

Christy Welk
WLC 400

MLO 1

The World Languages and Cultures department here at California State University, Monterey Bay has six major learning outcomes students must satisfy. The first major learning outcome, MLO one, is Language proficiency. I have taken several courses to fulfill this MLO.

CSU Monterey Bay offers many courses taught in the student's target language I have taken many of these courses such as Service Learning SPAN 301s, Capstone Preparation and Research SPAN 395, and I am currently enrolled in Masterpieces of Latin American Literature SPAN 322. All the classes required a fair amount of reading and writing as well as independent work outside the classroom in the target language.

During the 2011-2012 academic year I had the opportunity to study at Centro de Lenguas Modernas at the University of Granada in Granada, Spain. During this year I took ten upper division courses varying in language, culture and literature. All of these courses were taught in Spanish and required extensive work, including reading, writing, listening and speaking. Studying abroad allowed me to gain more than mere academic training. Living in Granada for ten months allowed me to converse on a daily basis with a community that primarily spoke Spanish. I had real world tasks such as negotiating and reading a contract to rent an apartment, buy groceries and interacting with roommates and the community. I also enjoyed plays, performances and tours given in Spanish. CSU Monterey Bay has provided me with the tools to learn Spanish, but studying abroad is where I was able to really grasp the language.