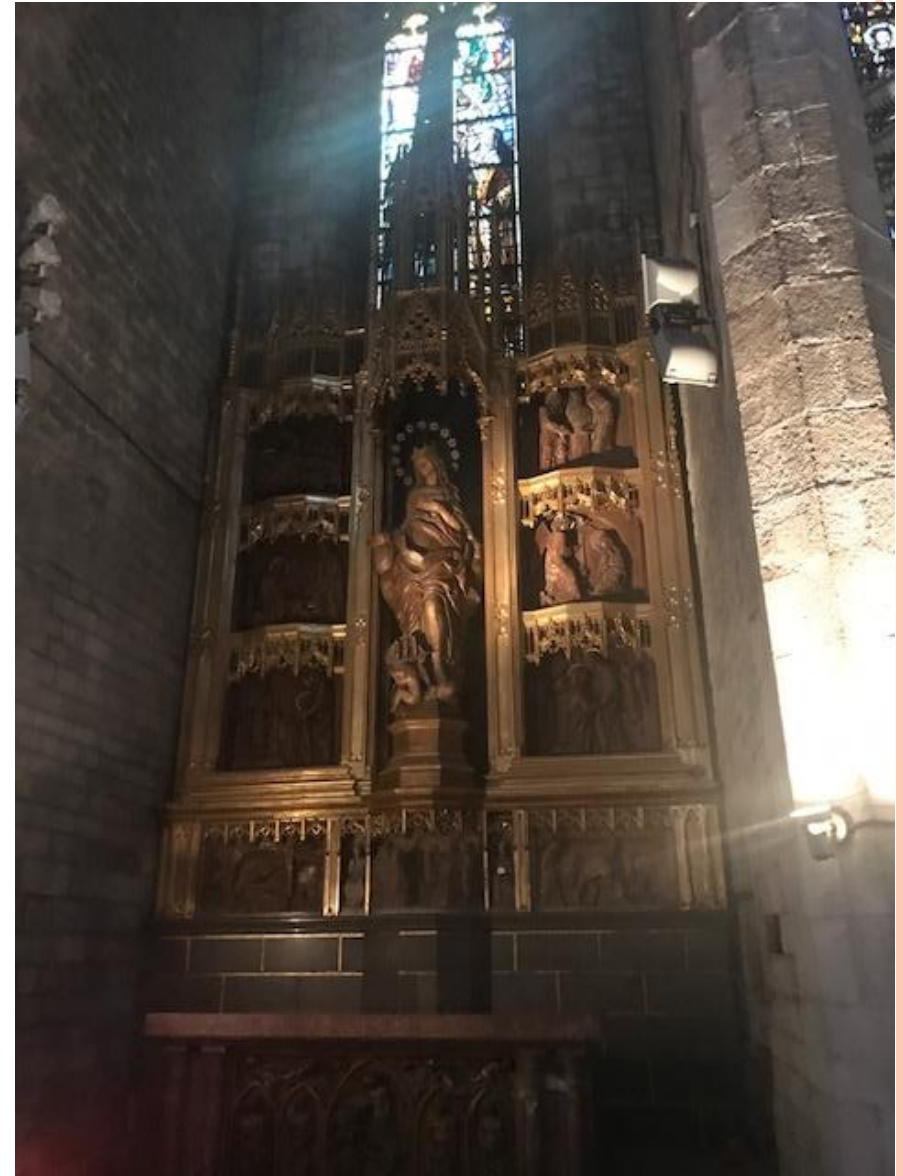


# MY BARCELONA EXPERIENCE

Kayla Oriyomi

ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT BARCELONA IS ITS BEAUTIFUL CATHEDRALS. MANY OF THESE CATHEDRALS ARE HUNDREDS OF YEARS OLD!



I AM VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY, AND I FOUND THAT SPAIN IS MUCH MORE ADVANCED THAN THE UNITED STATES IN REGARDS TO RECYCLING. HERE, RECYCLING IS MANDATORY, AND ALL RESIDENTS MUST PLACE THEIR TRASH IN THE CORRECT BIN.



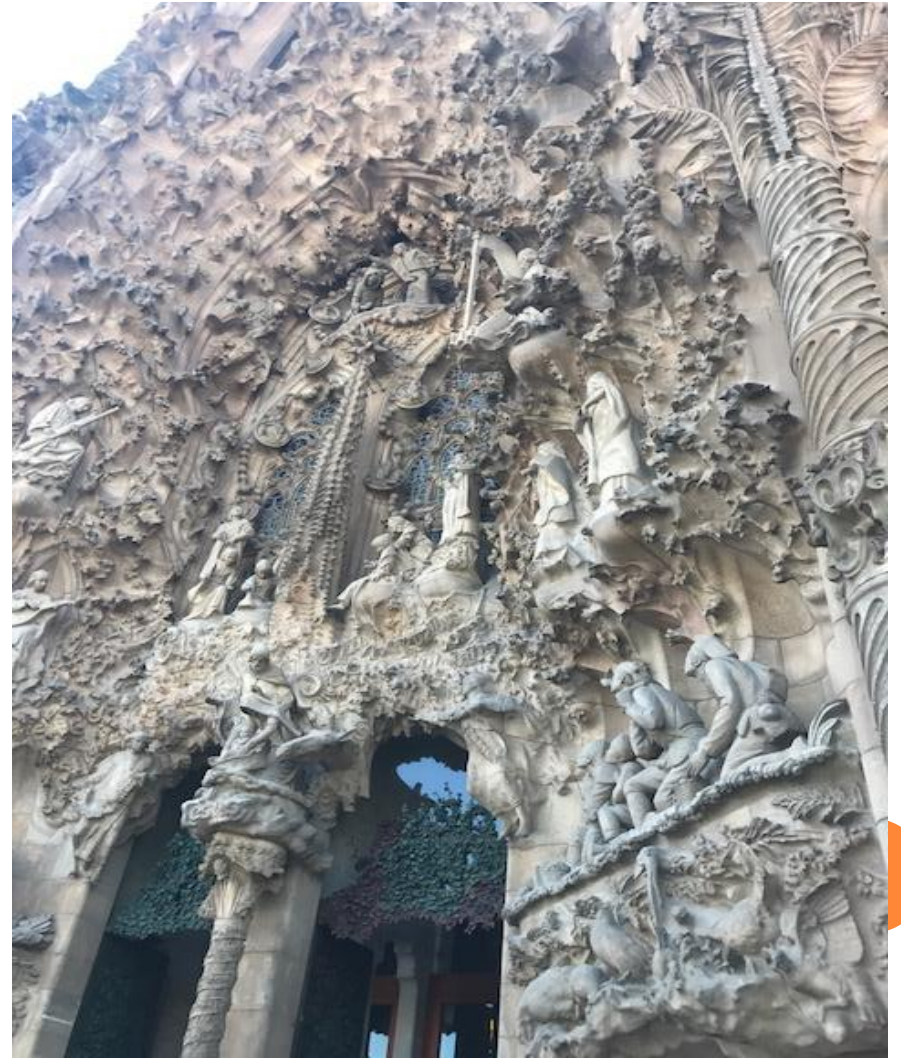


ON ONE OF OUR EXCURSIONS, I WAS ABLE TO MEET COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM BARCELONA, AND TALK TO THEM ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES AND OPINIONS. I LEARNED SO MUCH FROM THEM, AND I EVEN MADE A FEW FRIENDS.





THE ARCHITECTURE OF BARCELONA IS SIMPLY AMAZING. I VIEWED THE WORKS OF MANY CLASSIC ARTISTS INCLUDING PICASSO AND ANTONI GAUDI. (RIGHT- SAGRADA FAMILIA LEFT- LA PEDRERA)





THE INFLUENCE OF PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT IS VERY PRESENT IN BARCELONA, AND IT IS STRONGLY ILLUSTRATED THROUGH THE POPULARITY OF BARCELONA'S STREET ART. THIS WAS A PLEASANT SURPRISE FOR ME!



THESE ARE THE VIEWS FROM THE TOP OF MONTSERRAT (LEFT), A MOUNTAIN LOCATED OUTSIDE OF BARCELONA, AND MONTJUIC (RIGHT), A HILL THAT OVERLOOKS THE CITY OF BARCELONA. MONTJUIC ALSO HAS A CASTLE THAT DATES BACK TO 1640 THAT I VISITED.





ABOVE ALL, I MOSTLY ENJOYED THE TIME I SPENT WITH MY HOST FAMILY AND BEING IMMERSED IN THEIR CULTURE. MY SPANISH GREATLY IMPROVED AS A RESULT, AND THE HOSPITALITY I RECEIVED MADE MY HEART SO FULL. I CANNOT WAIT TO RETURN!





# FIN

- I want to thank the College Language Association for awarding me this scholarship and giving me the opportunity to make this trip affordable. I have wanted to visit Spain for years, and it has finally become a reality. I feel that I grew both personally and professionally through this study abroad experience (especially with my Spanish speaking abilities), and I look forward to continuing to strive for global citizenship through travel.

