Seville is an ideal place to explore Spain’s dynamic present and fascinating past. In Seville, students grapple with the combination of cultures, aesthetic and religious traditions that are sometimes integrated and sometimes superimposed on one another. As such, the city provides a vantage point for the study of contemporary Spain where the complex amalgam of Spanish history can be seen in its architecture and art, in struggles for power, in the socio-centrism of families, neighborhoods, cities, and regions, and in moments of confrontation between different parts of Spain, between Spain and its former colonies, and between Spain and the rest of Europe.

The contributions of various cultures have left Seville with a distinct personality and a large and well-preserved historical center. Founded by the Romans, the city is over 2200 years old and boasts several significant archaeological sites, including the extensively excavated nearby Italica, the third largest city in the Roman Empire. Throughout the centuries, Seville maintained a prominent position—as the capital of several Moorish dynasties and the economic epicenter of the Spanish colonial expansion and trade. Ferdinand Magellan and Christopher Columbus sailed the world from Seville. The General Archives of the Indies, one of the three UNESCO World Heritage Sites located in Seville, offers unexplored opportunities for research of Spanish colonial period. Today Seville is a dynamic, bustling and sophisticated European city with a rich array of restaurants, festivals, public rituals, music, theater, movies, and wonderful parks, river walks, and boat tours. There is something to please everyone.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN SEVILLE

A typical semester course load includes:
- Seminario Cultural (required for all participants in their first semester)
- One course at the CASA-Seville Center (find sample Center courses on website)
- Three courses taken directly at the University of Seville

THE SEMINARIO CULTURAL

Unique to this program, the Seminario Cultural provides a structured way to assist students in setting and achieving their personalized learning goals. This Seminario provides individualized language instruction, preparation for university study at the University of Seville, specialized field trips, and placements with partner community organizations.

The Seminario runs for several weeks before classes begin at the University of Seville and continues in a condensed form throughout the academic semester. During the semester, students spend 2-4 hours a week with a community organization and then meet as a group to reflect and share learning experiences. Community organizations vary, but have included social service agencies, community radio, a local hospital, urban garden, and bilingual education. At the end of the semester, summarize their learning goals and achievements in a portfolio and individual research project.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SEVILLE

All students matriculate at the University of Seville where they have the opportunity to meet local students, experience a new academic system, and study a large variety of disciplines in this university of nearly 70,000 students.

Established in 1502 by royal warrant, the University of Seville is one of the oldest universities in Spain. Today, the University boasts an enrollment of more than 70,000 students divided between seventeen faculties across several campuses. The main university building—in central Seville and convenient to the program center—houses the faculties of history and geography and philology, the principal schools in which program students are most likely to take courses. This building was once a tobacco factory—the same one where the heroine in Bizet’s opera Carmen was employed.

HOUSING

To increase integration and ease adaptation, all students live with Sevillano families and become active participants in Spanish domestic life. All meals are provided. The program takes full advantage of Seville, the capital and largest city of Andalusia, to offer students a multidimensional academic and socio-cultural immersion experience.