



# MADRID, SPAIN

## About Madrid

Located in the heart of Spain and boasting a population of over 3 million, Madrid serves as the nation's capital and center of political power. The city is known for its vibrant social scene and rich cultural life and is home to a number of world-class museums and art galleries, including the Museo del Prado. Given its central location, Madrid is ideally suited for students to explore Spain's diverse regions as well as Portugal, its neighbor on the Iberian Peninsula.



Museo del Prado

## The Program

Based at Suffolk University's Madrid campus, this program is designed to develop the student's linguistic skills as well as to introduce them to the literature and culture of Spain through coursework and a series of integrated excursions.

## Courses

Students in this program take four courses (Note: students are encouraged to take all courses in Spanish, but may select one course offered in English if needed to fulfill major or minor requirements). All students will take two courses offered by the HWS Faculty Director:

### Spanish Cinema

In this course, students will examine the production of the major Spanish filmmakers from Buñuel to Almodóvar. In order to benefit from the site, the course will also include a segment on directors whose films will be playing in Madrid during the semester. Through film screenings, class discussions, and readings on film theory and film history, class participants will trace the evolution of Spanish cinema through Franco's military dictatorship and under the new democratic system. Themes of exile and censorship, gender and sexuality, religion and sin, love and death, among others, will be explored in the context of Spanish society and in relation to other artistic manifestations of Spanish culture.

### Seminar: Contemporary Spain

This course aims to provide students with an intellectual space to read, speak, and write about the events and the issues that make up the cultural fabric of contemporary Spain. Through analysis of text, and the media's coverage of current events, students will gain a deeper understanding of the place that will be their "home" for a semester. An overview of the civil war and the Franco period will serve as an introduction to the principal focus of the course: Spain since 1975. The meaning of key events of the transition to democracy, such as Tejero's coup in 1981, will be analyzed in the context of Spain's pathway to modernity. Major themes that will be discussed are: the role of religion and the Catholic Church; family values and the sexual revolution; racial configurations in contemporary society; and Spanish changing traditions in the context of "globalization." Topics such as the monarchy; the sequels of Franco's regime; gypsies, ethnicity and immigration; linguistic diversity and national identity, among others, will be coordinated with the calendar of excursions included in the program. Students will keep a journal which will include academic writing as well as personal reflections on the off-campus experience. The class will consist of lectures and group discussions that will be designed with an understanding of the students' different linguistic abilities. Class projects, such as interviewing Spaniards on current issues, will be designed to make use of the site and to foster a more intimate connection between the program participants and their environment.

Two additional courses will be selected from a list of offerings from Suffolk faculty members (one of which may be a language course). Courses that previously have been offered include:

Intermediate Spanish I  
Translation Practicum  
Spanish Cultural Studies  
Cervantes and the Golden Age of Spain  
Art History I  
Art of Baroque and Rococo

Advanced Spanish Conversation and Composition  
Masterpieces of the Spanish Theater  
Nineteenth Century Spanish Novel  
Independent Study—Velazquez  
Latin American Short Narrative

## Academic Focus

The Madrid program is of particular interest to students majoring or minoring in Spanish and Hispanic Studies or European Studies, or students who wish to further enhance their Spanish language skills.