to carry out tasks such as interviews, data enquiry, interaction with locals, etc.; and workshops taught by experts and aimed at delving into the idiosyncrasy of the zone.

Through the classes, educational visits and workshops, students will come into contact with authentic material from a linguistic and cultural perspective. They will be exposed to oral and written input.

Assessment

Assessment will be periodic and based on different tasks such as a portfolio, activities in a blog, wikis, a virtual platform (Moodle) and a final exam.