



Spanish House

Prof. Guillermo Rodríguez Program Director

OVERVIEW

Spanish House is a dynamic program designed for students in the Spanish program or those who have studied abroad and are interested in reinforcing their knowledge of this language and related cultures. Members of the program will participate in a variety of events focusing on themes related to the Spanish-speaking diaspora, including dinners, shows, movies, etc. These activities are meant to create a sense of community for the members of the House and also share aspects of the language and cultures with the Global Village members and the University at large. We also sponsor a variety of activities including lectures, film series and the annual Hispanic Forum, all of which are open to the greater Burlington community. By participating in the program, members will have a great opportunity to improve their language skills while living in a supportive environment. Members of Spanish House are thus required to have a minimum proficiency in the Spanish Language, since it is expected that Spanish will be spoken in the program suites. Thus, a requirement to be selected to participate in the program is to be enrolled in a Spanish course during the first semester of living in the House.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The primary purpose of Spanish House is to facilitate the contact with Spanish-speaking cultures and to practice and improve the members' Spanish proficiency. In order to fulfill these goals there are three main sets of interrelated activities:

I. In House Activities: Students will live in two suites at the Living/Learning Center, where they are encouraged to help plan and to participate in program events to strengthen their small community bonds. These activities often include special dinners, discussion of movies, and other similar events where members discuss new ways to achieve the learning experience set as objectives for the House. Members are encouraged to speak Spanish at all times. The student Program Directors are responsible for maintaining the use of the Spanish language in the suite, but it is also in the student members' own best interest to use Spanish at all times particularly during these In House activities.

Each student living in the House is required to participate and collaborate in the organization of at least two of these activities each semester.

II. Out of House Activities: Out-of-House-Activities include the participation in current cultural and social events such as attending meetings and performances. Events in the past have included

experiencing Spanish Flamenco culture at the Flynn, visiting Art exhibits, and attending recently released films related to Hispanic themes.

Additionally, Spanish House has acted as a principal coordinator and sponsor of several activities such as lectures from prominent Hispanic authors, the presentation of Movie Series, and the very successful Annual Hispanic Forum which was established back in 1993. Spanish House plans to continue organizing events that create an atmosphere where issues related to the Spanish diaspora are introduced and discussed among the UVM community and beyond.

Each student living in the House is required to participate and collaborate with the organization of at least two of these activities each semester.



About the Global Village

This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:

- Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
- Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”
- Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
- Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
- “Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: <http://www.uvm.edu/globalvillage>

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar is a largely self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village Residential Learning Community. All new Global Village residents **must** enroll in GRS 095 for one credit during the fall semester or GRS 096 for the spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 095 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill

set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme. We'll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

We'll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in Common Hours and the educational events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in GRS 095 during the fall semester. Enrollment in GRS 096 for one credit during the spring semester is optional and encouraged for all students.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: <http://www.uvm.edu/~gvrlc/passport/GRS095096.pdf>