**HS 332 WAR AND DICTATORSHIP IN SPAIN**
IES Abroad Barcelona

**DESCRIPTION:**
The Spanish war has probably produced a richer crop of lies than any event since the Great War.
George Orwell, 1937

There isn’t any difference in totalitarian states... Nazi, Communist, Fascist, or Franco, or anything else -they are all alike... A police state is a police state.
Harry Truman, 1947

General Franco was a loyal friend and ally of the United States. He earned worldwide respect for Spain through firmness and fairness.
Richard Nixon, 1975

In this course students will explore the two most crucial, troubled and controversial periods of 20th Century Spain: the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) and the subsequent Dictatorship of General Francisco Franco (1939-1975).
The course is broadly divided into four sections. The first section will trace the origins of the Spanish Civil War through the first decades of the 20th Century, starting from the war between Spain and the United States (1898). The second section will analyze in detail the Civil War, with an emphasis on its international aspects. The third will study Franco’s Dictatorship and will compare it to Hitler’s Germany, Mussolini’s Italy and Salazar’s Portugal. The final section will focus on the interpretations of the Civil War and the Dictatorship which are prevalent in today's Spain.

Particular attention will be paid to the following topics:
- The rise of Fascism, Socialism, Communism and Anarchism in Spain during the Second Republic.
- The division of Spain in two opposite sides after the military rising of 1936: the Republicans – called “Reds” by their enemies – and the Rebels or Francoists – called “Fascists” by their enemies.
- The social and economic revolution attempted by the Anarchists on the Republican side.
- The role of the foreign powers, including the United States, in the Spanish Civil War.
- The foundations, consolidation and downfall of Franco’s regime.
- The situation of the Basque, Catalan and Galician cultures and languages under Franco’s rule.
- The relations between Franco’s Dictatorship and the United States’ governments from 1939 to 1975.
- The main historiographical interpretations and controversies on both the Civil War and Franco’s Spain.

The objective of the course is to equip students with a thorough knowledge of two fundamental periods in Spanish modern history, allowing them to analyze the significance of the Civil War and Franco’s Dictatorship for European and World history. On a more general level, the course aims to improve students’ critical thinking skills and ability to assess the complexity of historical processes.

**CREDITS:** 3 credits

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45 hours

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** English

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:** Students will acquire the knowledge and the skills of this course through the following means:
- Course-related trips: There will be the following six instructor-guided course-related trips: a tour through Medieval Barcelona, a visit to the Catalonia History Museum, a visit to a bomb shelter from the Civil War, a tour through the scenes of the Civil War and the Anarchist revolution in Barcelona, a visit to the Democratic Memorial of Catalonia and a tour following the traces of the US Sixth Fleet in Barcelona.
Class discussion: A significant amount of class time will be devoted to the discussion of key themes, based on the course readings. Both the texts for each class and a list of reading questions will be available to students in Moodle. The work produced by students (short assignments, short presentations of specific topics, rough drafts of research papers, etc.) will be discussed in class too.

Lectures: In every class the instructor will supplement the students’ discussions with a lecture. The purpose of the lectures is to summarize the key concepts of the session and also to place each session in the general framework of the course.

Working documents: Students will use a wide range of materials and documents, such as speeches, government papers, letters, newsreels, photographs, propaganda posters, newspapers and diaries and memoirs of the time.

Film viewings: Students will watch the film Land and Freedom, which deals with the Spanish Civil War. The film will be screened before class. Prior to the viewing, students will be required to collect information about the film. The instructor will provide students with viewing and discussion questions to be completed on Moodle before the class starts.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

1. Participation (25% of the final grade). This includes both homework and participation in class. Homework includes the following assignments: summaries of the required readings and field studies, questionnaires related to the film viewings, presentations of specific topics and drafts of the research paper. Students will be expected to fulfill the required work for each session and to participate actively in class discussions. This is an essential part of the final grade and will be assessed.

2. Term paper (30%). Students will write a 2500-word paper on a topic related to Franco’s Dictatorship. The instructor will provide students with a list of general topics to help them find the specific topics for their papers. Also, he will have two one-to-one meetings with each student to discuss the topic, the angle and the organization of his/her paper. Students will have to cite at least eight different sources (either books or articles) in their papers. They will have access to the extensive collection of books on Franco’s Dictatorship available at the IES Abroad library as well as the EBSCO online journal store. Throughout the process of researching and writing, students will be asked to evaluate the papers of their classmates and offer them advice.

3. Oral presentation (5%). Students will give a short talk on the main points of their research papers. After the presentation they will have to answer the questions posed by the classmates.

4. Midterm exam (20%). The exam covers the sessions 1 to 12. Both this exam and the final exam will include essay questions and short answer questions.

5. Final exam (20%). The exam covers the sessions 14 to 24.

Throughout the course the instructor will regularly give feedback to the students about their learning process. This will be done in the classroom, either orally or through comments written in their short assignments and exams.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- Outline the main social groups, political parties and historical figures of 20th Century Spain;
- Compare different historiographical perspectives about the Civil War and Franco’s Dictatorship;
- Explain the relations between the governments of the United States and Spain in the 20th century;
- Assess the legacy of the Civil War and Francoism in today’s Spain;
- Draw conclusions from the historical records discussed in class;
- Write an analytical paper on the Spanish Civil War following academic guidelines;
- Evaluate and criticize the papers of their classmates and provide recommendations.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related trips. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.
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• “First Week”, *Time*, 4 May 1931 (3 pages). |
<p>| Session 10 | Course related trip: scenes of the war in Barcelona | |
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**Session 22**  
Course related trip: Catalonia's Democratic Memorial

**Session 23**  
The ghost of Franco: visions of Francoism in today's Spain

**Session 24**  
Course conclusions. Review for the final exam

**Final Exam**

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- “First Week”, *Time*, 4 May 1931 (3 pages).
- Mir, Conxita, “The Francoist Repression in the Catalan Countries”, *Catalan Historical Review*, 1, 2008, pp. 133-147

RECOMMENDED READINGS (AVAILABLE AT IES LIBRARY):
• Keene, Judith (2003), Fighting for Franco: International Volunteers in Nationalist Spain During the Spanish Civil War, London: Leicester UP.
• Seidman, Michael (2002), Republic of Egos: A Social History of the Spanish Civil War, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
• Tierney, Dominique (2007), *FDR and the Spanish Civil War: Neutrality and Commitment in the Struggle that Divided America*, Durham: Durham UP.