



Universitat Autònoma  
de Barcelona

## **MEDITERRANEAN CULTURE AND HISTORY**

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

The goal of this course is to offer a wide introduction to the main evolution of the Mediterranean using not History but its cultures, religions and peoples. The main topics covered are: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Greece, Rome, Germanics, Byzantines, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, the Renaissance, the Mediterranean family and the Modernization of the Mediterranean Societies.

The treatment of these topics will not be covered chronologically but by item. Each of the classes will maintain a chronological structure but not the whole course, that is, each session will be independent from each other trying to cover all the important elements of a given topic.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Fluent in English

### **CONTENTS**

#### ***1 Introduction and Syllabus***

2 Physical Geography

3 Ancient Civilizations in the Mediterranean

4 Judaism in Ancient Times

5 Ancient Greece

6 Philosophy and Political Thought

7 Ancient Rome

8 Germanics, Slavs and Byzantines

9 Christendom in Ancient Times

10 **TEST**

**11 PRESENTATIONS: *A Faithful Sea***

**12 PRESENTATIONS: *Secularity and Religiosity in the Mediterranean***

**13 PRESENTATIONS: *Secularity and Religiosity in the World***

14 Islam and the Arabs

15 Judaism since the Diaspora

16 Christendom in Modern Times

17 America and the Mediterranean



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18 The Renaissance

19 Mediterranean Families: Balkans and Africa

**20 TEST**

21 Mediterranean Families: Andalusia and Sicily

22 The Mafia and the Mediterranean State

23 The Mediterranean Today

**24 PRESENTATIONS:** *The Modernization of the Mediterranean*

**25 PRESENTATIONS:** *Mediterranean Culture*

**26 PRESENTATIONS:** *The Mediterranean Family*

**27 FINAL EXAM**

## GRADING

### 30% Mid Term Exam

This exam consists of a 60 multiple choice exam. Each question will offer four possible answers, only one of them is correct. The exam will take place in the session established in the syllabus.

*Example. Capital of the Eastern Roman Empire*

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Athens
- c. Constantinople
- d. Istanbul

*Example. Battle of Lepanto*

- a. 1871
- b. 1771
- c. 1671
- d. 1571

### 30% Presentations

Students will give a presentation in groups of five or six. They will use the time of one session to explain to their classmates the things they consider important in a presentation given by the professor. The reading will be provided for the professor and the topics covered by the text will not be explained in class, so students need to teach a full session.

At the end of the presentations it'd be good to come up with questions for the audience or allow them to ask questions since the topics presented will be part of the final



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exam.

*PRESENTATIONS: Barry A. Kosmin and Ariela Keysar, Secularism, Women and the State*

*PRESENTATIONS: Secularity in the world*

*PRESENTATIONS: A Faithful Sea*

*PRESENTATIONS: Mediterranean Culture*

*PRESENTATIONS: The Modern Mediterranean*

*PRESENTATIONS: The Modernization of the Mediterranean*

### **10% Final Exam**

This final exam will consist of four questions. Each of these questions will be answered using a specific number of lines given by the professor. The answer needs to be clear and direct, which means that students need to answer the question with “objective” knowledge.

This exam is not an essay, that is, the students is not supposed to create a narrative to answer but to give all the information covered in class.

*Example. The Formation of a specific Mediterranean Modernization*

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**Materials:** <https://sites.google.com/site/bcnschool/>