This course discusses the art produced in Catalonia, especially in its capital city, Barcelona. Catalan art, whose origins can be traced back to the 10th century with the birth of a unique style of Romanesque religious architecture and mural painting in the Pyrenees mountains, is shaped by more than one thousand years of episodes of glory, decline, wars, expansion, repression, and resistance. Through the history of Catalan Art, students will be able to trace the artistic styles that have shaped the beauty of Barcelona: from its Muslim and Jewish heritage, its Gothic quarter architecture, the astonishing buildings by Antoni Gaudí, and the radical transformation brought by the new architecture and urban planning during the Barcelona Olympics. The course contains “special topics” that are designed to deepen the knowledge of a particular style, artist, movement and/or period in which Catalan art and culture were especially magnificent. No previous art historical knowledge or Catalan/ Spanish language skills are required to enroll in this course.