



AH 249 SPANISH ART AND ARCHITECTURE

IES Abroad Madrid

DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to the history of Spanish architecture and painting, from the Middle Ages up to modern times. It will deal with the main creations of Spanish art taking into account the historical circumstances in which they were produced. As well as discovering the cultural and historical background of each period, students will learn how to look at a building or a painting from its own point of view, analyzing its style, its own visual and spatial language. Emphasis will be placed on the great examples of Spanish painting and architecture: from masterpieces like the Mezquita of Córdoba and the Alhambra in Granada to architects such as Gaudí, Moneo and Miralles, and from El Greco, Velázquez and Goya to Picasso and Dalí.

CREDITS: 4 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 60 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: This course is of an introductory nature, so it will not request any specific background in art and architecture. Main trends and individual styles will be made clear by comparison with other examples by the same or other artists.

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Classroom teaching combines lectures with visits to the most important sites and museums in Madrid, such as the Plaza Mayor, Palacio Real, El Retiro etc., and the Prado Museum, the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum and the Museo Reina Sofía. Lectures will be illustrated with PowerPoint images. Thanks to the visits to the city and to the museums, students will have an extraordinary opportunity to appreciate by themselves the works under study.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Midterm Exam - 30%
- Paper - 30%
- Final Exam - 40%

Course Element

Midterm Exam

The first midterm exam will consist of 4 PowerPoint images of a building or a painting already seen in class. The student will have to answer briefly questions about its function, meaning and style, and the historical conditions in which it was produced.

Paper

At the end of the term students will deliver a paper analyzing an architectural or pictorial example of their choice.

Final Exam

The final exam will be very much like the first one: 4 PowerPoint images of a building or a painting already seen in class. Students will have 10 minutes for each image and should analyze style (composition, volume, color, light, and the treatment of space) and iconography (function, meaning and the context in which it was created).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

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- Understand the influence of historical and cultural contexts on the production of Spanish art across different periods.
- Examine the evolution of style and visual and spatial language in Spanish architecture and painting over the centuries.
- Identify key works of Spanish architecture and painting from the Middle Ages to modern times.
- Compare the contributions of various Spanish artists and architects throughout history.
- Synthesize information about different periods of Spanish art to develop a comprehensive understanding of its evolution and distinctive characteristics.
- Apply acquired knowledge to analyze new works of Spanish art and architecture not explicitly covered in the course.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

As a member of our class community, you are expected to be present and on time every day. Attending class has an impact on your learning and academic success. For this reason, attendance is **mandatory for all IES Madrid classes**, including course-related excursions. Absences will only be excused in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. Any assessed work, including exams, tests, and presentations, will be rescheduled if the absence is justified; otherwise, it will be graded as 0. You are allowed a maximum of 1 unexcused absence for once-a-week courses and 2 unexcused absences for twice-a-week courses. Each additional absence will deduct 5 points from your final grade. **Accumulating 7 or more absences in twice-a-week courses, or 4 or more in once-a-week courses, may lead to a failing grade.** Students arriving more than 11 minutes after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'late.' Three 'late' arrivals will be counted as 1 absence. Any student arriving 30 minutes or more after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'absent.' For more information, please refer to the full [Attendance and Punctuality Policy](#) document.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 1	• Presentation and orientation. • Introduction: how to analyze a work of art: style and iconography (meaning and context)	• Assignment(s) and/or Reading(s)
Week 2	• Concept of architecture: materials and techniques • Spain in the Early Middle Ages: Christian kingdoms (Preromanesque Architecture: visigothic and asturian periods; Islam (Mezquita de Córdoba) and religious cohabitation (Toledo: Mosque of Cristo de la luz and Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca)	• Written comment on the examples used • Mezquita de Córdoba https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UDbNx4ZEoc • María Rosa Menocal, The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain, 2003 • María Rosa Menocal, Toledo When It Was the Center of the World https://vimeo.com/9578642 • Ana Alcaide, Pasacalles Sefardí, Sinagoga del Tránsito, Toledo • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXn7zgLIJ28

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 3	Romanesque Architecture (the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela) An urban culture the Gothic cathedrals of León and Burgos	- El Camino documentary https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUW0cHeMkk - Santiago's Cathedral architecture https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGFSolvggGE - Presentation at the MET of the computer reconstruction of the medieval Cathedral and town of Santiago de Compostela https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmVJSmlA7BU
Week 4	The Miracle of La Alhambra: Renaissance: The Palace of Charles V in La Alhambra	The Alhambra from the Sultan palace to the legend https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrLPnmVgAsg&t=78s
Week 5	- Flemish and Italian Renaissance: van der Weyden, Fra Angelico, Raphael. - Visit to the Prado Museum - El Greco and the influence of Titian and Tintoretto Visit to the Prado Museum	Written reflection on EL Greco's style
Week 6	- Caravaggio and Rubens and their influence on Velázquez Visit to the Prado Museum - Velázquez: as a court painter Visit to the Prado Museum	Written reflection on this influence.
Week 7	- Review: first midterm exam FIRST - MIDTERM EXAM	
Week 8	- Velázquez masterpieces: The Spinners (Las Hilanderas) and Las Meninas Visit to the Prado Museum - The Madrid of the Austrias - Visit of the Plaza Mayor and the Plaza de la Villa	Written reflection on Velázquez's style.

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 9	- The Bourbon dynasty palace: El Palacio Real de Madrid Visit of the Palacio Real - Goya: The Age of Enlightenment. - Tapestry cartoons and court portraits Visit to the Prado Museum	
Week 10	- Madrid in the Age of Enlightenment - Visit: Paseo del Prado, Jardín botánico and Museo del Prado - Goya: War paintings and Black Paintings (Las pinturas negras) - Visit to the Prado Museum	Written reflection on Goya's style.
Week 11	- First steps to modern art - Visit to the Museum Thyssen-Bornemisza Sorolla - Visit to the Sorolla Museum	
Week 12	- Gaudí and Barcelona - Visit to the Retiro (Palacio de Cristal y Palacio de Velázquez)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2MdsLVciTE (Palacio de Cristal) - AAVV, Antonio Gaudí, Taschen, 2009 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gy8gAVywfS (Park Güell) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WX6IHvTswHs (Casa Batlló)
Week 13	Visit: Antonio Palacios (Palacio de Comunicaciones) (Or other relevant visit)	
Week 14	- Picasso: El Guernica - Visit to the Museum Reina Sofía Dalí y Miró - Visit to the Museum Reina Sofía	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXlzvTHg7k (Un chien andalou) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1GFkN4deuZU https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X59U4mUqWtw (Picasso at work) - Rethinking Guernica: https://www.museoreinasofia.es/en/multimedia/rethinking-guernica

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 15	FINAL EXAM: The day and time will be announced on time	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- None

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Alcaide, Ana. *Pasacalles Sefardí, Sinagoga del Tránsito, Toledo*
- AAVV, *Antonio Gaudí*, Taschen, 2009
- Gombrich E.M., *The Story of Art*, Oxford, Phaidon Press, 198
- Menocal, María Rosa. *The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain*, 2003
- Menocal, María Rosa. *Toledo When It Was the Center of the World*

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Aznar, Y., *The Guernica*, Edilupa, Madrid, 2004.
- Baccheschi, E., *El Greco, Every Painting*, Ed. David Piper, New York, 1980. Brown, J., *Painting in Spain: 1500-1700*, Yale University Press, 1998.
- Bassegoda Nonell, J., and Levick, M., *Antonio Gaudi: Master Architect*, Abbeville Press, 2001.
- Brown, J., *The Golden Age of Painting in Spain*, Yale University Press, 1991.
- Brown and Mann, *Spanish Painting of the 15th through 19th centuries*, National Gallery of Art, Washington, 1990
- Brown, J., *Images and Ideas in Seventeenth Century Spanish Painting*, Princeton University Press, 1978. Brown, J. et al., *El Greco of Toledo*, Exhibition Catalogue, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, 1982.
- Brown, J., *Velázquez: Painter and Courtier*, New Haven, Yale University Press, 1986. du Gué Trapier, E., *Goya and his sitters*, Hispanic Society of America, New York, 1964. Elliot, J.H., *Imperial Spain 1469 – 1716*, Penguin Books, London , 1963.
- Conant, K.J., *The Early Architectural History of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela*, Cambridge, 1926 (revised by S. Moralejo, Santiago de Compostela, 1983)
- Crippa, M.A., *Antoni Gaudi, 1852-1926: From Nature to Architecture*, Taschen, 2003.
- Descharnes, R., and Neret, G., *Dalí*, 2006.
- Díez, J.L. and Barón, J., *Joaquín Sorolla*, Exhibition Catalogue, Museo del Prado, Thames & Hudson, London, 2009.
- Dodds, J., and Menocal, M.R., *The Arts of Intimacy. Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture*, Yale University Press, New Haven and London 2008.
- Elliot, J.H., *Imperial Spain 1469 – 1716*, Penguin Books, London, 1963.
- Elliott, J.H., *A Palace for a King. The Buen Retiro and the Court of Philip IVth*, New Haven, Yale University Press, 1980.
- Erben, W., *Miró*, Taschen, 2008
- Freedberg, S.J., *Painting in Italy 1500-1600*, London, 1975.
- Gassier, P., and J. Wilson, *The Life and Complete Work of Francisco Goya*, New York, 1981. Glendinning, N., *Goya and His Critics*, New Haven, Yale University Press, 1977.
- Gombrich, E.M., *The Story of Art*, Oxford, Phaidon Press, 1985.
- Glendinning, N., *Goya and His Critics*, New Haven, Yale University Press, 1977.
- Portús, J., *Velázquez*, Guide to the Prado Museum, Madrid, 2000.
- Portús, J., “Connecting Threats: Meninas, Spinners and a Musical Fable”, *Velázquez’s Fables*, exhibition catalogue, The National Gallery, London, 2007.
- Stones, A., Williams, J., et al., *Compostela and Europe, The Story of Diego Gelmirez*, Skira, 2010
- Harris, T., *Goya. Lithographs and Engravings*, San Francisco, Alan Wolsky Fines Arts, 1983. Janson, H.W., and E.A. Janson, *A Basic History of Art*, Prentice Hall, 1987.

- Irwin, R., *The Alhambra*, Harvard University Press, 2004
- Jordan, W., *Spanish Still life in the Golden Age: 1600-1650*, Kimbell Art Museum, 1985
- Lassaigue, J., *Spanish Painting From Velázquez to Picasso*, Skira, 1952.
- MacGregor, N., *Painting in Spain during the Later Eighteenth century*, Washington, National Gallery, 1989.
- MacLaren, N., *The Spanish School*, National Gallery Catalogue, 1952, reprinted 1998.
- Mena, *Goya and the Eighteenth Century Spanish Painting*, Guide to the Prado Museum, Madrid, 2000.
- Menocal, María Rosa, *The Ornament of the World*, New York, 2002, 5-13 and 130-147
- Mink, J., *Joan Miró, 1893-1983*, 1999.
- Pérez Sánchez, A.E., and E.A. Sayre, *Goya and the Spirit of Enlightenment*, Boston, Catalogue of the exhibition in the Museum of Fine Arts, 1989.
- *Picasso: Tradition and Avant-garde*, exhibition catalogue, Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid, 2006.
- Stoichita, V., *Visionary experience in the Golden Age of Spanish Art*, Reaktion Books, London, 1995.
- Stratton-Pruitt, *Velázquez. Las Meninas*, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Sullivan and Mallory, *Painting in Spain 1650-1700 from North American Collectors*, Princeton Museum of Art, University Press, 1982.
- Tomlinson, J., *Goya*, Phaidon, London, 1994.
- Tomlinson, J., *Graphic Evolutions. The Print Series of Francisco de Goya*, Columbia University Press, New York, 1989.
- Tomlinson, J., *Goya and the Twilight of Enlightenment*, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1992.
- VVAA., *Goya. The Disasters of War and selected Prints*, The Spanish Institute, New York, 1985.
- VVAA., *Velázquez in Seville*, National Gallery of Scotland, 1996.
- Wethey, H.E., *El Greco and his School*, Princeton University Press, 1962.