
CU250: Spain and the Americas
IES Abroad Madrid

DESCRIPTION:

The aim of this course is to analyze the main historical events that, from Spain's arrival in the Americas (1492) until the Spanish-American War (1898), have linked the history of Spain to the American continent. The objective is to learn in-depth the Spanish-Latin American relationships from the end of the fifteenth century until the end of the nineteenth century, and the main reciprocal influences between them in the field of policy, culture and history. The classes and course-related trips will help students understand the evolution of these relations through the analysis of literature, exhibitions, architecture and films.

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures
- Class discussions
- Course-related trip
- Class participation

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Midterm exam - 30%
- Final exam - 30%
- Term paper - 30%
- Participation - 10%

Midterm Exam

The exam will cover the material from lectures, readings and our class discussion. The exam will consist of three essay questions. Students will choose two for which they will develop in detail thoughtful arguments with supporting details. Each of these two questions will have a maximum score of 50 points over 100.

Final Exam

The final will cover the material from lectures, our readings and our class discussion. It will follow the same format as the midterm exam and will require students to make comparisons across all periods and subjects studied during the semester. Each of these two questions will have a maximum score of 50 points over 100.

Term Paper

Students must turn in a 3750-word original critical analysis paper (double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman). This paper is to have a clear introduction and historical thesis, and it should demonstrate students' knowledge garnered from the reading and class materials in order to answer the question posed by the professor on the syllabus. All response papers must use proper historical citation (Chicago style). If you do not attend class the day a paper is due, please email it to me.

Participation

Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings, prepared thoughts on the study questions, and/or viewed the assigned films.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- Identify and describe the key historical moments that define the relationship between Latin America and Spain.
- Demonstrate awareness of the influence that the historical events have had on various cultures as well as their socio-political importance.
- Assess the historical relationship that, from the fifteenth century onward, has taken place between Spain and Latin America.
- Contextualize the legacy of this time period upon both contemporary Spain and Latin America.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related excursions. Any exams, tests, presentations, or any work missed due to student absences, can only be justified in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course, three percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments	Readings
Session1	Welcome & Class Introduction Middle Ages in the Iberian Peninsula. General characteristics and main actors.		Braziller, G. (1992) <i>Convivencia: Jews, Muslims, and Christians in Medieval Spain</i> . New York, Jewish Museum. Pp. 5-12.
Session 2	The birth of Spain: from Middle Ages to Modern Era	Watch the film El Cid (1961 by Anthony Mann)	
Session 3	The reign of Catholic Monarchs: from the conquest of Granada to the Discovery of America.	Prepare this topic for discussion: Connection between the conquest of Granada and the discovery of America	Prescott, William H. (2008) <i>History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella</i> . Alexandria, Library of Alexandria. Pp. 7-15.
Session 4	Christopher Columbus: enigma and project. Toscanelli and other enemies of his ideas.	Watch the film 1492 Conquest of Paradise (1992 by Ridley Scott)	
Session 5	The “Discovery of America” and the four trips of Columbus.	Prepare this topic for discussion: What profits did Spain have in this period?	Sarfaty, David E. (2010) <i>Columbus Re-Discovered</i> . Pittsburgh, RoseDog Books. Pp. 231-355.
Session 6	From the Trastámara to the Habsburgs. Regencies, madness and emperors (Juana “La Loca”, Felipe “El Hermoso” & Carlos I).	Watch the film Mad Love Juana La Loca (2001 Vicente Aranda)	
Session 7	Hernán Cortés, Jerónimo de Aguilar and La Malinche. The conquest of Tenochtitlan.	Prepare this topic for discussion: Would the conquest of Mexico have been possible without the help of La Malinche?	Elliott, Jhon (2007) <i>Empires of the Atlantic World: Britain and Spain in América 1492-1830</i> . Yale University Press, New Haven. Pp. 29-57.
Session 8	Hernán Cortés & Moctezuma II.	Watch the documentary film	

	The history of the conquest of an Empire.	The Conquest	
Session 9	Francisco Pizarro, the Famous Thirteen and a room full of gold: The Conquest of Peru. (Atahualpa & Huascar)	Prepare this topic for discussion: What are the main differences between the conquest of Mexico and the conquest of Peru?	Read: Prescott, William H. (1891) <i>History of the Conquest of Peru</i> . J.B. Lippincott, Philadelphia. Pp. 150-169.
Session 10		Midterm exam	
Session 11	Ponce de León, De Soto, Orellana, Núñez de Balboa and other Spanish discoverers and conquerors in search of riches.	Watch the documentary film The Great Spanish Conquistadors	Read: Bakewell, Peter. (1988) <i>Silver and Entrepreneurship in Seventeenth-Century Potosí</i> . New Mexico, New Mexico University. Pp. 3-11.
Session 12	The seven American Legends: El Dorado, Cíboa, Paititi and others...	Prepare this topic for discussion: Why do you think these legends existed?	
Session 13	The Spanish State in America in the seventeenth century. Colonial Cities and Political Administration	Bakewell, Peter. (1988) <i>Silver and Entrepreneurship in Seventeenth-Century Potosí</i> . New Mexico, New Mexico University. Pp. 37-50	Bakewell, Peter. (1988) <i>Silver and Entrepreneurship in Seventeenth-Century Potosí</i> . New Mexico, New Mexico University. Pp. 22-36
Session 14	The Spanish State in America in the seventeenth century. Colonial Economies.	Prepare this topic for discussion: What do you think the benefits obtained in America were spent on?	
Session 15	The Spanish State in America in the seventeenth century. Colonial Cities and Political Administration.	Watch the documentary film Bartolomé de Las Casas	Mills, Kenneth; Taylor, William B. & Lauderdale Graham, Laura (2002) <i>Colonial Latin América. A Documentary History</i> . Lanham, SR Books. Pp. 11-19
Session 16	The Catholic Church in Colonial Latin América	Watch the film The Mission	
Session 17	The birth of a new society. The castes.	Prepare this topic for discussion: Does the color of the skin always determine the social status in the colony?	Walter, Charles (2008) <i>Shaky Colonialism: The 1746 Earthquake-Tsunami in Lima, Peru, and its Long Aftermaths</i> . Duke University Press. Pp. 6-11
Session 18	The Late Colonial Period: The Bourbons and the Eighteenth Century	Read Walter, Charles (2008) <i>Shaky Colonialism: The 1746 Earthquake-Tsunami in Lima, Peru, and its Long Aftermaths</i> . Duke University Press. Pp. 11-22	
Session 19	1808 and the end of the Empire:	Read: Viscardo y Guzmán,	Read: Berner, Brad K. &

	Independence in Spanish America	Juan Pablo (2002) <i>Letter to the Spanish Americans</i> . John Carter Brown. Pp. 337-351.	Goldstein, Kalman (2014) <i>The Spanish-American War</i> . Madison, Dickinson University. Pp. 5-9.
Session 20	The disaster of 1898: the loss of Cuba and Philippines. The Spanish-American War	Watch the documentary film The Spanish American War	
Session 21	1898 Generation: The Literature is saddened	Read: Balfour, Sebastian (1997) <i>The end of the Spanish Empire 1898-1923</i> . New York, Oxford University. Pp.30-64.	Balfour, Sebastian (1997) <i>The end of the Spanish Empire 1898-1923</i> . New York, Oxford University. Pp. 2-30
Session 22	The Hispanic Society of América: Cultural admiration	Watch the documentary film The Hispanic Society of América Final paper due	
Session 23	Review and preparation for final exam		

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Museo de America
- Casa de America
- Museo Antropologico

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Bakewell, Peter. (1988) *Silver and Entrepreneurship in Seventeenth-Century Potosí*. New Mexico, New Mexico University. Pp. 3-11.
- Balfour, Sebastian (1997) *The end of the Spanish Empire 1898-1923*. New York, Oxford University. Pp. 2-64.
- Berner, Brad K. & Goldstein, Kalman (2014) *The Spanish-American War*. Madison, Dickinson University. Pp. 5-9.
- Braziller, G. (1992) *Convivencia: Jews, Muslims, and Christians in Medieval Spain*. New York, Jewish Museum. Pp. 5-12.
- Elliott, Jhon (2007) *Empires of the Atlantic World: Britain and Spain in América 1492-1830*. Yale University Press, New Haven. Pp. 29-57.
- Mills, Kenneth; Taylor, William B. & Lauderdale Graham, Laura (2002) *Colonial Latin América. A Documentary History*. Lanham, SR Books. Pp. 11-19.
- Phillips, William D. & Jahn Phillips, Carla (2010) *A concise History of Spain*. Cambridge, Cambridge University.
- Prescott, William H. (1891) *History of the Conquest of Peru*. J.B. Lippincott, Philadelphia. Pp. 150-169.
- Prescott, William H. (2008) *History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella*. Alexandría, Library of Alexandría. Pp. 7-15.
- Viscardo y Guzmán, Juan Pablo (2002) *Letter to the Spanish Americans*. John Carter Brown. Pp. 337-351.
- Walter, Charles (2008) *Shaky Colonialism: The 1746 Earthquake-Tsunami in Lima, Peru, and its Long Aftermaths*. Duke University Press. Pp. 6-22.

REQUIRED FILMS (to be watched outside of class time; all films available at the IES Abroad Madrid Center):

- *El Cid* (1961) by Anthony Mann
- *1492: Conquest of Paradise* (1992) by Ridley Scott.
- *Mad Love Juana La Loca* (2001) by Vicente Aranda
- *The Mission* (1986) by Roland Joffé

REQUIRED DOCUMENTARY FILMS:

- Bartolomé de Las Casas
- The Conquest
- The Fall of Granada 1492
- The Great Spanish Conquistadors
- The Spanish American War
- The Hispanic Society of América

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Day, Meredith (2016) *Revolution and Independence in Latin América*. New York, Encyclopedia Británnica.
- Fee, Christopher & Webb, Jeffrey B. (2016) *American Myths*. Santa Bárbara, ABC-CLIO.
- Kamen, Henry (2004) *Empire: How Spain Became a World Power, 1492-1763*. New York, Harper Collins.
- Levy, Buddy (2008) *Conquistador: Hernan Cortes, King Montezuma, and the Last Stand of the Aztecs*. New York, Bantam.
- Prescott, William H. (1904) *History of the Conquest of Mexico*. J.B. Lippincott, Philadelphia.
- Restall, Matthew & Fernández-Armesto, Felipe (2012) *The conquistadors: a very short introduction*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Sarfaty, David E. (2010) *Columbus Re-Discovered*. Pittsburgh, RoseDog Books.
- Streissguth, Thomas (2004) *Francisco Pizarro*. Mankato, Capstone.
- Walter, Charles (2008) *Shaky Colonialism: The 1746 Earthquake-Tsunami in Lima, Peru, and its Long Aftermaths*. Duke University Press.

RECOMMENDED FILMS:

- *La Corona partida* (2016) by Jordi Frades

RECOMMENDED MUSEUMS:

Museo Nacional de Antropología: Located in Alfonso XII Street, 68. This museum showcases some key moments through preserved objects. Visiting the collection devoted to America is interesting to this subject.