ELECTIVO SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

Electivo sessions descriptions. Choose one for each time slot. All courses are taught in Spanish.

Beginning: This course taught in Beginning level Spanish. All levels are welcome.

Intermediate: This course taught in Intermediate level Spanish. Intermediate and above level students are encouraged to attend.

Advanced: This course is taught in Advanced Spanish. Advanced level students are encouraged to attend.

South American National Parks (Parques Nacionales de América del Sur)
Silvi Galmozzi • Advanced
South America has lots of things to offer, one of the most amazing gifts we can witness (and visit) is from mother nature herself. Travel with images of parks, reservations, mountains, valleys, and much more, and start planning your next visit to South America.
Join us to learn about 10 National Park, from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Perú.

Latino Artists (Artistas Latinos)
Silvi Galmozzi • Intermediate • Advanced
The world we live in changes and evolves constantly, and it wouldn’t be the same without the invaluable contribution of Latino artists. From actors to dancers, musicians and painters let’s discover the gifts these amazingly talented people have brought to our times for our enjoyment.

Descubriendo EL MATE
Silvi Galmozzi • Intermediate
Your long flight from home has finally touched down in the buzzing city that is Buenos Aires or the beautiful city of Asunción, soon you notice this strangely shaped container that people are holding and sipping from. It’s everywhere! There are even stores dedicated to it! Sometimes they’re wooden and engraved, sometimes they’re metal, big or small. What are these containers and why is everyone obsessed with them!? Come find out and maybe even try some.

Money and Morality on the Camino de Santiago
John Seasholtz • Advanced
The twelfth-century Church expected pilgrims to take a vow of poverty that often conflicted with the realities of a robust money economy along the Camino de Santiago. John Seasholtz will present evidence from contemporary literature, church sculptures and coins to explore the evolution in Church attitudes about money, efforts to control lucrative pilgrim markets, and political and spiritual propaganda.

Golden Age of the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela
John Seasholtz • Beginning
What factors triggered explosive growth in the popularity of the pilgrimage in the twelfth century? John Seasholtz will discuss origins of the legend of St James and evolution of the pilgrimage’s devotional infrastructure. The presentation will focus on the efforts and motivations of two key figures: Bishop/Archbishop Diego Gelmírez of Compostela and King Alfonso VI of León-Castile.
Granada: Tales of a Traveler
Eileen Poxon • Intermediate
Washington Irving described Granada as “one of the most remarkable, romantic and delicious spots in the world”. We will review its deep history while taking a tour of Granada’s monuments including the Alhambra Palace and Generalife, both UNESCO World Heritage Sights. Then we will explore some of the charming surrounding small pueblos in the Lecrin Valley, famed for its verdant landscape.

The Art of Goya
Eileen Poxon • Advanced
Concentrate on your Spanish Art vocabulary while learning about the works of Francisco de Goya y Lucientes. Goya is a bridge between the old masters and the modern 19th & 20th century artists that followed.

Exploring Madrid & Central Spain
Eileen Poxon • Intermediate • Advanced
Are you interested in traveling to Spain but are not sure what to expect or where to start? This electivo will cover highlights on travel to Spain, how to get around and where to stay. Emphasis will be on Madrid and nearby medieval towns that are full of history, art, culture, food and wine.

Las Fallas de Valencia
Jacqueline Hinds • Intermediate
Explore the history of this ancient celebration as well as current traditions. Fallas is a very vibrant and colorful celebration that includes huge structures (ninots) that are built and then set on fire, parades, music, traditional foods and daily percussive fireworks. This session will also take a glimpse into the history of the romance language, Valenciano, which many think predates most Spanish dialects.

The History of Spanish Spoken in the U.S.
Jacqueline Hinds • Intermediate • Advanced
Spanish as Spoken in the U.S.: Learn about the history of Spanish spoken in the United States in broad strokes. The class will include how to discern some regional differences and reliable resources to consult.

Travel Spanish
Jacqueline Hinds • Intermediate
Let’s chat as if we are traveling! This will be a perfect time to practice your travel Spanish and to ask questions...anything from booking a flight, ordering dinner or asking a local for directions.

Fluency Strategies
Janet Gesme • Beginning • Intermediate
Become fluent in Spanish. This class will fill your toolbox with fluency strategies and teach you how to be confident speaking Spanish. Come and collect ideas to keep you going strong in Spanish all year long.

Memorization Techniques
Chuck Hutchings • Beginning
Learn mnemonic devices and other tricks to memorize vocabulary. Bring your grammar manual so you can put your newfound skills to work.

Spanish Pronunciation
Chuck Hutchings • Beginning
Using songs, tongue twisters and common phrases, participants will learn and practice the correct way to pronounce vowels and consonants in Spanish. We will then delve into the perplexing world of syllabication and accentuation.
El Espíritu de los Quechua: Amar, Trabajar y Aprender
Jessica Bollinger • Intermediate
This session will present the tenets of life for this interesting and important group of people and their rules of 3 (love, work and learn; don’t lie, don’t steal, don’t be lazy; anaconda, puma y condor; and the 3 realms of the world).

The Culture & History of Tapas
David Engel • Intermediate
This culinary tour of Spain will include the culture and history of tapas in various regions of Spain. Samples will be provided.