

Upcoming Dates:

April 2
Madrid Bike Tour

April 5
Film Club:
"Pa Negre"

April 6
Flamenco at
CasaPatatas

April 8-10
Trip to Santander

April 12
Round table:
The Middle East

April 21-22
Semana Santa
(Spanish National
holidays)

April 1-5
2nd Astronomy
Trip

April 27-28
Last day of
classes

April 29 - May 5
Final Exams

May 5
Commencement
& Farewell Dinner



South to Granada



Left: La Alhambra and Sierra Nevada.

Right: Student Sam Whittle shown in the Palace of Carlos V.



The southern Spanish city of Granada is home to the Alhambra, the Moorish royal city which lies nestled in the steep foothills of Sierra Nevada. Suffolk Madrid students experienced Granada's heritage, a mixture of cultures that is breathtakingly beautiful. Students wound their way along the streets that lead up to *El Mirador de San Nicolás*, hurrying to get there in time for the spectacular views of La Alhambra at sunset. Along the way, they took in the myriad of colors and scents of El Albaicín, full of traditional Moorish *teterías*, bazaars and traditional Arab baths.

Inside the Alhambra, the Palace of Carlos V, Nasrid palaces, Washington Irving's living quarters and Generalife gardens surpassed students' expectations. Professor Ángel González provided the historic context for another important chapter in Granada's history, which was the province's absorption into Ferdinand of Aragón and Isabella of Castile's united Spain. The Catholic Monarchs lie buried in a crypt in the Royal Chapel, expressly built at their request and annexed to the Cathedral of Granada.

An especially impressive backdrop to the Granada's beauty are the snowcapped mountains of La Sierra Nevada, beckoning visitors to stay a while longer.

-photographs courtesy of student Christina Caso

Back to Lisbon



Left: Students posed at Cabo da Roca with the Atlantic Ocean in the background.

Right: Lisbon's Alfama district, near the Castelo de Sao Jorge.



Due to popular demand, students made a second Lisbon trip in March. We took a night bus to allow for more time in the city, and after eight hours riding through Extramadura and eastern Portugal, we tipped off the visit with a walking tour of the old city. Tired but psyched, the crew was drawn in by the allure of Lisbon's Bairro Alto, Baixa-Chiado and Alfama quarters. Friday night at the Clube de Fado show transfixed our group, and the musicians gifted us with an unexpected encore set! On Saturday we went west to Cabo da Roca lighthouse (pictured above left), and then on to Sintra and its Palácio da Pena, a fantastical 19th C. palace whimsical mixture of architectural styles in a brilliant display of royal economic power and creativity. On Sunday, some students opted to visit the Gulbenkian Museum and its immensely eclectic collection of art, with everything from Egypt to Monet. Another group climbed to the hilltop in Alfama to see the Castelo do Sao Jorge and the best views of the Tagus River. Still others decided to take advantage of the last opportunity to get souvenirs in the city center, and we all met up for the last Portuguese meal of baked cod, in just one of the 365 ways the locals prepare it!

-photographs courtesy of student Austin Shide

Astronomy Trip to the Canary Islands



Left: Astronomy students entering the observatory on El Teide, Tenerife.

Center: Professor de la Fuente watches as students enact a closing ceremony to the night sky observations.



Bottom left: Students G. Fors, C. Roberts, T. Webber, S. Rodríguez, M. Assad and C. Campobasso listen as Prof. Dr. Raúl de la Fuente explains their project in the observatory.

Not everyday does the chance come along to study astronomy in one of the world's foremost observatories. SUMC students, though, are fortunate to be able to travel to the Teide Observatory in the Canary Islands and get an unparalleled glimpse into space. Famous for his frequent quote that Astronomy observations require great "pain and suffering", Professor Raúl de la Fuente received a heartfelt dedication from students, who wrote his quote with snow on the pavement in front of the observatory. Students spent five days on Tenerife, with very little time for sleep, since the observations must be done throughout the night. Despite the lack of sleep, students found energy not only for night observations of space, but also for visiting ancient ruins, and an animal reserve.

-photographs courtesy of student Austin Shide

Horseback Riding in La Sierra de Guadarrama



Bottom row, L-R: N. Zarowny, J.L. Singer, J. Furtado, J. Cruz, K. Dwyer, M. Sutton. Back row: L. Nortrup, A. Gordon, M. Liriano, S. Maclsaac, N. Rzeszotko, F. Kennedy, C. Cannon and J. Ngyugen. Right: J.L.Singer getting ready to head out.



A group of thirty SUMC students headed out to the mountains on March 18th to go horseback riding in Los Molinos. Students liked getting out of the city for a few hours, and some were debuting in the art of riding horses; for others, it had been several years since the last equestrian experience, but everyone enjoyed the ride.

Sierra de Gredos with SOC 379

Dr. William Kavanagh recently took his class of Anthropological Perspectives on Spain to visit the region between Madrid and Barco de Ávila. The class visited San Martín de Valdeiglesias, the pre-historic Toros de Guisando, the Roman Road in Puerto del Pico, and Barco de Ávila. A special treat for students was their first-hand view of Navalguijo, a pristine village in Ávila, and an outstanding example of rural life.

Left: Prof. W. Kavanagh at Los Toros de Guisando, with students E. Bueno, S. Catule, E. Cook, N. Coronado, V. Dunlop, E. Farren, J. Gibbons, B. Koch, A. Monush, M. Neimerck, A. Ortiz, T. Papelashuili, and S. Rodríguez.



To contribute photos or articles to the SUMC newsletter, contact Ms. McAllister at amy@suffolk.es