My semester in...

Granada, Spain

Basic Information
1. Four months in fall 2016.
2. Lived with host family.
3. Took 20 credits of Spanish language, literature, culture, and translation \textit{(entirely in Spanish)} and significantly improved Spanish language skills.
4. Visited 15+ cities in Spain \textit{(including: Barcelona, Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Málaga, Sevilla, Córdoba, Salamanca, and Segovia)}.
5. Collected realia for classroom.

Favorite Experiences
1. Building relationships with students and professors from around the world.
2. Obtaining first-hand insight into Spain’s past and demographic trends through host family.
3. Viewing the 2016 election from an international perspective.
4. Buying sweets from mysterious nuns.
5. Experiencing authentic Spanish cuisine with host mom’s five-star cooking.
6. Playing word games with native Spanish speakers… and winning.
7. Being asked to give an impromptu speech \textit{(in Spanish)} about the meaning of Thanksgiving to native Spaniards.
8. Teaching English students about Christmas traditions in the US.
9. Stumbling upon religious processions in Granada and Salamanca.
10. Connecting material learned in the classroom to real-life experiences.
Semester in Spain, continued

Principal Outcomes

1. A deeper understanding of cultural and religious diversity (particularly regarding Islam due to Islamic Culture in Spain class).

2. Appreciation and a new understanding of the role that America plays in the world.

3. A sense of accomplishment and self-confidence for successfully planning and executing many travel experiences.

4. A desire to share my love of Spain and the Spanish language with my future students.

5. A desire to dispel stereotypes and fear of other cultures in my students.

6. Spanish proficiency rated at Intermediate High (speaking) and Advanced Mid (writing) by ACTFL.