If you want to challenge yourself, become a confident world traveler, and see Spain in a fun and exciting way, then join us to hike the Camino de Santiago in May 2020. Pilgrims and adventurers have traversed this route for more than 1,000 years. When you take part in this study away experience you will explore the history and culture of Madrid, Salamanca, and Segovia in addition to hiking for six days in the Galicia region. You will study popular travel literature, and potentially develop a deeper sense of self. You might get a blister or two, but each night you will rest in beautiful hotels and eat at amazing cafes and restaurants. No previous hiking experience or Spanish language proficiency is needed. For more information please contact Sean Mackey at (616) 234-2368 or smackey@grcc.edu.
Eligibility
All degree-seeking students with a 2.0 cumulative GPA, and no money owed to the institution. Must have passed EN 101 with a C or better prior to winter 2020.

Travel Dates
May 22-June 4, 2020

Course
EN 242 Popular Literature (3 Credits)

Housing
Program participants will be housed in hotels.

Excursions and Highlights:
- Hiking on the Camino de Santiago trail
- Walking tour of Madrid
- Sunset view at Temple of Debod
- Chocolate and churros at famous chocolatier
- Full-time group guide
- Scenic bus drive to Sarria
- Nightly stays in hotels
- Seven course meal in Madrid
- Farmhouse meal in Arzua
- Multi-course meal in Segovia
- Excursion at Roman Aqueducts in Segovia
- Excursion in Salamanca
- Bus tour to Finisterre (The End of the World)
- Earning a Compostela Certificate after completing hike
- Hiking from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela
- Tapas, meals, and food markets throughout Spain
- Rest and enjoy the world while enjoying an espresso in a cafe
- Coach transportation to and from Chicago airport
- 100.00 Euro spending cash upon landing
- Travel Insurance

Essential Abilities:
- An ability to manage a positive attitude when fatigued or sore
- A willingness to walk 6-12 miles per day
- A willingness to hike on wilderness trails on hills and countryside
- A willingness to work with as a member of a buddy-system pair and/or small group
- A willingness to step out of comfort zone for new food and cultural experiences
- A willingness to walk the Camino for six days regardless of weather
- A commitment to one-bag travel backpack (training provided)
- A commitment to use basic first aid self-care for blisters, sunburn, and chaffing
- A commitment to reading all course material and engaging in all class activities
- A commitment to maintain a travel journal with required writing assignments during trip

Trip Cost:
Program fee (paid to GRCC): $3,750*
Please encourage friends and fellow classmates to join us and help reduce costs.

Tuition [plus fees (in-district) paid to GRCC]: $381
What is included:
Three (3) credit/contact hours (based on residential rate) and fees

Potential Additional Expenses: $800
- International phone plan (contact provider)
- 20-35 liter backpack $100
- Water bottle and rain poncho $30
- Comfortable footwear $100
- Two sets of athletic tops and bottoms $80
- KT Tape, blister care, first aid ointment, Body Glide $50
- Meals on own $200
- Personal expenses $100
- Passport $140
- Souvenirs (varies)

* $3,600 if group exceeds 25 students. Trip fees are eligible to change.

How to pay for study abroad?
Students are encouraged to pursue financial aid, scholarships and grants to fund Study Abroad. In addition they may consider personal funds and alternative loans to fund Study Away.

For more information on funding, visit grcc.edu/StudyAway.

Contact program faculty leaders for more information:
Sean Mackey
English Department
616-234-2368
smackey@grcc.edu

Megan Lockard
English Department
616-234-2311
mlockard@grcc.edu

Applications are taken on a first come, first serve basis.
Apply at grcc.edu/StudyAway.

All program information including courses, duration of program, dates, and other logistics are subject to change. Fee subject to adjustment based on actual exchange rates and international airfare. Programs may be canceled due to extenuating circumstances.