



# YALE NATIONAL INITIATIVE

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Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative

2008 Volume IV: Bridges: The Art and Science for Creating Community Connections

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## **Puentes, Civilizaciones y Cultura**

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As a result of this unit students will learn history- how different civilizations settled in the Iberian Peninsula and contributed to shape the identity of today's Spain, how the Romans invaded Hispania and built aqueducts, bridges, roads, theaters. Students will also learn basic art history features in order to recognize and differentiate styles and also, basic architecture concepts such as form, materials, construction methods, aesthetics, etc. They will reflect on how bridges are built in order to connect people and communities. Students will also learn Spanish geography as well as the importance of identity in the different regions that divide the country.

Puentes, civilizaciones y cultura intends to present a multilayered purpose. First of all, it aspires to introduce students to art. A second goal, would be to introduce students to Santiago Calatrava, a brilliant contemporary Spanish architect, engineer and artist. We will take a close look at his architectural and engineering designs first in order to be able to value and appreciate many of the bridges he has designed through Spain.

The unit is recommended for Spanish students with at least an intermediate level.

(Developed for Spanish III, grades 9-12; recommended for Spanish, grades 9-12)

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