



Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

SPANISH CIVILISATION AND CULTURE

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course starts with an extensive view of the Spanish history as a way of giving students a general frame where they could place the following subjects that will be taken into account. After that it will examine the different cultures within Spain: Castilian, Catalan, Basque and Galician; focusing mainly on language, nationality, and political implications. The rest of the course will travel throughout the various aspects of the Spanish Civilization, understanding civilization as lifestyle and society, basically through the different artistic ways of expression (Painting, Architecture, Literature, Music and Cinema). By using concepts from these various subjects, students will study how Spain changed from being a polarized country to an allegedly reference in the West.

REQUIREMENTS

Fluent in English

CONTENTS

Spanish History, from ancient times to the present. Civilisations and religions coexistence. Models of nation.

Language and Culture. Regions, nationalities, symbols and identities.

Cultural expressions, Spain through art. Spanish cinema from the 50's censorship to today's 'Hollywoodization'. Modernisation, ways of expression, class conscience and moral crisis through painting, sculpture, architecture, literature and music.

GRADING

Mid-term exam (30%): It will be a Multiple-choice Exam with 75 questions. Each question will have 4 possible answers and only one of them will be correct. There is no penalization for mistakes.



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Papers (30%): During the course a total of three movies will be shown, each one of them corresponds to an important period of Spanish history and its artistic development. For each movie, some articles will be given to the students too. They will have to hand in a total of three papers (one per each movie) 2-3 pages-long. Extra credit paper to improve the final grade is optional.

Final Exam (40%): In this exam, students will have to choose one of three possible questions that might be: one of the subjects treated in class, a graphic or an article. Each of them will have to be placed in its historical/artistic framework to which it belongs, and it will also have to be developed by following different given steps. In this case, students will be able to use his/her notes and other sources of information to write a short essay (maximum length: three pages).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Altamira y Crevea, Rafael, *History of Spanish Civilization*, Brooklyn: Ams Pr Inc, 1930.

Moffit, John F., *The Arts in Spain*, New York: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

Hill, Fred James, *Spain: An Illustrated History*, New York: Hippocrene Books, 2001.