

HS/RL372 MEMORY AND IDENTITY OF SEPHARDIC JEWS

IES Abroad Granada

DESCRIPTION:

This course is a historical, literary, sociological and anthropologic approach to the Jews of Iberian/Spanish origin, who were expelled from the Iberian Peninsula at the end of the Middle Ages.

The course is organized around 5 main central topics:

- TOPIC I. Jews in Spain before 1492: The Jews' presence in the Iberian Peninsula and the history, preliminary events and contexts that determined a key moment in the History of Spain: the expulsion of Jews dictated by the Catholic Monarchs in their 1492 Edict.
- TOPIC II. Sephardic Jews and the Sephardi diaspora (15th to 19th centuries): The Sephardic Diaspora: dates, routes and main settlements. How the Jewish identity is constructed during the diaspora and how this identity changes and becomes increasingly complex over centuries. The Jewish-Spanish language as a constituent element of the Sephardic identity.
- TOPIC III. 20th century. Sephardic Jews in their traditional settlements and the second diaspora. The second Diaspora: causes for the new migratory flow during the 19th century, where the Sephardic moved from their traditional geographical settlements to younger countries (United States, Mexico, Argentina, Israel) and to Western Europe countries.
- TOPIC IV. Sephardic Jews in Europe and the Shoá. History and Memory of the Sephardic Jews who were murdered during the Holocaust: in this course we will approach this topic from two perspectives: a) how the Nazi genocide completely destroys the European Sephardic settlements and their Jewish quarters, and how it nearly causes the extinction of their language and traditions; b) the role played by Spain in the conflict regarding *their Jews* (the Jews with a Hispanic origin who lived in the European occupied territories).
- TOPIC V. Spain and the Sephardic Jews in the last century. The Sephardic Jews' return to the country they were expelled from more than 500 years ago: the reunion of the Spanish people with the Sephardic Jews coming from the Balkan and Mediterranean communities at the end of the 19th century and the Bill Granting the Spanish Citizenship to Sephardic Jews (2015).

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Spanish

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Two methodologies will be combined in class:

- Lectures by the professor introducing the contents of each topic, supported by audiovisual presentations.
- Seminars: students and professor comment upon diverse materials that help generate debates in which students are encouraged to participate.

Complementary activities:

- Visits
- *Rimón Sefarad*: tour of the old Jewish quarter of Granada.
- Visit to the Jewish quarter of Córdoba: Synagogue and House of Sepharad Museum.
- In-class activities: 'Yom ha-Shoá'

IMPORTANT: Moodle will be the platform through which students will be able to download the materials, videos, music and other resources. Contents, as well as assignments and communication between students and the professor will be managed through Moodle.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Individual Assignments - 20%
- Group Assignment - 20%
- Midterm Exam - 20%
- Final Exam - 25%
- Course Participation - 15%

There will be different assignments throughout the course: 5 Readings, 5 individual short papers and 1 collaborative activity.

Topic I

- Reading [R1] Perceval, José María. "Un crimen sin cadáver: el Santo Niño de la Guardia", in Historia 16, 202 (1993), pp. 44-58. (extracts).
- Assignment 'Postales desde Sefarad' (Cards from Sepharad): activity based on the visits of the old Jewish quarters of Granada and Cordoba.

Topic II

- Reading [R2] Jacobo Israel Garzón: "Felix del Valle Saldaña, poeta en Ámsterdam". En un tiempo sin libertad. Semblanzas de una Sefarad inhóspita. Madrid: Hebraica Ediciones, 2010, pp. 89-94.
- Assignment 'Meldamos djudeo-espanyol': students will transliterate a short text into the *Aljamiado* Jew-Spanish dialect.

Topic III

- Reading [R3] Navarro, David D. "La comunidad sefardí de Canadá: asentamiento, integración y desafíos", in Tarbut Sefarad (2012).
- Assignment 'Club de Reading': this assignment consists of reading a text in English written by a Sephardic Jew writer, talking about it in a group session and submit an individual essay about the text and the experience of sharing it with their classmates.

Topic IV

- Reading [R4] Yitzchak Kerem. "New Finds on Greek Jewish Heroism in the Holocaust". Sephardic Horizons (Spring 2012).
- Assignment 'Busco, nombro y recuerdo': each student will have to study the life of an anonymous victim from the Holocaust and all the works will be exposed in an exhibition in class to honor the *Yom ha-Shoá*.

Topic V

- Reading [R5] Isidoro González Gracia. "El regreso de los sefarditas a España". Los judíos y España después de la expulsión. Córdoba: Almuzara, 2014.
- Assignment *Interview*. 'La visión de los españoles sobre los sefardíes': each student will be asked to carry out 1 or 2 interviews to Spanish people with the aim of discovering the knowledge and perceptions they have about Jews, the presence of Jews in Spain and the history after they were expelled from Spain in 1492.

Group Assignment

'Foro SefaradIES'. It is an open forum where all students can launch a new topic for debate, share information, ideas, recommendations, discoveries, etc. Each student is required to participate with at least 12 entries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Construct an approximation to the Sephardic history and to the native Spanish Jews to acquire a real knowledge of this part of the Hispanic culture.
- Demonstrate an improvement in their ability to understand, analyze and compare about the Sephardic Jews.
- Appropriately use the basic terminology about the Sephardic Jews that is frequently used in an inaccurate way.

- Acquire a basic knowledge about the origin and different stages in the History of the Sephardic Jews, as well as of the historical, political, cultural and social factors that have influenced the configuration of the complex identity of the Sephardic Jews in the 21st century.
- Critically evaluate the sources for analyzing the origin and evolution of the Jew community emerging from Sepharad.
- Recognize the Jew-Spanish dialect as a Hispanic linguistic variety.
- Understand the Jew-Spanish dialect not as an archaic language, but as a living language which has been developing and transforming through history, as it happens with any other languages.
- Be able to read a text written in Aljamiado Jewish-Spanish language.
- Identify native Spanish Jews personalities who had a relevant role in and out of their community and in several fields (history, philosophy, medicine, literature, international relations, economy, astronomy, music...), from the moment of their expulsion until now.
- Analyze the importance of learning from the past, recognize the Holocaust as a great loss for humanity, integrate different types of knowledge that foster a personal responsibility and respect for human rights, especially for minority groups, become aware of the different kinds of hatred and of the current outbreak of anti-Semitism.
- Critically evaluate the relation between the Sephardic Jews and Spain and become aware of the increasing interest in the Sephardic history existing nowadays in our country.
- Use and integrate the different resources and materials provided in class to go in depth in certain areas of study where there is a lack of modern and accessible research and bibliography.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including course-related trips. For this course, if a student misses more than three classes, one third of a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Missed exams, presentations, or any other assignments can only be rescheduled in case of documented medical or family emergencies.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 1	Course Introduction Topic I. <i>Sephardic Jews in Spain before 1492</i> (1st part)	
Week 2	Topic I. <i>Sephardic Jews in Spain before 1492</i> (2nd part) Topic I. <i>Sephardic Jews in Spain before 1492</i> (3rd part) Tour '<i>Rimón Sefarad</i>'	• [R1] '<i>Un crimen sin cadáver</i>' • Blog SefaradIES
Week 3	Topic I. <i>Sephardic Jews in Spain before 1492</i> (4th part) Topic II. <i>The Sephardic Diaspora</i> (1st part) Visit to Córdoba	• Blog SefaradIES
Week 4	Topic II. <i>The Sephardic Diaspora</i> (2nd part)	• '<i>Postales desde Sefarad</i>' • Blog SefaradIES

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 5	Topic II. <i>The Sephardic Diaspora</i> (3rd part) Topic II. <i>The Sephardic Diaspora</i> (4th part)	[R2] 'Félix del Valle Saldaña' - Blog SefaradIES
Week 6	MIDTERM EXAM Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (1st part)	'Meldamos djudeo-espanyol'
Week 7	Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (2nd part)	Blog SefaradIES
Week 8	Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (3rd part)	Blog SefaradIES
Week 9	Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (4th part) Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (5th part)	[R3] 'La comunidad sefardí de Canadá' - Blog SefaradIES
Week 10	Topic III. <i>20th Century</i> (6th part) Topic IV. <i>Sephardic Jews in Europe during the Shoá</i> (1st part) Topic IV. <i>Sephardic Jews in Europe during the Shoá</i> (2nd part)	'Reading Club' - Blog SefaradIES
Week 11	Topic IV. <i>Sephardic Jews in Europe during the Shoá</i> (3rd part) Topic IV. <i>Sephardic Jews in Europe during the Shoá</i> (4th part) Topic V. <i>Spain and the Sephardic Jews in the last century</i> (1st part)	[R4] 'New finds on Greek Jewish Heroism in the Holocaust' - Blog SefaradIES
Week 12	Topic IV. <i>Sephardic Jews in Europe during the Shoá</i> (5th part) Topic V. <i>Spain and the Sephardic Jews in the last century</i> (2nd part) Commemoration <i>Yom ha-Shoá</i>	'Busco, nombro y recuerdo' - Blog SefaradIES
Week 13	Topic V. <i>Spain and the Sephardic Jews in the last century</i> (3rd part) Topic V. <i>Spain and the Sephardic Jews in the last century</i> (4th part)	[R5] 'El regreso de los sefarditas a España' - Interview '<i>La vision de los españoles sobre los sefardíes</i>' - Blog SefaradIES

Week	Content	Assignments
	FINAL EXAM	

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Baer, Alejandro. "Los vacíos de Sefarad. La Memoria del Holocausto en España", in Política y Sociedad, 48/3 (2011), pp. 501-518.
- Baer, Yitzhak. Historia de los judíos en la España cristiana. Barcelona: Riopiedras, 1998.
- Bejarano, Margalit. "The Sephardic Communities of Latin America. A Puzzle of Subethnic Fragments", in Contemporary Sephardic Identity in the Americas. An Interdisciplinary Approach. Edas. Margalit Bejarano y Edna Aizenberg. Nueva York: Syracuse University Press, 2012, pp. 3-30.
- Benbassa, Esther y Aron Rodrigue. Sephardi Jewry: A History of the Judeo-Spanish Community, 14th-20th Centuries. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.
- Berthelot, Martine. Cien años de presencia judía en la España Contemporánea. Barcelona: KFM, 1992.
- Díaz Mas, Paloma. Los sefardíes. Historia, Lengua y Cultura. Barcelona: Riopiedras, 1997.
- Garzón, Jacobo Israel. Los judíos de Tetuán. Madrid: Hebraica Ediciones, 2005, pp. 33-54.
- Hassán, Iacob M. y Ricardo Izquierdo Benito (coords.) y ROMERO, Elena (eda.). Sefardíes: literatura y lengua de una nación dispersa. Cuenca: Universidad de Castilla La Mancha, 2008.
- Laredo, Abraham. Los orígenes de los judíos de Marruecos. Madrid: Hebraica Ediciones, 2007.
- Levy, Isaac (ed. y trad.). And the World Stood Silent: Sephardic Poetry of the Holocaust. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1989.
- Lisbona, José A. Retorno a Sefarad. La política de España hacia sus judíos en el 20th Century. Barcelona: Riopiedras, 1993.
- Naar, Devin. "The 'Mother of Israel' or the 'Sephardi Metropolis'? : Sephardim, Ashkenazim, and Romaniotes in Salonica", in Jewish Social Studies, 22/1 (2016), pp. 81-129.
- ——. Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016.
- Nieto Solís, Miguel Ángel. El último sefardí. Madrid: Ediciones Calamar, 2003.
- Ovadia, Zeldá. "Los Schindleres espanyoles", in Aki Yerushalayim, 97-98 (2015).
- Phillips Cohen, Julia y Sarah Abrevaya Stein. Sephardi Lives. A Documentary History, 1700–1950. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2014.
- Porcel, Baltasar. Los chuetas mallorquines: quince siglos de racismo. Palma de Mallorca, Miquel Font, 1991.
- Rahmani, Moïse. "Histoire des Juifs de Tétouan", in Los muestros. La boz de loz sefaradim, 37 (1999)
- Ramos González, Alicia. "La Muerte de las Palabras. El Holocausto en la voz de las escritoras sefardíes", in Crítica, 933 (2006), pp. 60-63.
- Refael, Shmuel. Un grito en el silencio. La poesía sobre el Holocausto en lengua sefardí: estudio y antología. Barcelona: Tirocinio, 2008.
- Rein, Raanan. Franco, Israel y los judíos. Madrid: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, 1996.
- Riaño López, Ana María. "El español sefardí: ese gran desconocido", in Boletín de ASELE (Asociación para la enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera), 8 (1993), pp. 19-25.
- Romero, Elena. La creación literaria en lengua sefardí. Madrid: Mapfre, 1992.
- Romeu Ferré, Pilar. "Sin memoria no hay avenir. Memorias escritas por mujeres sefardíes en los últimos 20 años", in Revista de Dialectología y Tradiciones Populares, 63/2 (2008), pp. 101-120.
- Salinas, David. España, los sefarditas y el Tercer Reich (1939-1945). La labor de diplomáticos españoles contra el genocidio nazi. Valladolid: Secretariado de Publicaciones e Intercambio Científico de la Universidad de Valladolid, 1997.
- Santa Puche, Salvador. "Una lengua en el infierno: el judeo-español en los campos de exterminio", in Tonos digital, 5 (2003).
- ——. Libro de los testimonios: los sefardíes y el Holocausto. Barcelona: Sephardi Federation of Palm Beach County, 2003.
- Tucci Carneiro, María Luiza. Diez mitos sobre los judíos. Madrid: Cátedra, 2016.