



HS/AH 251 BARCELONA: THE COSMOPOLITAN CITY

IES Abroad Barcelona

DESCRIPTION:

Today, Barcelona is a cosmopolitan city and a global leader, boasting such labels as the "coolest city in Europe," the "Paris of the Mediterranean," or the "City of Marvels." Its architectural landscape features one of the best preserved "Gothic Centres" in Europe, gems from the fin-de-siècle modernist movement, and the recent creations of international star architects, including Frank Gehry, Jean Nouvel, and Arata Isozaki. It has hosted two world fairs, the 1992 Summer Olympics, and the 2004 Forum of World Cultures. It is now home to the largest conference on the planet, the Mobile World Congress, which currently generates 500 million dollars of annual income and attracts distinguished guests such as Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg. The Sagrada Família of Antoni Gaudí, the primary-color paintings and sculptures of Joan Miró, and the canvasses of Pablo Picasso remain the iconic images associated with the city around the globe.

All the same, the history of Barcelona does not consist of a triumphal march toward contemporary success. Behind this glossy façade is a gritty city that experienced periods of rise and decline, beginning with rather humble origins as a small Roman village in 10 BC. During the medieval period, it grew into a political and ceremonial capital of a powerful empire extending throughout the western Mediterranean. It later became absorbed into Imperial Spain and entered a prolonged period of population stagnation and socio-economic reorientation. The resurgence of the city began in the industrial period when the coming of modern factories turned it into one of the most dynamic cities in the Mediterranean. The coming of working-class violence and anarchism -- paired with police and army repression -- earned it the reputation of the "city of bombs." Repression returned under the dictatorship of Francisco Franco (1939-1975) who prohibited residents from speaking their native language, Catalan, in public. Its population changed dramatically in the twentieth and twenty-first century with the arrival of Spanish-speaking immigrants from Spain and Latin America, and most recently from Asian and African countries, particularly China, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Morocco. Today, Barcelona consists of a complex human, linguistic and physical map of peoples, languages, and buildings representative of distinct periods and places. As a result of the financial crisis of 2008, the secessionist movement in Catalonia, the pandemic and the current global recession Barcelona is experiencing unprecedented challenges that we will discuss in class.

This course provides an introduction to Barcelona by studying its past and analysing its present. It will focus on how seminal historical events have transformed the urban plan, the built environment, and its international image, and discuss how Catalan and Mediterranean identities become expressed and embedded in art, architecture, and tradition. It will employ an interdisciplinary methodology by complementing readings in history and art history with those of literature, urban geography, and film and cultural studies.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Class discussion: The majority of each class will consist of discussions of key themes. Students will be provided with the texts to read for each class on Moodle, together with a list of reading questions designed to focus their attention on key points and concepts in the texts. These will form the basis of the class discussions.

- Course-related trips: There will be five in-class field studies: MUHBA, Walking tour of the Gothic neighbourhood, Hospital Sant Pau, Walking tour of the Civil War sites and Montjuic and the Olympic stadium. In addition to these 5 fieldstudies, students will have to undertake 3 additional self-guided ones from a list of 20 possible destinations.
- Lectures: The professor will supplement class discussions with lectures to help the students interpret the material provided in the class readings, to tie the readings together, and provide summaries of theoretical approaches to the subject.
- Film viewing: There will be one film viewing during the course. The film will be screened prior to class. Students will be provided with viewing and discussion questions to be completed on Moodle before the class starts. The films will serve as material for discussion of the theoretical concepts covered in the course.
- Guest Speaker: The course will feature a guest speaker who will discuss issues regarding Catalan separatism in Barcelona today.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Journal - 15%
- Midterm exam - 20%
- Final Paper - 25%
- Presentation of Final Paper - 10%
- Class participation - 10%
- Final exam - 20%

Journal

During the class, students will have to write three 500 word long reflections on the three self-guided course-related trips. The journal will be submitted electronically 10 days after it is assigned.

Midterm exam

This will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes in the first half of the course. The question formats will include essay questions, multiple choice questions, maps, short answer questions, and justified True/False questions.

Final Paper

This consists of an original research project, 2500 words long, on a topic to be discussed and agreed upon with the professor and later presented to the class for discussion.

Presentation of Final Paper

During the last days of class, students will be required to present their research paper, which will be evaluated independently of the paper itself.

Class participation

Students will be expected to come to class prepared, and to participate actively in class.

Final exam

Like the midterm exam, this will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course students are able to:

- Analyze how past occurrences have shaped the physical layout, the built environment, and the symbols of identity and traditions of the city.
- Identify global phenomena that have impacted the city at a local level.
- Explain the idiosyncrasies and peculiarities of the city through its art and architecture.
- Appraise the future prospects of the city of Barcelona in light of its past.

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 required for all IES Barcelona classes, including course-related excursions. If a student misses more than three classes in any course without justification, 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven unjustified absences in any course will result in a failing grade. Absences will only be justified, and assessed work, including exams, tests and presentations rescheduled, in cases of documented medical or family emergencies.

CONTENT:

Session	Content	Required Reading
Session 1	General Overview of the course, class assignments and readings, and professorial expectations	
Session 2	Geography and Demography. The “Barcelona Model.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charnock, G., March, H., & Ribera-Fumaz, R. (2021). From smart to rebel city? Worlding, provincialising and the Barcelona Model. <i>Urban Studies</i>, 58(3), 581-600.
Session 3	From Pre-History to Roman Times. The Birth of Barcelona. Course-related trip. MUHBA and Plaça del Rei.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roda de Llanza, Isabel (2002). Barcelona. From its Foundation up to the 4th century AD. In VV.AA, <i>The Archeological Remains of Plaça del Rei</i> Ajuntament de Barcelona, 21-31.
Session 4	Barcino, Barchinonae, Barshilona, Barcelona: The Roman, Gothic, Islamic, and Early Christian City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freedman, Paul H. (1988). Cowardice, Heroism and the Legendary Origins of Catalonia. <i>Past and Present</i> 121. 3-28.
Session 5	The Splendor of Medieval Barcelona (I) The Catalan Gothic Style Walking Tour of the Medieval City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toibin, Colm (2002). The Gothic Quarter. In <i>Homage to Barcelona: 1</i> Simon and Schuster, 11-23 McDonogh, Gary (2018). Barcelona. Wiley, 53-75.
Session 6	The Splendor of Medieval Barcelona (II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abad Rich, Anna (2014). Able and Available: Jewish Women in Medieval Barcelona and Their Economic Activities. <i>Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies</i>, 6, no. 1:71-86.
Session 7	An Imperial and "Multi-Cultural" Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nirenberg, David (1996). Sex and Violence Between Majority and Minority. In <i>Communities of Violence</i>: Princeton University Press, 18-40.

Session 8	Decline and Integration into Spain Two wars with Castile: The Reapers' War and the War of Spanish Succession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliott, John (1984). <i>The Revolt of the Catalans</i>. Cambridge University Press. 1-48. • McDonogh, Gary (2019). Barcelona. Wiley, 99-125.
Session 9	Barcelona as a Spanish City	No Reading - Revision for the Midterm.
Session 10	MIDTERM EXAM	None.
Session 11	The Industrious City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliott, John (2018), Selections from <i>Scots and Catalans: Union and Disunion</i>. Yale University Press.
Session 12	The Industrial City (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resina, Joan Ramon (2008), The Bourgeois City in <i>Barcelona's Vocation of Modernity: Rise and Decline of an Urban Image</i>, Stanford University Press, 10-62.
Session 13	The Industrial City (II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miller, Montserrat (2015). Mirrors of Urban Growth: Market Building through the Long Nineteenth Century. In <i>Feeding Barcelona 1714-1975</i>, Louisiana State Press, 27-51
Session 14	City Of Marvels (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacobson, Stephen (2011). Interpreting Municipal Celebrations of Nation and Empire: The Barcelona Universal Exhibition of 1888, in William Whyte and Oliver Zimmer (eds.), <i>Nationalism and the Reshaping of Urban Communities in Europe, 1848-1914</i>, Palgrave, 74-108.
Session 15	City Of Marvels (II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falgàs, Jordi Picasso among his fellows at 4 Gats: Beyond <i>Modernisme?</i> in Enric Bou and Jaume Subinara (eds.), <i>The Barcelona Reader: Cultural Readings of a City</i> (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press: 2017), 243-264.
Session 15	The Divided City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ealham, Chris (2004). The Making of the Divided City and Mapping the

	Course-related trip to the Civil War Sites	<p>Working Class City: 1-53 in <i>Class, Culture and Conflict in Barcelona, 1898-1937</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orwell, George (1989). <i>Hommage to Catalonia</i>. London: Penguin in association with Martin Secker & Warburg.
Session 16	Civil War and Dictatorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toibin, Colm (2002). The Civil War. In <i>Hommage to Barcelona</i>: 107-130. London: Simon and Schuster.
Session 18	From Dictatorship to Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eaude, Michael (2006). The Jewel of the Crown? In <i>Michael Barcelona</i>: 262-279. Nottingham: Five Leaves Press.
Session 19	<p>Olympic Barcelona</p> <p>Course-related trip to the Olympic Sites and the 1929 International Exhibition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eaude, Michael (2006). The Greatest Show on Earth. In <i>Barcelona</i>: 247-262. Five Leaves Press, 247-262.
Session 20	<p>Global Barcelona in the Digital Age: The 22@ Project, the Challenges of Immigration, and Increasing Inequality</p> <p>FINAL PAPER DUE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minder, Rafael (2017). Catalonia's Great Melting Pot. In <i>The Struggle for Catalonia</i>: 95-112. London: Hurst. Arbaci, Sonia (2012). Social Inequality and Urban Regeneration in Barcelona City Centre: Reconsidering Success. <i>European Urban and Regional Studies</i>, 19, no. 3 (2012): 287-311.
Session 21	<p>The Barcelona Model and its Critics</p> <p>The quest for the inclusive city</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movie: Alejandro González Iñárritu, <i>Biutiful</i>, 2 hours, 28 minutes. Fraser, Benjamin (2012). A Biutiful City: Alejandro González Iñárritu's Filmic Critique of 'The Barcelona Model'. <i>Studies in Hispanic Cinemas</i>, 8, no. 2 (2012): 19-54. Montagut, T., Vilà, G., & Riutort, S. (2016). Barcelona: A Citizen's Agreement for an Inclusive City. In <i>Social Innovations in the Urban Context</i> (pp. 273-279). Springer, Cham.

Session 22	Barcelona Today	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor will assign a series of current newspaper articles and provide links on the web.
Session 23	Barcelona: Current challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mansilla, José An (2022). Becoming Centre: tourism placemaking and space production in two neighbourhoods in Barcelona. In <i>Tourism Geographies</i>, 24 (pp 599-620)
Session 24	Students Class Presentations Preparation for Final exam	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Visit to the MUHBA and Plaça del Rei
- Visit to the Olympic Sites and the 1929 International Exhibition

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Abad Rich, Anna (2014). Able and Available: Jewish Women in Medieval Barcelona and their Economic Activities. *Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies*, 6, n 1: 71-86.
- Arbaci, Sonia (2012). Social Inequality and Urban Regeneration in Barcelona City Center: Reconsidering Success. *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 19, n3: 287-311.
- Charnock, G., March, H., & Ribera-Fumaz, R. (2021). From smart to rebel city? Worlding, provincialising and the Barcelona Model. *Urban Studies*, 58(3), 581-600.
- EALHAM, Chris (2004). The Making of the Divided City and Mapping the Working Class City: 1-53 in *Class, Culture and Conflict in Barcelona, 1898-1937*. London: Routledge.
- Eaude, Michael. (2006). *Barcelona*. Five Leave press, 54-72, 262-279, 247-262, 279-301.
- Elliot, John (1984). The Revolt of the Catalans: 1-48. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Elliot, John (2018). Selections from *Scots and Catalans: Union and Disunion*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Falgàs, Jordi (2017) Picasso among his fellows at 4 Gats: Beyond *Modernisme*? in Enric Bou and Jaume Subinara (eds.), *The Barcelona Reader: Cultural Readings of a City*. Liverpool University Press, 243-264.
- Fraser, Benjamin (2012). A Biutiful City: Alejandro González Iñárritu's Filmic Critique of The Barcelona Model. *Studies in Hispanic Cinemas* 8, n2: 19-54.
- Freedman, Paul H. (1988). Cowardice, Heroism and the Legendary Origins of Catalonia, in *Past and Present* 121: 3-28.
- Jacobson, Stephen (2011), Interpreting Municipal Celebrations of Nation and Empire: The Barcelona Universal Exhibition of 1888, in *Nationalism and the Reshaping of Urban Communities in Europe*: 74-109. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Mansilla, José A. (2022). Becoming Centre: Tourism, placemaking and space production in two neighbourhoods in Barcelona. In *Tourism Geographies*, 24, 599-6290.
- Miller, Montserrat (2015). Mirrors of Urban Growth: Market Building through the Long Nineteenth Century. In *Feeding Barcelona 1714-1975*. Louisiana State Press, 27-51
- Minder, Raphael (2017). Catalonia's Great Melting Pot. In *The Struggle for Catalonia*: 95-112. London: Hurst.
- Montagut, T., Vilà, G., & Riutort, S. (2016). Barcelona: A Citizen's Agreement for an Inclusive City. In *Social Innovations in the Urban Context* (pp. 273-279). Springer, Cham.
- Nirenbrg, David (1996). Sex and Violence Between Majority and Minority in, *Communities of Violence*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 18-40
- Orwell, George (1989). *Homage to Catalonia*. London: Penguin in association with Martin Secker & Warburg.
- Resina, Joan Ramon (2008), The Bourgeois City in *Barcelona's Vocation of Modernity: Rise and Decline of an Urban Image*, Stanford, 10-62-

- Roda de Llanza, Isabel (2002). Barcelona. From its Foundation up to the 4th century AD. In VV.AA, *The Archeological Remains of Plaça del Rei in Barcelona*: Barcelona: Ajuntament de Barcelona, 22-31
- Toibin, Colm (2002). *Homage to Barcelona*. Simon and Schuster, 11-23, 30-50, 50-63, 107-130.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Ainaud, Josep Maria et al (1996). *Barcelona contemporània - Contemporary Barcelona*. Barcelona: Centre de Cultura Contemporània.
- Amelang, James S. et al. (1992). *Twelve walks through Barcelona's past*. Barcelona: Ajuntament de Barcelona.
- Balibrea, Mari Paz (2017). Selections from The Global Cultural Capital: Addressing the Citizen and Producing the City in Barcelona. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Bisson, Thomas N. (1991). *The Medieval Crown of Aragon. A short history*. Oxford: Clarendon.
- Beltrán de Heredia, Julia (2002). Daily life. Domus and material culture. In VV.AA, *The Archeological Remains of Plaça del Rei in Barcelona*: 140-146. Barcelona: Ajuntament de Barcelona.
- Casellas, Antonia (2009), Barcelona's Urban Landscape: the Historical Making of a Tourist Product, *Journal of Urban History* 35: 815-831.
- Corteguera, Luis R. (2002). *For the common good. Popular politics in Barcelona, 1580-1640*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Fernández Armesto, Felipe (1992). *Barcelona. A thousand Years of the City's Past*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Galera, Montserrat et al. (1986). *Atlas de Barcelona. Siglos XVI-XX*. Barcelona: Publicaciones del Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Cataluña y Baleares.
- Graham, Helen and Jo LABANYI (ed) (1995). *Spanish Cultural Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hernández, Xavier (2007). The Catalan Feudal State, in *The History of Catalonia*, 41-63. Barcelona: Rafael Dalmau Editores.
- Hughes, Robert (1999). Barcelona. Vintage.
- Lalaguna Juan (1994). *A traveller's history of Spain*. New York: Interlink Books.
- Luna, Antoni (2008). Just Another Coffee. Milking the Barcelona Model, Marketing a Global Image, and the Resistance of Local Identities: 143-160 in Cronin, Anne and Hetherington, Kevin, *Consuming the Entrepreneurial City: Image, Memory, Spectacle*. London: Routledge.
- McNeill, Donald (1999). *Urban Change and the European Left Tales from the new Barcelona*. London: Routledge.
- Nardinelli, Clark (1990). *Child labor and the Industrial Revolution*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Planas, Silvia and Forcano, Manuel (2009), *A History of Jewish Catalonia: The Life and Death of Jewish Communities in Medieval Catalonia*: 15-59, 81-115. Girona: Ajuntament de Girona.
- Romero Maura, Javier (1968). Terrorism in Barcelona and its Impact of Spanish Politics, 1904-1909, *Past and Present* 41: 130-183.
- Schweid, Richard (1994). *Barcelona. Jews, Transvestites, and an Olympic Season*. Berkeley: Berkeley University Press.
- Scobie H.M. (1998). *The Spanish Economy in the 1990s*. London: Routledge.
- Tamames, Ramón (1985). *The Spanish Economy. An Introduction*. London: C.Hurst and Company.
- Toibin, Colm (1990). *Homage to Barcelona*. London: Simon & Schuster.
- VV.AA. (1985). *A City in war: American views on Barcelona and the Spanish Civil War, 1936-39*. Wilmington: Wilmington Scholarly Resources.
- VV.AA. (2002). *Jewish Catalonia*. Barcelona: MHC.
- VV.AA. (2004). *Les presons de Franco. Franco's prisons*. Barcelona: Departament de Cultura de la Generalitat de Catalunya.