

# BASQUE YOURSELF

## Basque Culture II International Summer School

From the 3rd to the 14th of July 2017  
Donostia-San Sebastián, Basque Country

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CAMPUS OF  
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## Basque Culture: II. International Summer School.

With the aim of responding to the inquiries you made, we are sending you a **summary of the contents of the lectures** as well as the most notable aspects of the Basque Culture 2017 summer school offered by our university.

The University of the Basque Country, Spain, the leading institution in the Basque university system, offers you a great academic and fun experience through its **"Basque Culture II. International Summer School" from the 3rd to the 14th of July 2017**. If you want to have an amazing experience this summer in Donostia/San Sebastian, one of the most beautiful Basque cities and, according to Tripadvisor, the city where the **best beach in Europe, La Concha**, is located.

We have designed a two-week program that includes, seminars taught by international experts and Basque language and culture classes through fun immersion (visits to the local surroundings, practical seminars, and so on).

The Seminars will take place at the incredibly **beautiful Miramar Palace**, a late 19th-century English-style building located on the "La Concha Bay" of the city of Donostia-San Sebastian.

### **What's the structure of the program? What are the Schedule of the classes and the fun activities?**

From Monday to Friday, we will begin the 1-hour seminars at 9:30 am and, after a 30- minute break, we will continue with a Basque language and culture class from 11am to 1pm. This class will include practical sessions and a fun immersion in our city and culture.

### **What kind of topics will be covered by the seminars?**

We have designed a varied and attractive program for you, taught by international experts that will summarize and discuss the most important features of our society, culture and science. Topics like Basque literature, History, Sociology, Sports, Arts, Diaspora, Economics, Science....will be addressed in dynamic seminars which look for a dialogue with the students (see the detailed offer below).

### **What about the Basque language and culture classes?**

**Basque (Euskara)** is, together with Spanish, the official language of the Basque Country, and you will hear it a lot in public places. It is the oldest language in Western Europe and at present is **taught at 32 universities in 17 countries**.

The principal objective of the A1 Basque language course is for the student to learn the basic ideas and concepts of the language so that they will be able to communicate in basic Basque in everyday or common situations. We will combine general introduction classes and practical seminars in which the student will learn in the context some of the most appealing aspects of our culture. The Basque-language course is 20 hours in length (10 theoretical + 10 practical).

### **What kind of practical activities will the Basque language and culture classes include?**

As you will see in the detailed program, we have included 5 practical seminars that will last for 10 hours in total. The first practical activity will be to go to the central market of "La Bretxa" in Donostia-San Sebastian, and have a shopping-experience with local farmers. And what about tasting a delicious Basque "pintxo" (tapa)? The second seminar will, indeed, teach us how to prepare some delicious pintxos. We have reserved an awesome dance-class for the third seminar, and a handball or "pelota" game practical class for the fourth. Our last practical seminar will take part in the nice maritime village

of Pasaia San Pedro, where the Albaola Maritime Museum is located. The students will visit the Basque naval factory to enjoy and learn something of the tradition and history of the Basque naval industry. We will feel the strength and passion of old Basque whalers!

### And what about afternoons?

Students will have the afternoons free, as we want for them to enjoy the fascinating summer in our city and its surroundings. Nevertheless, we invite them to spend two afternoons with us: we have planned two guided visits. The first one will show them the most emblematic places of Donostia-San Sebastian, as well as the San Telmo Museum. For the second visit, we have booked an amazing San Sebastian Bay boat trip for them. We will complete our leisure excursions with a whole day trip to the Basque city of Bilbao. Please, see the detailed program. Both transport and the cost of the arranged visits are included in the three excursions.

### Can the students undertake other kinds of leisure activities?

Sure! Students can undertake cultural, gastronomic or sporting activities during their free time to make their stay in Donostia-San Sebastián unforgettable. Among water sports, for example, they'll be able to do kayaking, SUP, rafting or surfing. Although these activities are not included in the Basque Culture matriculation we have searched for the most competitive prices so that you can enjoy everything at very reasonable rates, and following your arrival, we will give you the complete catalogue of activities so that you can sign up if you want to for those that most fit your needs.

### Can the student have a brief orientation about the content of the seminars?

Sure! Here it goes!

## Basque Culture: II. International Summer School - Classes and Seminars

**Director:** Mari Jose Olaziregi (UPV/EHU)

**Organizers:** Vice-Rectorate for Postgraduate Studies and International Relations (UPV/EHU) & Summer Courses Foundation (UPV/EHU)

### July 3rd

09.15 **Welcoming words.** Nekane Balluerka (UPV/EHU Rector) & Carmen Agoues (Summer Courses Foundation) & Mari Jose Olaziregi (Course Director)

09.30-10.30 **The Basque Map of the World.** Instr.: Oscar Álvarez Gila (UPV/EHU)

*The seminar will focus on the presence of the Basques in the world through History. From ancient mariners to present migrants, Professor Alvarez will give a lively talk about Basque emigration and Diaspora.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class.**

Afternoon: **Visit to San Telmo Museum.**

### July 4th

09.30-10.30 **Science and Technology in the Basque Country.** Instr.: Fernando Cossío (Ikerbasque/UPV-EHU)

*Ikerbasque, the Basque Foundation for Science, is a foundation promoted by the Basque Government in 2007. It aims to strengthen the Basque Science system through programs to attract and recruit researchers in all the fields of activity to the Basque R&D system; and to boost research, in cooperation with research centers and universities. Prof. Cossío will reflect on the evolution and future of the Basque Science system.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language class + Practical Session: Visit to a Market.**

### July 5th

09.30-10.30 **The International Location of Basque Literature.** Instr.: Mari Jose Olaziregi (UPV/EHU)

*Prof. Olaziregi's seminar will focus on contemporary Basque literature. She will identify its most distinctive features and discuss contemporary trends. The seminar will also serve as an introduction to Basque Culture in a global framework. Issues connected with gender, otherness, social change, cultural industries, cultural identity and political violence will also be discussed.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class.**

### July 6th

09.30-10.30 **Bertsolaritza: Basque Oral Improvising.** Instr.: Xabi Paya (DS2016)

*Xabi Paya is a BERTSOLARI, namely, an artist who is capable of improvising Basque verses on any subject spontaneously and setting it to music. He is also a researcher on the topic. The art of composing rhymed verses is very popular in the Basque Country. This seminar will give a general overview of the evolution of Bertsolaritza and will discuss its most singular features*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class + Practical session: Cooking class.**

### July 7th

09.30-10.30 **The Basque Experience: Constructing Sustainable Human Development.** Instr.: Juan Jose Ibarretxe (Agirre Lendakaria Center, UPV/EHU)

*As Professor Ibarretxe, former lehendakari (president) of the Basque Government, underlines, Euskadi is at the forefront of Europe in relation to the Gini Index. This seminar will reflect on the importance of the human factor for the remarkable social, political and economic transformation the Basque Country has experienced in recent decades.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class**

## July 8th

### Whole day trip to the city of Bilbao

## July 10th

09.30-10.30 **Basque Dance.** Instr. Oier Araolaza (UPV/EHU)

*Oier Araolaza is a dancer and an expert in the study of Basque Dance. He will give us a comprehensive seminar about the different types of dance, the music, the steps and costumes...and, especially, about the Basques' love for dance. He will complete his presentation with a practical class of Basque dance.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque language class + Practical class: Basque Dances**

## July 11th

09.30-10.30 **Beyond Matriarchy: Basque Gender Studies.** Instr.: Margaret Bullen (UPV/EHU)

*Central to the cultural concept of female power in the Basque context is the assumption of a matriarchal tradition rooted in the past and extended through myth into the present. This seminar will reflect on the way the matriarchal thesis has been developed for Basque culture and the place women have in contemporary Basque society.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class.**

Afternoon **San Sebastian Bay boat trip.**

## July 12th

09.30-10.30 **Basque pelota. A ritual, An Aesthetic.** Instr. Olatz Gonzalez Abrisketa (UPV/EHU)

*Pelota is one of the most revealing frameworks of meaning and understanding of the Basque imaginary. By digging into the historic, symbolic, and even mythological roots of the sport, and by describing interconnected webs of meaning in the various domains of social, juridical, bodily, and imaginative experience, prof. Gonzalez Abrisketa shows how pelota constitutes a ritualized action that both stages and repairs social antagonisms.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class + Basque Handball Practical Workshop**

## July 13th

09.30-10.30 **Basque Identity: Introduction to Basque Language and Culture.** Instr.: Larraitx Ariznabarreta (Boise State University, USA)

*What does it mean to be Basque? How has Basque identity evolved during the centuries? How can we define Basque Identity through, Politics, History, Law and Culture? Basque identity and Diaspora, those are some of the topics this seminar will address.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class**

**July 14th**

09.30-10.30 **The Basques and the Origins of Modern Whaling.** Instr. Michael Barkham (PhD, University of Cambridge, UK)

*It is well known that the Basques were among the first to catch whales commercially, and that they dominated the trade for five centuries, spreading to the far corners of the North Atlantic and even reaching the South Atlantic. Professor Barkham will analyze in this seminar the evolution of the Basque whaling, as well as some aspects like the hunting methods or the cultural significance of whaling for the Basques. He will guide us on this intrepid trip with the Basque whalers.*

11.00-13.00 **Basque Language Class + Visit to Albaola, The Sea Factory of the Basques**