Valladolid is a city with a thrilling past and an exciting future. Once the capital of Spain, Valladolid’s streets are full of history that can be felt, not only in the buildings that make up the city, but also in the customs that are still observed in the city’s pride in its past and in its sparkling vitality.

Valladolid supports itself with industry—automobile manufacturing, wood production, electronics, glass, metal and design—and features a strong agricultural sector, focused mainly on wine production. The wines of Valladolid, with prize-winners such as Ribera del Duero, Cigales, and Rueda, are celebrated worldwide and considered the best in Spain by many wine connoisseurs.

Valladolid’s location in the center of the northern plateau of Spain, and the fact that it is the capital of the region of Castilla y León, make it a distribution center for merchandise and travelers to all parts of the northwestern Iberian Peninsula. This movement is noticeable in the bustling city, in its commerce, in its numerous bars and restaurants, and in the rich tradition of Valladolid nightlife.

The BCA student in Valladolid can enjoy a unique experience in the city’s setting and in the indispensable experience of being one more member of a Spanish family.

Students immerse themselves in the authentic reality of a culture, in those aspects of Spanish life which are learned every day, and which make students different people when they return to their home countries—more tolerant, wiser, and having acquired a new language and customs.

If you choose to study with BCA in Valladolid, conversational interchanges with Spanish students will help you get to know the exciting world of Valladolid, with unforgettable cafes, theaters, civic and sports activities, and a full schedule of varied cultural activities, which reflect the city’s growing diversity.

If you like nature, Castilla y León is one of the best spots in Spain to enjoy it. Near Valladolid, there are mountains, open countryside, immense plains, and the Cantabrian Sea just three hours away. The small towns around Valladolid, in addition to providing an extraordinary cultural experience, are places where the simplicity of their inhabitants and landscapes will have a lasting impact on you. Close to Valladolid, in spots such as the “Hoces del Río Duratón,” the lakes of Villafáfila, and the Park of Picos de Europa, you can find natural parks and protected spaces, with an incredible variety of animals and plants. You will also learn about the complicated relationship between land, animals, and people, in places such as “Las Túercas de Palencia.”

In the 15 years that Universitas Castellae’s summer program has been operating, we have seen international students change dramatically, and we have seen their interest in returning to visit us—to see again the city, their host families, and their former professors. Our greatest reward is sharing with former students their memories of time spent in Valladolid and hearing about their professional success and their desire to return to Valladolid, to the origin of a personal transformation that was fundamental for their development.

We look forward to welcoming you to Valladolid!

Sincerely,
Sergio Villa and Ricardo de la Fuente
Resident Directors, BCA Valladolid

Sergio Villa

Ricardo de la Fuente
Local to Global: Connecting to Ideas that Matter

Since 1962, BCA Study Abroad has been committed to helping students understand the complexities of the contemporary world by providing challenging academic programs and cross-cultural learning in locations around the globe.

From this start, BCA focused its educational mission on engaging students with ideas that matter.

As educators, we are convinced that no genuine understanding of global issues can be gained without a strong intellectual grounding in the histories, societies and cultures of the region in which our students pursue their studies. Furthermore, we believe that student learning depends heavily on meaningful direct contact with local people whose lives are entwined with and affected by the issues we aim to understand.

By design, a significant component of BCA’s study abroad programs, both through traditional classroom education and in-field learning, is grasping the historical, social and cultural context of the big questions of the human condition.

Through this model, BCA strives to convey a more comprehensive and precise understanding of the world to the students who participate in our programs.
About the Program

BCA-Universitas is a new partnership built on two long traditions in study abroad. Universitas Castallae, operating in Valladolid for 15 years, and BCA Study Abroad are working together to offer an affordable, high-quality program in Spain that focuses on Spanish (Castilian) language, literature, art, history, culture, and courses in the social sciences. Located in the heart of beautiful Valladolid near the historic Plaza del Viejo, Universitas offers students excellent teaching in a city rich in artistic and historic heritage and ideally suited as a center for studying the language and culture of Spain.
UNIVERSITAS CASTELLAE

The BCA Universitas professional and academic staff is composed of highly qualified professors and researchers in the field of Hispanic studies, from both foreign and Spanish universities, and study abroad staff dedicated to student learning.

Our facilities are situated in the very heart of the city of Valladolid, with classrooms and office space located in the historic Plaza del Viejo. These facilities are well-suited to the needs of students, offering convenient classroom locations, audio visual equipment, free access to the Internet, supplementary reference materials and immediate access to the city.
Universitas Castellae is a specialized educational center in Valladolid, Spain, that is dedicated to the study of Spanish language and Hispanic culture for students from the U.S. and around the world.

The BCA-Universitas curriculum features a wide variety of upper-level undergraduate courses including advanced language, literature, art, history, culture and sociology. The courses are developed to ensure advanced critical thinking and maturity of expression and are modified according to students’ levels of preparation and need. Classroom teaching and learning usually takes place in the morning hours. This allows students time in the afternoon to engage with local native speakers, use the city as a language and cultural laboratory, visit museums and neighboring villages, pursue independent study projects and enjoy learning from the local culture by going to the theatre, movies, sports or music events.

Overall, the BCA-Universitas program curricular offerings are divided into three main areas: Spanish Language Courses, Humanities Courses, and Social Sciences Courses. Listed below is just a sampling of the rich array of courses offered at the University. For more recommended courses or to search their offerings for yourself, visit our website at www.BCAstudyabroad.org.

Recommended Spanish Language Courses

**Spanish Phonetics**

The primary objective of this course is to further the development of spoken language skills, with special emphasis on correct pronunciation and tone in Spanish. Students will learn the different forms of Spanish spoken in various regions in Spain and how to adapt style and pronunciation to the geographic area.

**Spanish Grammar and Writing**

To express oneself correctly in Spanish, in both oral and written mediums, requires an extensive knowledge of grammatical rules. Spanish grammar is not an exact science and cannot be reduced to a simple book of rules. Spanish may be characterized by its richness and exacting expressiveness; characteristics that often are ignored by some speakers, through lack of culture or sheer ignorance. Spoken norms, formal language, colloquialisms, familiar speech, rules and exceptions, and linguistic theories all compose a complex system which may seem impractical and difficult. The goal of this course is to achieve greater levels of fluid communications.

**Recommended Humanities Courses**

**History of Modern and Contemporary Spain**

This course is designed to provide students a broad understanding of the socio-cultural environment of modern Spain. The comparison between Spanish history and other societies is necessary to develop students’ understanding of the cultural and linguistic diversity of Spain, as well as provide a reference point for other world views.

**Spanish Culture**

The objective of this course is to provide students with a general understanding of the sociocultural environment of modern Spain. Throughout the course a number of cultural topics will be presented, always compared with the home culture so that students will learn to contextualize their cultural awareness in relation with others. The course attempts to create an appreciation for the cultural and linguistic diversity of Spanish society.

**Recommended Social Sciences Courses**

**Mercosur, European Common Market and North American Treaty**

During the last few decades, the international economy has ceased to be a theme unique to each country and has become a global issue. Each nation’s government has tried, using various economic accords, to maintain and develop their own social and economic structures. Protectionist economic policies of the last century have served to develop a free market economy, which to this day contains a number of important issues that are regulated through international treaties such as NAFTA, MERCOSUR, and the EU. Are we moving toward a global economy? Is this a possible, or even positive development? Are we condemned to be either rich or poor societies? Do international treaties offer coherent, maintainable, long-term economic answers for such countries? Who wins and who loses in this global economic labyrinth? All these questions and many more will be the primary topic of this course.

**Spain and Latin America: Social and Political History and Human Rights**

This course will study the historical evolution of Human Rights in Spanish, modern and contemporary history, considering the different aspects (states, institutions, society) related directly or indirectly with this process. The second part of the course will focus on direct analysis of the main documents related to human rights (such as constitutions, law texts, etc.) to determine the current state of human rights in Spain.
BCA-Universitas offers intensive short-term programs in January and summer with a curriculum that focuses primarily on language acquisition and cultural understanding. These programs include classroom teaching, individual home stays designed to help with language practice, films, cultural activities and local educational excursions.

Course offerings in these short-term programs include the following:

**Spanish Language: Beginning and Intermediate Levels**

Courses are offered at the A1 and A2 levels. B1 level courses will also be offered for students with sufficient mastery of the language who wish to improve their proficiency within the same program.

Students at the initial stages of their study of the Spanish language will focus upon the following three subjects with a total of four hours of classroom instruction each day:

- Spanish Language (2 hours daily)
- Hispanic Culture (1 hour daily)
- Conversation (1 hour daily)

**Spanish Language: Advanced and Superior Levels**

This includes level B2 (for students with sufficient mastery of the language who want to improve their proficiency) and C1 and C2 (for students competent in the active use of the Spanish language who wish to consolidate their mastery of Spanish). Designed for students who have substantial command of the Spanish language, this level allows the student to choose the subjects he/she is most interested in, completing up to four hours daily of classroom instruction:

- Spanish Language and Composition (1.5 hours daily)
- Business Spanish (1.5 hours daily)
- Spanish Literature (1.5 hours daily)
- Art History (1.5 hours daily)
- Conversation (1.5 hours daily)
- Spanish Culture (1.5 hours daily)
- Spanish Phonetics (1.5 hours daily)
- Hispanic American Literature (1.5 hours daily)
- History of Spain (1.5 hours daily)
Living in Valladolid

Once the capital city of Spain, Valladolid is located within an hour’s train ride of Madrid and within easy access of other important cities of the region such as Burgos, Leon, Salamanca, Zamora and Segovia. Rich in artistic and historic heritage, the city is ideally suited as a center for studying the language and culture of Spain. Valladolid is known as the area where the purest “Castellano” form of Spanish is spoken.

Valladolid offers a diverse array of important museums, including the world famous National Religious Sculpture Museum (situated within the splendid frame of the Colegio de San Gregorio), the Oriental Museum, the Contemporary Art Museum, and the Wine Museum of Peñafiel. The Cathedral of Valladolid and the churches of San Miguel, La Cruz, and Las Angustias conserve many objects of great artistic value, while the churches of San Pablo and La Antigua are true architectural treasures in themselves.

The entire city of Valladolid is a classroom and students are encouraged to explore surroundings, which is an ideal way to apply the material learned in class to daily life in the city. There is a wide range of activities to choose from during free time, and taking advantage of these opportunities encourages students to learn more about Hispanic culture and advance more quickly in improving Spanish language skills.

Life with a Host Family
Experience Spanish life firsthand by living with a Spanish family carefully selected and evaluated to ensure students receive complete immersion within the Spanish language, culture, and traditional social environment.

Local Transportation
In Spain, students can take advantage of RENFE, the national train system. Trains and buses connect most of the cities and rural areas in the country. Bus tickets are available at the Estación de Autobuses or Estación Campo Grande (train station) in Valladolid. To travel through Europe, purchase a Eurorail pass.

Activities
Valladolid is a walkable city and offers visiting students and its permanent residents alike a wide range of recreational and cultural activities, including ceramics workshops, live theatre, regional dance, concerts and a variety of performances. Each October, the city hosts a major film festival: the Cinema International Festival (SEMINCI). In the spring, the city is home to one of the most impressive celebrations of the Holy Week (Semana Santa) in the world.

Our BCA-Universitas program considers the entire city to be a classroom, and our intellectual and cross-cultural expectations for student involvement are high.

EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS
One of the benefits of studying abroad with BCA is the excursions offered throughout the semester included in the program fee. Each semester, students participate in three guided weekend educational excursions to various regions of Spain. Common destinations include local towns such as Salamanca, Segovia or the “Ruta del Mudéjar,” however, destinations sometimes change.
Mission Statement
Rooted in the values of peace and justice, BCA Study Abroad promotes international understanding, awareness of global citizenship and academic scholarship through educational exchange.

BCA Valladolid Quick Facts
Dates of Study:
• Fall Semester: August 25–December 15
• Spring Semester: January 5–April 27

Application Deadlines:
• Fall Semester: April 15
• Spring Semester: October 15

Language of Instruction: Spanish. Two semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent) are required.

Host Institution: Universitas Castallae
Housing: Host families

BCA Study Abroad
50 Alpha Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
Phone: 1-866-222-6188
Fax: 717-361-6619
Email: inquiry@BCAstudyabroad.org

BCA’s Comprehensive Fee covers:
• University Services
• Academic Advising
• Cultural and University Orientation
• Intensive Language (where applicable)
• Academic Transcript
• On Call International Travel Assistance

BCA Study Abroad Programs: 2012-2013
Austria: Vienna
Belgium: Brussels
China: Dalian, Shanghai
Ecuador: Quito, Upper Amazon
England: Cheltenham
Germany: Marburg
Greece: Athens
India: Chennai
Ireland: Dublin/Derry
Italy: Rome
Japan: Sapporo
Mexico: Xalapa
Morocco: Tetouan
Netherlands: The Hague
New Zealand: Dunedin
Palestine: Birzeit
Spain: Valladolid, Barcelona

www.BCAstudyabroad.org