

# Students enjoyed summer in Spain

By Lisa Swim  
Health Editor

Picture a small city. In this city, the Renaissance architecture is of a shimmering gold and pink-colored stone.

When the sun sets, this tiny city's sidewalks seem to dance with glowing streams of deep gold and soft pink.

The sidewalks are checkered with outdoor cafes and the people are chatting or dining on veal, seafood and wine.

Where is this conglomeration of warm and different sights, sounds and smells?

It is Salamanca; and, it is on route by plane, via Madrid, into Spain.

Salamanca was, in fact, the home of Elon's first Summer

### Study Abroad Program.

This program is a month in length--from July 1-31. Seven students participated in its first expedition last summer.

Dr. Ernie Lunsford, assistant professor of Spanish, was guide and tutor for the students. He said, "I'm very pleased Elon's Studies Abroad has become so popular."

In fact, out of the seven Elon students in Spain, Amy Brown remained in Spain to attend the University of Madrid for an academic year; and, Steve Ausherman went into Elon's semester Abroad Program in London this fall.

The students attended the University of Salamanca, the oldest university in Spain. It is 700 years old.

"It has an illustrious history. Several famed Spanish scientists and philosophers graduated from the university," said Lunsford, who has visited Spain several times.

He added that "people come from everywhere to take Spanish courses in the summer. They come from Italy, Holland, Belgium and France."

Thus, not only did the students enjoy a bright, new culture, but they learned in a "melting pot" atmosphere.

The students took placement tests to determine who belonged in the beginning, intermediate and advanced Spanish courses.

The entire Salamanca staff are natives of Spain. Pamela Denton, an Elon student, said "my grammar professor spoke no English

and this was the most difficult part of Salamanca." She added, "This is when Dr. Lunsford really helped."

The students went to school from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. taking two hours of grammar, one hour of conversation and one hour of optional translation, business Spanish or literary criticism.

The rest of the day was theirs to explore Salamanca or go on field trips set up by the university.

On one of the extracurricular activities sponsored by Salamanca, Elon students went to view the Palace at La Grandja--a summer palace for the kings and queens of Spain.

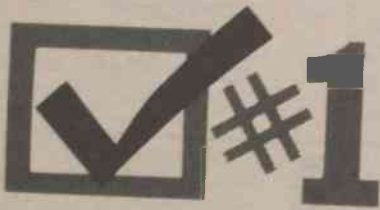
"Madrid has a very old history, and it is not

mon to see old buildings rehabilitated in Salamanca other areas of Spain Lunsford.

In addition to all of the students stayed with families in Salamanca. The students enjoyed the culture of the cafes and the main centers being alive with action a.m., but they had a close family life--Español style.

For six credits, Elon's Studies Abroad Program gave a few students the chance to live a starkly different community of 160,000 people, as well as challenged academically.

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