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### Diablo Valley College Course

INTD-100: Study Abroad Life and Culture

#### Description

This course introduces students to the norms, culture, social structures, economic, and political systems of a foreign country as part of the study abroad program. Students learn about another culture through lectures by local experts, organized field trips, and authentic experiences.

#### General Information

<b>Department:</b>	Independent
<b>Division:</b>	Independent
<b>Units:</b>	3.00
<b>Grade Code:</b>	Student choice
<b>Repeatability:</b>	0
<b>Max day class size:</b>	45
<b>Max night class size:</b>	45

#### Number of Hours

##### Per Semester

<b>Lecture:</b>	54.00
<b>Laboratory:</b>	0.00
<b>Activity:</b>	0.00

##### By Arrangement

<b>Lecture:</b>	0.00
<b>Laboratory:</b>	0.00
<b>Activity:</b>	0.00

#### Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- A. Identify major political, social, cultural, historic, and economic aspects of the host country.
- B. Analyze the impact that the host country's history has on current trends in society.
- C. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in connection to important topics associated with the host country's history and culture.
- D. Identify and analyze the significance of various historical, political, and cultural sites of interest in the host country.
- E. Analyze the salient similarities and differences between United States culture and the culture of the host country.

#### Content

- A. Historical and geopolitical background
  - 1. Political aspects
  - 2. Social aspects
  - 3. Cultural aspects
  - 4. Economic aspects
  - 5. Relationships within the geopolitical region
- B. Current cultural beliefs and social systems
  - 1. Social and class structures
  - 2. Language
  - 3. Race and ethnicity
  - 4. Religion
  - 5. Social norms
- C. Food and diet
  - 1. Cuisine
  - 2. Social habits and etiquette
  - 3. Festivals
  - 4. Agricultural production
- D. The Arts
  - 1. Music
  - 2. Visual arts
  - 3. Architecture
  - 4. Literature
  - 5. Film
  - 6. Dance
  - 7. Theater
- E. Geography
  - 1. Historical and popular landmarks and their historical significance
  - 2. Traveling in the country
  - 3. Traveling in the region
- F. Recreation and sports
  - 1. Popular leisure activities
  - 2. Sports and games

### Methods

Lecture, Demonstration, Discussion

### Assignments

**Reading 1:** Visit the website of a local media outlet. Choose a current event that is being covered and familiarize yourself with the issues involved. Come to class prepared to present those issues and discuss the differences between local perceptions and opinions and how Americans might respond to that same event.

**Reading 2:** From the textbook, read the chapter on early history of your host country. Observe the daily lives of the residents. Write a short paper that traces behaviors or customs back to their roots.

**Writing, problem solving, performance 1:** Choosing from one of the following fields: arts, literature, sport, or cuisine; prepare a presentation outlining that field's origins and contribution to society.

**Writing, problem solving, performance 2:** Write a 500-page paper discussing the influence of American popular culture on your host country.

### Evaluation

**Sample One:** How is the head of state selected in the host country and what are the advantages and disadvantages of such system?

**Sample Two:** Describe the factors that influence the relative value of the host country's currency and the US dollar.

- Frequency of Evaluation:** Evaluations will adhere to the DVC "Fairness in Grading" guidelines and will include as a minimum:
- Evaluation of students within the first quarter of the course and notifying student of the results
  - Counting a final examination for no more than one-half the course grade
  - Basing final grades on at least three students' tests and/or reports

**Sample Textbook. See the current course syllabus or [bookcenter.dvc.edu](http://bookcenter.dvc.edu) for the actual course textbook.**

**Book One**

**Author:** Whittacker, Andrew  
**Title:** Speak the Culture, Britain  
**Publisher:**  
**City:**  
**Year:** 2011

**Book Two**

**Author:** Whittacker, Andrew  
**Title:** Speak the Culture, Italy  
**Publisher:**  
**City:**  
**Year:** 2011

**Other**

**Approval Date**

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