

COURSE: SPAIN AND EUROPE: ORIGINS AND EVOLUTION

Language	Spanish
Level of Spanish required	Beginner (or above)
Hours of class	45 hrs.
Credits	6 ECTS

Course description

The aim is to take the student through the history of European cultures; the great transformations and changes that have taken place from pre-history to the consolidation of the European Germanic kingdoms (5th to the 7th century). Special emphasis will be paid to the Hispanic area, as well as classical civilizations of the Greeks and the Romans. Some further explanations will be provided with the visit to Roman parts of Barcelona. Moreover, the new reality offered by the Mediterranean world after the Islamic expansion in North Africa, the conquest of Spain and the domination of part of the Mediterranean. The transformations and changes that took place within the European framework, including the formation of the Carolingian empire, the ascendancy of the papacy, the rise of cities and the appearance of universities will also be analyzed. The analysis will also include the new mentalities of the Romance world, the Gothic era and the first phase of Humanism. There will be visits in Barcelona as an example of a lower medieval city, with its Gothic splendor.



Methodology

Each session will consist of a PowerPoint presentation that students will be expected to review and prepare for in advance. Their conclusions will then be shared with the rest of the group and clarified where necessary by the lecturer. Students are expected to participate actively.

Assessment

Attendance and participation in class: 20%

Mid-term exam: 40%

Final exam: 40%

Syllabus

First part

1. Introduction. Origin of Europe.
2. Prehistoric cultures. Paleolithic, Neolithic and Metal Age
3. The pre-Roman peoples in the Iberian Peninsula.
4. Greece. The polis. Pericles century. Greece in the Iberian Peninsula: Ampurias.
5. Rome. From a monarchy to an empire. Roman Spain.

6. Christianity. Birth and expansion.
7. The fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of the new Germanic kingdoms. The Visigoths in Spain.
8. Islam and its expansion in the Mediterranean basin. Al-andalus.
9. Carolingian Europe. Spain: the Christian kingdoms of the north.
10. Feudalism.
11. The great European expansion (11th to 13th century). The new monarchies. Spain during its full Medieval splendor: the Christian kingdoms in the face of Islam.
12. The crises in the lower period of the Middle Ages. The Iberian Peninsula kingdoms and their tensions. Catholic Monarchs.

Second part

1. Humanism and Renaissance. Major Inventions and Scientific Advances.
2. The New Monarchies. Europe the Conqueror.
3. Reformation and Counter-Reformation. The Wars of Religion. The New European Order.
4. Absolutism. The Spanish War of Succession. The Spanish Bourbons.
5. The Century of Lights. The French Revolution. Napoleon and the New European Order.
6. The Industrial Revolution. Romanticism and Nationalism. The Liberal Revolutions.
7. The Russian Revolution and the Birth of the USSR.
8. The First World War. Fascism. The Second World War. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
9. Spain: First and Second Republic. The Dictatorship of Primo de Rivera. Civil War.
10. The New International Order: the Cold War and the Bipolar World. Decolonization and its Impact on Europe. Spain under Franco. Democracy in Spain.
11. The European Union.



Bibliography

- CARR, Raymond, edit.: *Historia de España*, Edit. Península, Barcelona, 2007.
- FUSI, Juan Pablo: *Historia mínima de España*, Edit. Turner-El Colegio de México, Madrid, 2012.
- GARCÍA DE CORTÁZAR, F.: *Memoria de España*, Aguilar, Madrid, 2004.
- RIVERO, Isabel: *Síntesis de Historia de España*, Globo, Madrid, 1999.
- VALDEÓN, J.; PÉREZ, J.; JULIÀ, S.: *Historia de España*, Austral, Madrid, 2011.
- VILAR, Pierre: *Historia de España*, Edit. Crítica, Barcelona, 2010.