

**KATE'S MAJOR(S):** psychology and communications & culture

**YEAR/TERM ABROAD:** spring 2003

**REASON YOU CHOSE THIS PROGRAM:** My brother lives there, but that's not the main reason. I did hear how beautiful southern Spain was, and I was able to get a lot of credits through this program.

**FAVORITE CLASSES:** Contemporary Spanish Women Writers

**DESCRIBE THE HOUSING SITUATION:** It was great. I lived in a beautiful plaza; it was a huge house with a señora and students from other programs. We had English, Japanese and German students, about eight of us. The señora lived on the bottom two floors, and we had the top two floors.

**BEST MEMORY:** The best part was that I took Flamenco dance classes. I got to meet this entirely new network of people. It opened my mind to a whole group that's living in a completely different way.

**BIGGEST SURPRISE:** I think it was when one day I had a revelation. I looked at the Spanish people and thought, you know, they're people just like us. They might speak a different language and have cultural differences but all that aside, they're still like us.

**WHAT I WISH I KNEW BEFORE I LEFT:** More Spanish.

I don't know anyone who wouldn't wish that. I wish I knew more information on travel programs or from people who traveled, where students have stayed and enjoyed. It doesn't make sense to get the train pass, not unless you're doing a big trip at the end.

**GOING ABROAD VS. STAYING ON CAMPUS, DISCUSS:** It was the most growing and enlightening experience I ever had. You completely forget about your world back home because you're so wrapped up in your new one, but in a good way. You have three and a half years of the same thing going on around here. Everyone will find something that they will love and learn if they study abroad.

katemargolis

seville, spain



While out in the evening, Kate Margolis stops for a moment in the Plaza de Espana in Sevilla, a 15-minute walk from her house. Besides the challenge of speaking Spanish, Margolis also was taking Flamenco dance classes three times a week, taught in Spanish by members of the famous Farruco family. "The classes were challenging yet very rewarding."

"Speaking Spanish was a challenge. You had to push yourself to speak it, but it ended up being rewarding. *Getting yourself out there and making yourself heard was really great.*"

**ADVICE TO FUTURE STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS:** See as much as you can. Talk to as many Spanish people as you can. They're very friendly once you speak to them. Stay in Spain; don't travel too much. My best memories come from staying in Seville during these week breaks we had.