



# NORTHWEST CADIZ PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE STUDIES

## PEOPLE

Meaningful relationships between individuals and communities form a cornerstone of this program.

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## PLACES

Cadiz offers students a historically significant and culturally rich home for their diverse journeys of discovery.

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## EXPERIENCES

Students return to the US with more than suitcases, they carry memories of new friendships, diverse cultures, studying, volunteering, working, and celebrating.

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# Changing Lives

Studying abroad can be transformative.

Students who participate in the NW Cadiz Program often forge meaningful relationships, embrace challenges, and create lasting memories during their time in Spain.

## RELATIONSHIPS

This program recognizes that relationships shape student experiences, and that learning can be social as well as solitary. The NW Cadiz Program has partnered with individuals and organizations in Spain and the United States for nearly two decades, and these enduring relationships are fundamental in demonstrating core values of the program and positioning students to build enduring relationships of their own.

## TRAVEL

Cadiz is more than a Spanish city—walking through the narrow streets is like journeying through time to lost civilizations such as Phoenicia, Ancient Rome, and Al-Andalus. Students follow these traces on program excursions to historically and culturally important sites.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

The wide array of opportunities open to students is what makes the program so successful. Students are encouraged to live up to their full potential, hone their existing skills, and develop new perspectives through community involvement, service learning, and exploration.





## PEOPLE make the Northwest Cadiz Program special.

Students who study abroad in Cadiz aren't confined to learning in classrooms. Host families embrace their role in providing a home for students, and the community welcomes student involvement in everything from public elementary schools to local celebrations. As a result, Interpersonal relationships and community engagement help students develop confidence, cultural competency, and a sense of belonging.



From the moment they arrive, students enjoy a comprehensive network of support that includes attentive host families, engaging professors, an active university community, local medical facilities, experienced extracurricular instructors (especially in dance and the arts), and of course, dedicated program administrators.

The local community welcomes student involvement, and those who have chosen to work with children in public schools, volunteer with elders, or join teams of local volunteers to participate in community projects have forged lasting bonds.

### HOST FAMILIES

The NW Cadiz Program recognizes the central role that host families play in the student's study abroad experience. Host families who work with the program open not only their homes but their hearts to the students who stay with them, and often, the connection between family and student endures long after the program has ended. Some families in Cadiz have even hosted the siblings, cousins, and friends of students who have stayed with them before.

### COMMUNITY OF GADITANOS

As a port city, Cadiz's cultural legacy is one of openness and curiosity. Perhaps for this reason, students find themselves incorporated into the special rhythm of the city almost as soon as they arrive.

### UNIVERSITY OF CADIZ

Professors who work with the program are encouraging and knowledgeable, not only about the subjects they teach, but about the challenges and academic potential of study abroad students.

### VOLUNTEERING

Another way that students connect with others is by volunteering their time. Interested students can help teach English to children in public schools, clean up beaches, spend time with the elderly, or create their own volunteer opportunities.

### TEACHING

Some students earn money teaching English to children—or even other college students!

### STUDENTS

What unites the students who participate in the NW Cadiz Program is their interest in the world and their desire to learn.





The city of Cádiz, one of the oldest continuously occupied cities in Western Europe, is the ideal location for a study abroad program. Cadiz's security and small-town warmth belie the city's history as a treasure port of the Spanish Empire and birthplace of the liberal Spanish Constitution of 1812. That rich history is apparent throughout the city, and students can easily walk through from the University of Cadiz to Roman and Phoenician ruins to the beach in one afternoon. While the university boasts varied course offerings for students in almost every field of study, the central market down the street offers an overwhelming array of fresh fish, local produce, and homemade tapas. Students in Cadiz can find food for their bodies and minds at every turn. Excursions to Spanish cities like Salamanca, Granada, and Lisbon help to contextualize the coursework students undertake in the classroom, and in turn, students in the NW Cadiz Program refine their understanding of their own place in the larger world and the histories and relationships that define them.







## History

“Working here is not just a question of teaching Spanish, it is much more than that.”

—NW Cadiz Program Professor Alicia Mariscal



## Food

“You’re not going to be the same person when you return to the United States. I warn you that you’re going to gain weight.”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Family

“You’re going to love your family here, and I’d advise you not to be shy with them.”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Peers

“You’re going to have a good, friendly family, you’re going to see new cultures and languages, and you’re going to make new friends.”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Community

“You will meet amazing people, travel a lot, there will be days when you feel like you’re living in a dream because everything happening is so incredible.”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Experiential Learning

“Creating a shared sense of community that encourages vision and commitment to others leads to holistic learning and meaningful contributions.”

—NW Cadiz Program Resident Director, Rita Serghini



## New Experiences

“Coming to Cadiz was not an easy decision, but I promise you it’s worth it!”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Personal Growth

“Thanks to this program... I’ve reached my goals and faced various obstacles... That has made me a better person, and it has made me much stronger.”

—NW Cadiz Program Student



## Academic Opportunity

“The experience is quite engaging... the students are highly motivated... they really participate and want to learn...they are open to the world, they want to see.”

—NW Cadiz Program Professor M.C. Fernández



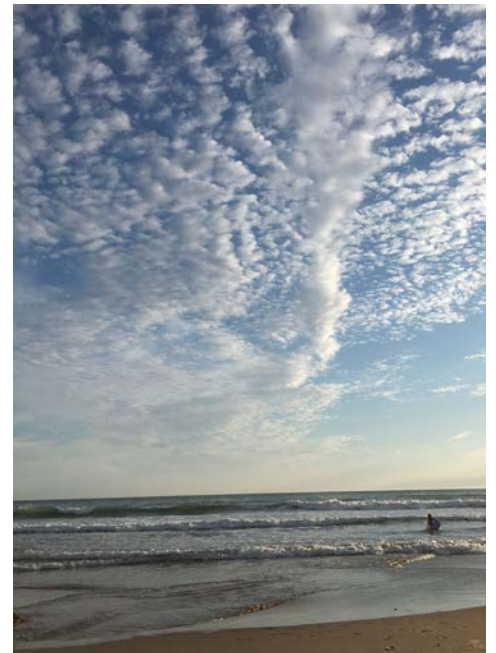
## EXPERIENCING LIFE ABROAD

Studying abroad can be an exciting challenge when students are able to seek the support they need to be successful while exercising their independence.

Students in the NW Cadiz Program strike that balance by participating in a cohesive community at home with host families, in the university with professors and program administrators, as well as with fellow students, and throughout the city.

Indeed, a number of students who have participated in the NW Cadiz Program in the past have found life in Spain so captivating that they have returned to country to live, teach English, or pursue further studies. Many have even returned to the city of Cadiz.

Students returning home often reflect on how they have changed, and remark upon how improvement in Spanish fluency and increased confidence is accompanied by the acquisition of new leadership skills, cultural competency, and a more expansive understanding of the world.



## NW CADIZ PROGRAM

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