

## SPANISH CIVILIZATION 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 (family, immigration, youth, economic crisis, politics...), and also the various 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 religious coexistence. Models of nation.

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

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

Spanish Society today, considering different relevant topics both from the 20<sup>th</sup> century in general or from the immediate present.

### GRADING:

#### Mid Term Exam (20%)

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 penalty for mistakes.

#### Tests (20%)

Two short tests with diverse questions based on especially important and specific topics that will be treated in class both with the explanation of the professor and extra visual/reading materials.

### **Seminars (20%)**

There are mandatory readings to be found in the class webpage. Students need to read these texts, come to class the days of the seminars and participate during the debate that they will manage. If students come and do not intervene, they will not obtain any grade in this section. To get the whole grade students need to talk and demonstrate that they understood what they read.

### **Class activities (20%)**

Throughout the semester, there will be a total of four class activities or case studies that will focus on more specific and relevant topics related to the general contents. During these activities, students will be expected to work on the material provided by the professor and complete the goals of the session. A proper behaviour and commitment with the activities are needed to achieve the total grade.

### **Final Exam (20%)**

This exam will consist of short questions. Each of these questions will be answered in a limited space. The answer has to be clear and direct, which means that students need to answer the questions with "objective" knowledge.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

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- PIERSON, Peter, *The History of Spain*, Greenwood Publishing, 1999.
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- RODGERS, Eamonn, *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Spanish Culture*, Routledge, 2001.
- SMITH, Paul Julian, *Contemporary Spanish Culture*, Polity Press, 2002.
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- TREGLOWN, Jeremy, *Franco's Crypt: Spanish Culture and Memory since 1936*, Farrar Straus Giroux, 2013.
- TREMLETT, GILES, *Ghosts of Spain*, Faber & Faber, 2007.
- WILLIAMS, Mark, *The Story of Spain*, Santana Books, 2000.