

December-January HOMEWORK (Deberes)

Complete these assignments during the winter break in December and January

1. **Friends/Amigos: December-January: Introduce yourself and contribute some Fun Facts to our Spain blog!**

You will receive a posting schedule for your introduction and for Fun Facts, but feel free to post MORE facts on additional dates. If your scheduled date is inconvenient because of family travel or events, let us know ASAP, so we can change your date; please don't wait until the scheduled date to tell us it's not convenient! Come to the January meeting prepared to tell us which TWO are the BEST "fun facts" you have seen posted. The top TWO Fun Facts will receive A PRIZE! So make sure to be reading them every day during the holidays and thinking about which ones you like the best. Here's the blog site: <http://blogs.longwood.edu/spain2018/> You must add yourself to the blog (use your regular Longwood log-in info), and choose the Friends Category to introduce yourself, and the Fun Facts Category to post your facts. To post, just click on +New, then Post in the black taskbar at the top; then once you have written your post and added an image, click on the Friends or Fun Facts category in the list on the right, before "publishing".

2. **Choose any movie in Spanish (see if you can find one from SPAIN)** that interests you and watch it. The Library has LOTS and Netflix has LOTS. It can have subtitles if you like. Prepare a sheet with the following information (*en español*):

Title, year, actors.

A list of main events/actions

A list of main characters

A paragraph explaining why you liked or didn't like the ending, or how you would change it.

A paragraph, not two lines. This assignment counts in your Spanish classes.

3. **Think about and plan strategies for the following scenarios** that could happen to you in Valencia; the purpose is to prepare you for all possibilities so that you have a plan and can get the most out of all of your experiences. Write a paragraph in English explaining what you will do in these situations, and *include several possible ideas for each one, not just one idea for each*:

1. What if I get lost in Valencia while going home from the Institute? What if I get lost in the metro?

2. What if I can't say what I want to say, because I don't know a lot of vocabulary?

4. **Choose 2 places within the City of Valencia** (not outside of Valencia) you want to visit, from among the sites listed in our itinerary, and explain (*typed, in Spanish*) why they attract you, what is there about these sites that you want to learn more about or see and why, and give us some info you have found about them. How might these sites have significance for the Spanish class? *En español. Una página.*

Follow these tips for how to do a good job when writing in Spanish: Even though you might now be in a Span 110, 111 or 210 class, use your BEST español, and proof-read it several times for accuracy. Try not to look up more than about 5 words to write this, and use the grammar and vocab. that you already know. So keep it simple, and **do NOT write it in English first and then translate**. That's very important; translating not only makes this task tedious, but will also lead you to use very poor Spanish, and you will not gain in writing facility by doing it that way. **Do not write in English and then put into an electronic translator – or – have a Spanish-speaking friend write it!** This not only is plagiarism, but doesn't help you develop your abilities to actually write in Spanish, which is one of the objectives of this assignment. Besides, really garbled versions can result from electronic translators! Plagiarizing will also get you a grade of 0. Start out completely in Spanish, simple Spanish, brainstorm words you will want to use, make lists of ideas in Spanish, and then write. Do not skimp. These assignments COUNT in your grade. *Completing an assignment by doing the minimum required will earn a grade of C; going beyond the minimum requirement and doing a high-quality job will earn higher grades.*

We will use these in class to discuss where you want to go, and maybe even change our itinerary to be able to visit places we may not have put on the itinerary. So there is a point behind all of this. **Don't come to the Jan.**

meeting without this homework for 3 reasons: it counts in your class grade; you won't be able to participate in group discussions we will have using the homework; and you won't have any input into what we do in Spain.

5. **If you are interested in returning later than the rest of the group, you must give us your preferred return date** by the Feb. meeting date. The cost is usually \$350, plus any difference in air fare for the date you choose. The airline also limits these later return dates to 20% of our group, so we'll accept your request in the order that we receive it, (2-3 students, depending upon how many students we have) but no later than our Feb. meeting date.
6. **If you have not applied for your passport, do so now. This is very important.** Bring 2 copies of the info page to the January meeting (if you have not already turned yours in). Upload a pdf of your info page to the online study abroad application before Jan. 25. We need these for the airlines.
7. **Complete all of the remaining sections in your online study abroad application.**
8. **Get parent signatures on the Parental Statement if you have not already!**
9. **Talk about travel/trip cancellation insurance** with your parents and decide if you are going to purchase it. Here is a comparison website to help you: <http://www.insuremytrip.com/>

Here is what you need to know in order to decide if you want to purchase any trip cancellation insurance:

a) You will be covered by the MAPFRE medical insurance plan while in Spain, which is excellent medical, accident, illness and hospitalization coverage. You do not need additional medical coverage. This coverage is included in your program at no additional cost.

b) However, MAPFRE does not contain any trip cancellation coverage, so that is what we are asking you to look into. We strongly recommend that you purchase a basic trip cancellation policy, to cover such unexpected events as cancellation of flights, delays, lost luggage, serious illness that might prevent you from travelling, etc. All of the flights we have arranged are non-refundable, so in the event of some serious issue preventing you from travelling this kind of insurance is very helpful. The comparison website gives information about different companies' policies so that you can make a decision about whether to buy it and which to buy.

c. At our first April meeting we will want to know if you are purchasing trip cancellation insurance, and we will want to know what company, please. If you decide not to purchase it, that is fine, and we will want to know that also, so that we have a list of who has the insurance and who does not.

d. Purchase the insurance before April 12, and bring your printed confirmation.

10. **If you are interested in a [Longwood Lancers Abroad or Global Engagement scholarship](#),** follow the instructions to apply for a study abroad scholarship before the deadline of February 15. Write a super essay!
11. **Stay excited!** Watch movies in Spanish, research Fun Facts, stay in touch with others in the group, Google the places in the itinerary and see where you will be going!