

SPANISH CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course starts with an extensive view of the Spanish history as a way of giving students a general frame where they could place the following subjects that will be taken into account. After that it will examine the different cultures within Spain: Castilian, Catalan, Basque and Galician; focusing mainly on language, nationality, and political implications. The rest of the course will travel throughout the various aspects of the Spanish Civilization, understanding civilization as lifestyle and society (family, immigration, youth, economic crisis, politics...), and also the various artistic ways of expression (painting, architecture, literature, music and cinema). By using concepts from these various subjects, students will study how Spain changed from being a polarized country to an allegedly reference in the West.

REQUIREMENTS

Fluent in English

CONTENTS

Spanish History, from ancient times to the present. Civilisations and religious coexistence. Models of nation.

Language and Culture. Regions, nationalities, traditions, symbols and identities.

Cultural expressions, Spain through art. Modernisation, ways of expression, class conscience and moral crisis through painting, sculpture, architecture, literature and music. Spanish cinema from 50's censorship to today's Hollywoodization.

Spanish Society today, considering different relevant topics both from the 20th century in general or from the immediate present.

GRADING

Mid Term Exam (25%)

It will be a Multiple-choice Exam with 75 questions. Each question will have 4 possible answers and only one of them will be correct. There is no penalty for mistakes.

Tests (20%)

Two short tests with diverse questions based on especially important and specific topics that will be treated in class both with the explanation of the professor and extra visual/reading materials.

Seminars (20%)

There are mandatory readings to be found in the class webpage. Students need to read these texts, come to class the days of the seminars and participate during the debate that they will manage. If students come and do not intervene, they will not obtain any grade in this section. To get the whole grade students need to talk and demonstrate that they understood what they read.

Presentations (10%) – Optional

The Presentation is optional and is designed only for students who really commit to the realization of this part of the evaluation, since the topics they discuss will also be a part of the Final Exam for the rest of the class. The topic needs to be approved beforehand by the professor. Readings will be provided, but students are expected to enhance them by further research and to follow the 'Presentation rules', to be found in the class website, in order to achieve a full grade. A very low/poor performance in this section might concur in loss of up to 5% of the total grade.

Final Exam (25%)

This exam will consist of short questions. Each of these questions will be answered in a limited space. The answer has to be clear and direct, which means that students need to answer the questions with "objective" knowledge.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

VILAR, Pierre, *Spain: a brief History*, Pergamon, 1967.

CARR, Raymond, *Spain. A History*, Oxford University Press, 2001.

ALTAMIRA y CREVEA, Rafael, *History of Spanish Civilization*, Brooklyn: Ams Pr Inc, 1930.

SMITH, Bradley, *Spain. A History in Art*, Doubleday & Co., 1971.

MOFFIT, John F., *The Arts in Spain*, New York: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

HILL, Fred James, *Spain: An Illustrated History*, New York: Hippocrene Books, 2001.

HOOPER, John, *The new Spaniards*, Penguin, 2006.

REQUEJO, Ferran, *Multinational Federalism and value pluralism: The Spanish Case*, Routledge, 2005.

TREMLET, GILES, *Ghosts of Spain*, Faber & Faber, 2007.