

the **epic** ADVANTAGE

Student/Faculty Collaborative Research Experience

EPIC ADVANTAGE: Camino de Santiago (Spain): Land, People, and Culture

Dates: May 8, 2018 Arrive in Madrid

June 4, 2018 Return to Madrid

Leaders: Andy Moore, Belen Villarreal

Application Deadline: November 6, 2017

Description of Experience and Research:

Students will walk together from Burgos to Santiago on the Camino Frances, a medieval to modern pilgrimage route across northern Spain. Students can expect to walk 20-30 km per day through some of the most spectacular scenery Iberia has to offer. We'll witness the collision of two continents to throw up the Variscan Mountains; successive invasions of Romans, Moors, French, and English; and the heart of the modern Spanish language.

With Belen's research, students will engage fully with local Spaniards, their fellow pilgrims, as well as the Camino itself--the land, flora, fauna, history, legends, etc. The contact that students will have not only with a wide variety of Spaniards but also with pilgrims from all corners of the world means that they will have access to a uniquely diverse pool of subjects whom they could interview on the topic of their choice. The research students will do on this program will consist of data collection such as personal interviews with local Spaniards, fellow pilgrims, etc. and personal observations/collecting samples (photos, reading newspapers, etc.), administering surveys/questionnaires, etc.. While students with knowledge of Spanish may find that they have more resources available to them, it is by no means necessary to speak Spanish in order to carry out research while on the Camino.

Andy's research will be to create a booklet and map on the natural history of the Camino. We'll use both library and field resources, and collect imagery to help explain the landscape of the Camino to non-scientists. Students can expect to work with Spanish speaking students to help with Spanish scientific reports, and to work together to interpret the natural history in ways that make it come alive for others.

Expectations for Students:

Students need to be able to walk 20-30 km per day, every day, carrying 10-15 kg of gear in a backpack. They should be prepared to live in close company with others, and to be able to continue working on their project even when tired.





Faculty:

Belen Villarreal is professor of Spanish and Hispanic Studies at Earlham College. Her research interests include questions of language and identity, language contact, and language attitudes among Spanish speakers. Belén co-led the Camino de Santiago May Term in 2016 and has also assisted with language and cultural immersion programs in the Copper Canyon of Mexico and Granada, Spain.

Andrew Moore teaches earth history and geomorphology in the geology department at Earlham. He's taught field geology and geologic mapping at Kent State University and the University of Washington, and has led field geology trips to Hawaii, Yellowstone, and Japan. He's also taken students to do geologic research in the Pacific Northwest, Newfoundland, Japan, and Tanzania. This will be his third time walking the Camino.

Dates of Experience: We plan to arrive in Madrid May 8, and begin walking from Burgos on May 10. We'll return to Madrid on June 4.

Application Dates: Applications can be received from students starting on Oct. 15, 2017. Application window closes on November 6, 2017.

Link to Application: [Apply in Handshake](#)

Student Eligibility: Rising sophomores, rising juniors, or rising seniors.

Cost to Student: This is EPIC ADVANTAGE and the student experience is funded. This includes passport, visa, travel, room and board, and other expenses required by the program. Personal expenses will be covered by the student.

Program plans subject to change.