



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

HONORS PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

for Indiana high school students

IUHPFL ALMERÍA 2025

¿ESTÁIS LISTOS/AS PARA
UN VERANO INOLVIDABLE?

Schedule

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Instructor presentation with Students and Guardians (we may finish early!)

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Students and instructors eat lunch together in English.

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Students and instructors' session in Spanish.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Parents are free to grab lunch in the IMU or on Kirkwood (about 5 min walk from IMU). Have to be back to Whittenberger Auditorium by 2:00 PM

3:15 - 3:45 PM

Whittenberger Auditorium



Introductions

Instructor Team

Alicia

- From Sevilla, Spain
- Hispanic Linguistics M.A. Student
- Linguistic and translator
- Lived, worked and studied in Spain, Ireland, Poland, France and Indiana.

Mónica

- From Puerto Rico
- PhD candidate at IU in Hispanic Literatures
- 4th year as an instructor in HPFL
- Lived, worked and studied in Spain

Nick

- From Michigan, USA
- Hispanic Linguistics PhD Student
- Lived in León, Spain for 1 year after graduating undergrad



Overview

- Introduction to Almería and onsite coordinators
- Tentative Daily Schedule
- Courses, Afternoon Activities, Free Time, Curfew
- Program magazine and farewell show
- Excursions and weekends
- Parents: How to follow your kid's adventures
- Travel, preparation, and packing
- Money
- Communication while abroad
- Health and Safety
- Host Family
- Honor Code and Language Commitment
- Alumni
- Questions



Please hold all questions until the end of the presentation!



Living in Almería

Where is Almería located in Spain?





How is Almería?!

Let's take a look...

<https://youtu.be/-0AAie0EDbg?si=1psXOMq7XU-6EBOF>

Introductions

Housing Coordinator

Patricia Fernández Rodríguez



Patricia is the director of London Thames Language School and Almeria Spanish School, founded by her father 45 years ago. She teaches music and English, with experience in Mojácar, Turre, and London. Patricia handles various roles in the school, including management, marketing, and customer service. She also offers linguistic and leisure services to Spanish and foreign companies. Passionate about arts, music, and literature, she enjoys exploring diverse cultures.

Student Services Coordinator

María del Mar Garrido

Mar has lived in several countries, with her first international experience as a student in Indiana, USA, where she discovered her passion for languages and international experiences. Later, she studied in Exeter, England, for a year, where she was part of the International Students Office. She used to spend long periods of time in Paris, where her family lived for 15 years, and she also taught in the city after obtaining her master's degree in Granada in the field of Modern Languages. Currently based in Spain, she works as a coordinator of international programs in various cities, ensuring that students from all over the world have successful and enriching experiences in Spain.



Team Identity and Vision

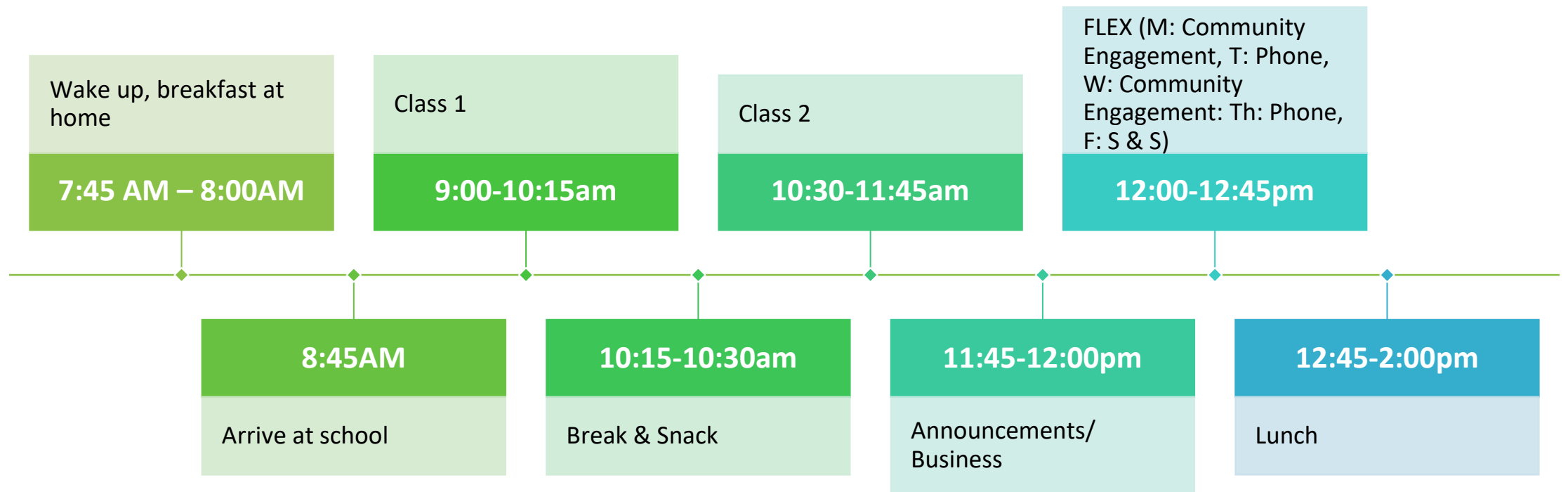
¡Somos los indalos!



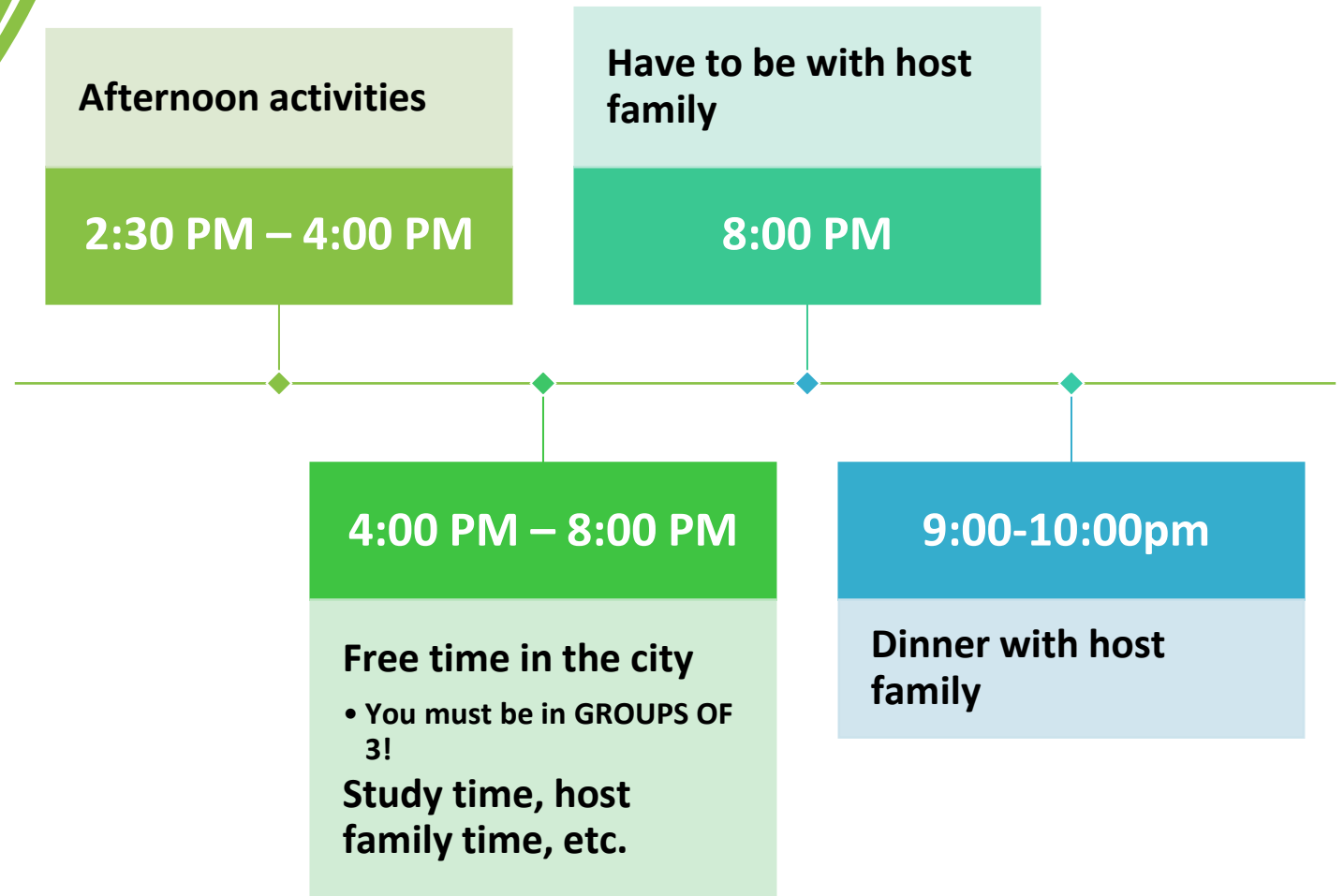
- We are indalos in search of unity!
- Team goals this summer:
 - Each team member (i.e., instructors and students) need to identify our individual goals!
 - Works towards those goals!
 - Support each other to make sure that we, as a team, reach our goals!
- The **indalos** are united as a diverse group, in a bond that begins within each person as a personal quest and connects us with the vastness that we are coming to know. Each of us holds a rainbow of dreams that will make our desires come true. By exploring our diverse worlds, we keep each other company.

Weekdays

Monday-Friday (tentative)



Weekdays Monday-Friday Afternoons and Evenings



Academics

- You will be taking two primary course modules: Language and Culture
 - These two classes will meet daily for 75 minutes each.
 - You will be assessed and received a grade for your overall IUHPFL coursework.
- Twice a week: Community Engagement module
 - Designed to link our class work with the excursions and cultural activities we do outside of class.
 - Prepare for our excursions and activities and debrief after they occur
- You **MUST** bring your course books with you to Spain!



Afternoon Activities

- After class each day, we'll do some sort of afternoon activity
 - Sports
 - Working on program site magazine or farewell show
 - Community or cultural engagement activity, such as
 - Centro de Interpretación Patrimonial
 - Civil War Shelters
- It is possible that some “afternoon activities” will occur at other times (e.g., if a local site we want to visit is only open in the morning)
- Flexibility in study abroad is key!

Free Time and Curfew

- Our afternoon activities will end around 4pm.
- You will then have free time from 4pm until curfew to explore the city in groups of three or more program participants.
 - Why groups of three?
- Our curfew is 8pm.
 - At curfew, you **MUST** be back under the supervision of your host family.
 - This doesn't mean you have to be home! You just have to be **with** your host family.



Program site magazine and Farewell Show



- Program magazine: a scrapbook-style souvenir that each student will contribute to during the program
 - Printed and bound at the end of the program
 - One copy to each student and to each host family
 - Student-led
 - Poems, drawings, recipes, memories, sayings, puzzles
- Farewell show: Variety-style show put on by students at the end of the program to celebrate achievements, thank host families and onsite staff
 - Student-led
 - Features skits, dance, musical numbers, poems or readings
 - Each student participates in some way
- Start thinking about how you might want to contribute!!



- We will take three excursions (outside of the host city) this summer
 - Two single-day trips
 - One 2-night trip at the end

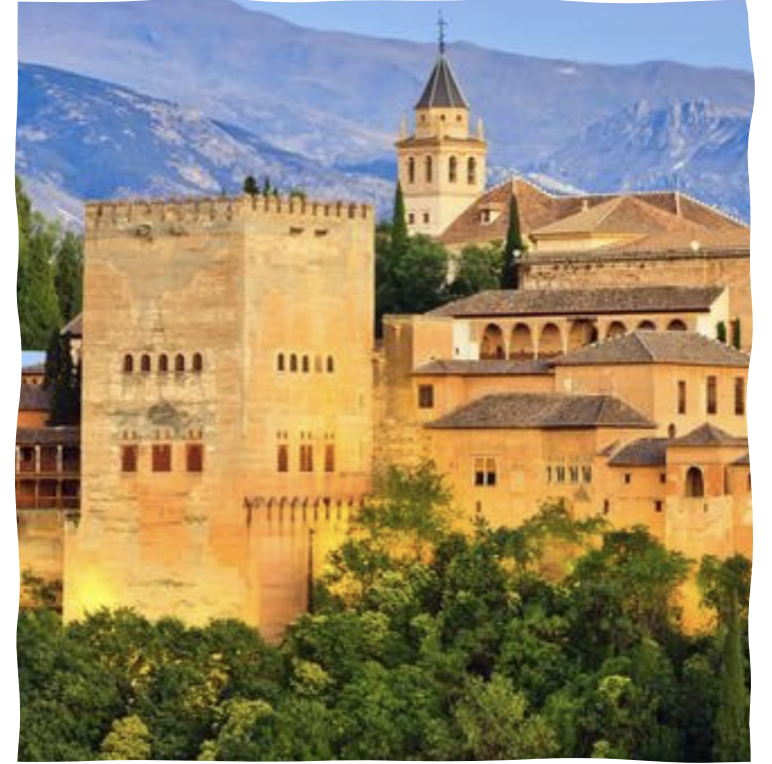
Quick overview of
excursions

Excursions



Guadix (Almería)





Granada (Andalucía)



Madrid

Weekends

Saturday-Sunday

- Weekends are time to be with your host family.
- What weekends look like differs from family to family/student to student **and that's OK.**
 - Hikes, mini excursions
 - Time with extended family or friends
 - Time around the house, games, movies
- The goal is to enjoy, soak in as much as you can, be a part of the family and do what they do



Host Family: Tips for Successful Host Family Experience

- Be aware of family habits and routines; when you're not sure about something— ask!
 - Try to adapt and be part of the family; offer to help with chores or dinner
- Pay attention to your use of home resources (e.g., water, electricity), ask about norms for showering, lights, fans/AC, blinds so that you can follow!
- Be open to new practices and customs AND be willing to share about your customs!
- Ask, ask, ask
- Talk, talk, talk
- Be thoughtful and present; join the family in what they do; express gratitude
- Communicate your needs

Host Family:

What if things aren't going great?

- Give yourself and your family some time to adapt!
 - But talk with us right away with any concerns or questions
- We can't help you if we don't know!
- Grounds for a host family change:
 - Physical health/well-being
 - Incompatibility of personalities
 - Host family's lack of time
 - Failure of family to abide by Host Family Guidelines and/or the Honor Code
 - Inappropriate behavior of a host family member towards the student and vice versa.



<http://iuhpfl.Indiana.edu>

 **Indiana University Bloomington**

Contact Us 

Honors Program in Foreign Languages

for Indiana high school students

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Travel Information



Travel plan/Departure Day

- Mónica, Alicia, and Nick will be traveling with students to Spain
- **Departure date:**
 - Wednesday June 11th
 - **REMEMBER that Indianapolis is on Eastern Time!**
 - We must arrive to the airport 3 hours before departure.
 - Wear your IUHPFL t-shirt
- **Arrival at Indianapolis Airport:**
 - We will meet near the American Airlines check-in counters.
 - When all students are accounted for, we will begin the check-in process.
 - Check-in can be a chaotic process!
 - When everyone is checked in, we will take a group picture (i.e., students and family) before heading to security.
 - We will go through **security** together.
- **Be sure you have your passport For the flights**
 - Bring entertainment (e.g., cards, books, crossword puzzles, snacks/treats, MP3 player, etc.) ¡En español, CLARO!
- **Parents:** Please join our Remind group. This will solely be used for one-way (IUHPFL to parent) travel updates (e.g., in cases of flight delays, etc.)

Departure Day Do's and Don'ts

Do...

- Try and rest the night before (we know it is difficult when you are nervous).
- Weigh your suitcase before leaving home.
 - You don't want to have to repack at the American counter!
- Bring snacks to the airport. Food at the airport is more expensive and you will want to save money for Spain.

Departure Day Do's and Don'ts

Don't...

- Wait until the last minute to pack!
- Forget to check power cords, adaptors and medication before leaving!
- Leave any liquids over 3oz in your carry-on. They will have to be thrown away during security!

Departure Day

What to have on hand...



Passport, passport, passport!



Flight information / boarding passes (students will be responsible for theirs after check-in).



Any medication you (might) need while at the airport or on the plane.



Eye-glasses or additional contact lenses in case you don't want to wear contacts on the plane.



Make sure you have **EUROS** in hand before you come to the airport.

Most banks can order **EUROS**, but it can take a few days for them to arrive.



Bring a backpack and (if desired) a collapsible duffle bag for any new purchases.

Travel Plan/Departure Day

- We arrive to Madrid
- We will bus to Almería from Madrid, which is a **6-hour** trip.
 - We will make a short stop so that students can use the restroom and have a light meal (e.g., *bocadillo de tortilla de patatas, pechuga de pollo, jamón con queso*).
 - It is very important students have EUROS for buying some food.
- Please follow the flights on Google
 - You can google search the status of all flights!

Alicia will send a message on Remind app when we have arrived in Almería

A note about return travel

- We are currently scheduled to return to the Indianapolis airport on July 15th at 6:43PM (Eastern Time).
 - Flight times may change! Please check.
 - A parent or guardian **must** be at the airport to pick up their child.
 - If alternate arrangements need to be made (e.g., carpooling), please let the IUHPFL office know via email (iuhpfl@iu.edu)

A note about return travel

- If you are not returning on the group flight, then the IUHPFL office has already approved your travel deviation; they will share those details with us.
 - Unless otherwise approved, a parent/guardian will need to pick up the student at our residence in Madrid on the last night of the program after program activities have ended.
- We (the instructors) will reach out via email about 1 – 1.5 weeks prior to the end of the program to confirm plans for this “hand-off” (e.g., time, location, contact info, etc.).

Travel, preparation and packing

Preparation and packing

Almería can be hot, hot and hot (it is very sunny, 100 °F/ 38°C)

- For the **hot** weather...
 - Short sleeve shirts, shorts or lighter weight pants
 - Cap or hat / sunscreen to apply throughout the day
- **One dress outfit (for the Farewell Show!).**
- **Athletic clothes (for sports and outdoor activities)**
 - Please bring appropriate shoes/clothes for walking long distances (e.g., to the excursions, the beach, and walking in the city)
- **Bathing suit and bathing cap**
- Lunch box and ice packs for daily packed lunch
- **Important! Spaniards don't dress as casually as Americans, so you don't want to bring many yoga pants or sweatpants to wear outside of the house!**



Other things to pack

- Sunscreen/sunblock, insect repellent, water bottle
 - 50 SPF or higher
- Allergy medication (if applicable)
- Contact lenses/glasses; bring extras and prescription
- Brands of make-up, lotion or hygiene products you prefer
- Any and all medications you will need (over-the-counter and prescriptions) for the 5 weeks
 - Bring copy of prescriptions, know generic names
- Digital camera and MP3 player with music in Spanish
 - **No other electronics (this includes smart watches!)**
- Adaptors and convertors
- Feminine hygiene products
- Alarm clock
- A small gift for the family is recommended

Preparation and packing

- You are permitted one checked bag, one carry-on, and one personal item (e.g., purse or small book bag)
 - You are in charge of all of your luggage, so only pack what you can manage yourself!
 - Check airline regulations for size and weight guidelines, other restrictions
- There is a packing list in the site-specific section of your handbook.
- We know it's hard but try to **pack light**. You will be able to do laundry weekly, so you do not need 5 weeks worth of clothes.

Money, Safety, Communication

Money

- Bring some **EUROS** (e.g., 20-50 euros) with you!
- Debit/Credit cards in student's name (Visa/Mastercard)
 - No Discover or American Express
 - No travelers checks
- Call your bank and let them know where, when and how long you will be traveling (this also includes within the United States).
- Take maximum amount of money out at a time from ATMs to avoid excessive fees, but do not keep all of it with you at the same time.
 - Charles Schwab refunds ATM fees!
- BUDGET! (know if you can or cannot obtain more money during the program)
- Cash is often needed in shops or for smaller purchases
- No traveler's check
- Prices in case of emergencies: ER – 150 euros, Doctor's appointment – 75-125 euros.
 - Keep all receipts



Prices in Almería

Postcard (50-78 cents)

Stamp (1 euro)

Café con leche (1,20 euros)

Soda (1,50-3 euros)

Ice cream cone (2-4 euros)

Bus ticket (2 euros)

Movie ticket (9 euros)

Museum ticket (5-10 euros) Free entrance

T-shirt (10-15 euros)

Concert ticket (25-50 euros)

Soccer jersey (65-80 euros)

Money



What students would need money for:



Food during international travel



Lunch/snacks upon arrival in host country (bus from airport to host city)



Personal expenses (products, snacks)



Free time and optional activities



Purchases on excursions (souvenirs, snacks)



One lunch in Madrid that you will cover on your own



Communication while abroad

- Every student will receive a program phone with a local number, so that instructors or host family can get ahold of you and vice versa
- It will come prepaid with a certain amount of money on it, that should be sufficient for the entire program if used for program purposes
- If you use your phone more than needed, you may need to add minutes to your phone
 - Your phone **MUST** always have minutes on it; if you need help adding minutes, talk to one of us!

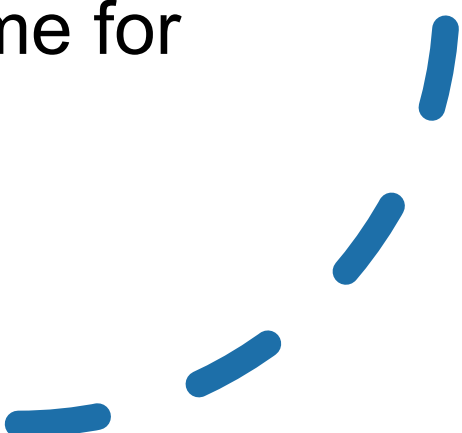
Communication while abroad



- Students will keep their personal smart phones **locked** in magnetic pouches in their possession.
- Generally, they should leave these at their host family's home.
- Students will have an hour of internet time per week; this will be taken on their *own* smart phones at our school on the wifi.
- Students: Unless you have an international roaming plan and want to use it, you will want to **leave your phone on airplane mode** during the entire trip, **turning off roaming** and only using wifi

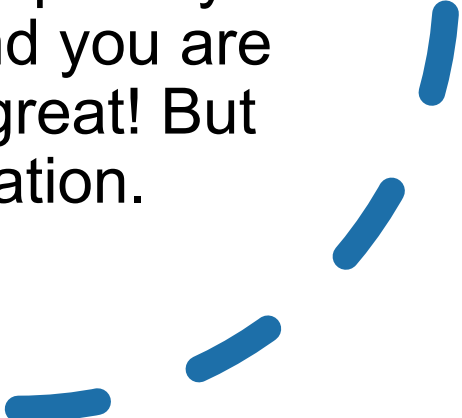


Communication while abroad

- Students will be able to **write** emails, texts during this time
 - You may wish to download a wifi-based text app (e.g., Whataspp) so that your student can text you during this time using wifi
 - Written posts/updates on social media are also fine!
 - No creating/listening to non-Spanish content, so this is not a time for scrolling TikTok, etc.
- 




Communication while abroad

- Internet time will be during our school day, 1-2 days per week.
 - The schedule/timing might change based on what we're doing that day/week.
 - There is no guarantee that your child will be online at a specific time!
 - The assumption with this time is that most communication will be **asynchronous**, sending you written updates of how and what they are doing that you might read a bit after they are sent.
 - If your student happens to capture you at a time you're available and you are able to text back and forth, great! But that shouldn't be the expectation.
- 




Communication while abroad

- Students will not be calling home (or receiving calls from you), except in cases of emergency/necessity
- Parents, when you have a question or need to communicate something to your child, contact the IUHPFL office first.
 - We are in regular contact with them; they will let us know if/when something is needed and how to respond.
 - They will put us (instructor-parent or student-parent) in direct contact when needed.
- Follow our activities on the blog We know it's not the same, but it can help!



One final note about phones

- Students **will** have access to their own smart phones while we are out and about in Madrid. We will ask that they stay off and stowed except if needed; they'll be locked up again once we're back at the dorm.
 - Something to talk about in terms of need for limited international plan or not.
- 

How to follow the students adventure abroad?

- Family, friends and fans (e.g., teachers, mentors, coaches, etc.) can follow the students adventures in Spain through the Blog.
- Nick will update the Blog **at least 2 times every week!**
 - What to expect uploaded:
 - Travel Updates
 - Photos of outings, classes, and special events
 - Videos



<https://almeria25.blogspot.com/>



Health and Safety

- Follow the Honor Code
- Be where you are supposed to be
- Pay attention to your surroundings
- Be careful with your belongings

What if something happens?..

- We instructors will work with the onsite student services coordinator (who is on call 24/7 during the program) to address the situation.
- We will be in communication with IUHPFL office, who will notify US families.
 - If necessary, we will be put in direct contact with you.
- Parents: If there is an issue on your end, contact the IUHPFL office.

El código de honor

Honor Code

- The essence of the program
For student safety but also what fosters incredible advances in language in just a few weeks
- All Spanish all the time!
Spanish music, Spanish books
- No personal smart devices (nothing that connects to internet, including laptops, tablets, smart watches)
- No romantic relationships
- No drugs, no alcohol, no risky behaviors
- Rule of three!



Language Commitment

- Is it possible?

Yes, absolutely!

- Is it challenging?

Yes, absolutely!

- Do we expect you to abide?

Yes, absolutely!

- What do you do when you don't know how to say something or can't understand someone?

Final words

- We encourage you to be open to making mistakes and putting yourself out there, to maintain a positive attitude, and to encourage and include one another.
- We are a team, and together, we can make this a wonderful experience for all!





Alumni

Introductions

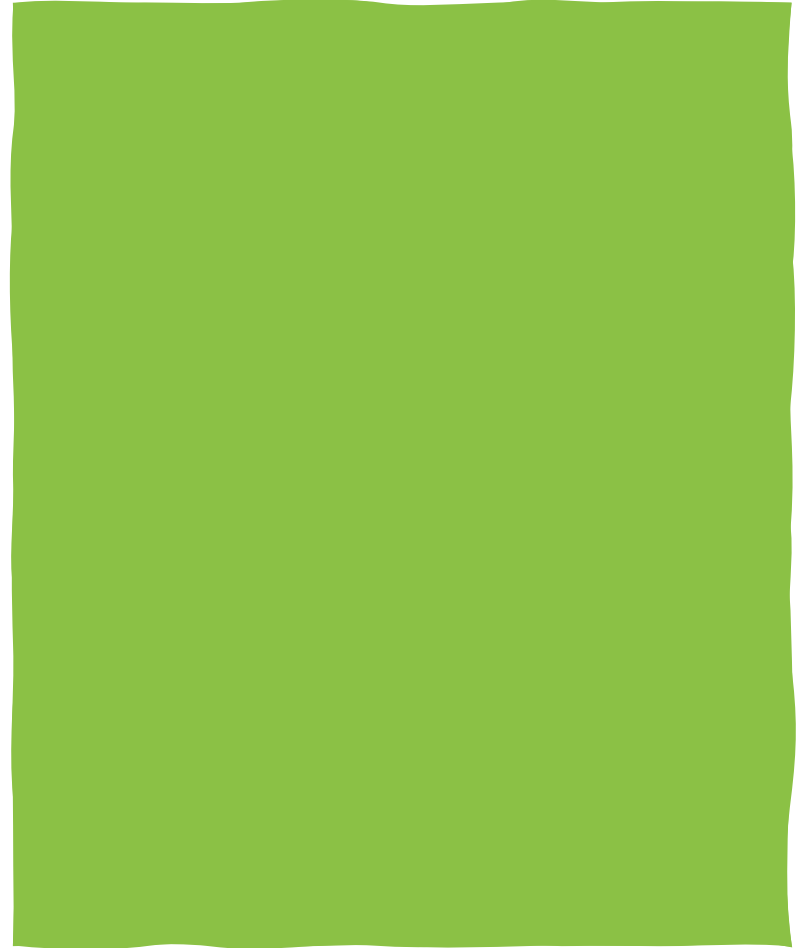
2. Host Families (e.g., communication, expectations)

3. Homesickness/Culture Shock

4. What were your favorite (and not so favorite) parts of IUHPFL?

5. Other comments or questions?

¿Preguntas?
Questions?



Reminder of today's schedule for afternoon

Students

- You will stay here!
- We will eat our packed lunch together (12:30-1:30pm)
- Get to know each other, do some activities in both [target language] and English (1:30-3:00pm)
- We will meet guardians back in the Whittenberger Auditorium for Closing remarks at 3:00pm

Guardians

- Time for lunch either here in the IMU or nearby (12:30-2:00pm)
- You should return to the Whittenberger Auditorium by 2:00pm for the mandatory parent/guardian session (2:00-3:00pm)
- Closing remarks, Whittenberger Auditorium (3:00-3:30pm)