

SEVI 341 SPANISH ART AND CULTURE

Professor: Fernando Díaz Buiza

Email: fdbuiza@gmail.com

Course Description

This course will give students thorough knowledge and understanding of the past and present situation of Spain, covering political, economic and social aspects as well as cultural aspects such as art, religion, literature, theater and sciences.

In general, this will be the first time students have taken a Spanish culture course while in Spain. Most students have their own concept of Spain's culture based solely on more international aspects, such as literature, society and gastronomy.

Objectives

- To understand the chronological evolution of Spain, from prehistoric times to the present, in order to better understand how a mix of many different cultures has shaped Spain's "personality" and culture
- Eliminate certain clichés for which Spain may be known, and instead present a more informed picture of Spain as a receiver and transmitter of culture, in a broader sense
- Providing students with knowledge about the various historical figures and events necessary to understanding the history of Spain (and sometimes that of Europe as a whole), introducing them to the most significant (both positive and negative) aspects of its history.
- Highlight the position Spain currently occupies in the world, emphasizing its status as a Member State of the European Union

Methodology

The course will be taught based on three basic methods: thematic lectures, practical classes, and tutoring. The thematic lectures will be lectures given by the professor, but in a forum-like format in which students are encouraged to participate. The practical classes will be based on visualization of didactic materials such as films, powerpoints, etc. and time allowing, practical visits to monuments related to subject matter. Tutoring will be available on an additional basis to assist students in a more individualized way.

Contents

- 1. Introductory Topics**
 - a. Introduction to the geography and culture of Spain
 - b. The political system of Spain
- 2. From Prehistory to Medieval Spain**
 - a. Prehistory and Protohistory
 - b. Roman Hispania
 - c. Islam
 - d. The peninsular Christian kingdoms
 - e. Medieval Art

3. Spain of the Modern Age

- a. Spain under the Catholic Kings
- b. The first Hapsburgs: from Juana I to Felipe II
- c. Empire: the “Era of Discoveries”
- d. The “Austrias Menores”: from Felipe III to Carlos II
- e. Renaissance and Baroque Spanish art and literature
- f. The 18th Century: the first Bourbons

4. Contemporary Spain

- a. The Enlightenment and Neoclassicism
- b. The 19th Century
- c. 19th Century Art
- d. The 20th Century
- e. Art and Culture: from the first avant-garde artists to the new millennium
- f. Current politics, economy and society of Spain

Schedule

***Day 1:**

- General Introduction.

***Day 2:**

- Introduction to the Geography and Culture of Spain
- Reading: Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.

***Day 3:**

- The Political System in Spain
- Reading: Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.

***Day 4:**

- Roman Hispania
- Reading: Quesada (27-30) and Abrantes (36-49).

***Day 5:**

- Islam. Islamic Art
- Reading: Quesada (40, 59-64) and Abrantes (66-69).

***Day 6:**

- The Christian Middle Ages
- Reading: Quesada (41-56).

***Day 7:**

- Spain under the Catholic King and Queen
- Reading: Quesada (69-74).

***Day 8:**

- Spain and America: the “Era of Discoveries”
- Reading: Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.

***Day 9:**

- Kings of the XVI century: From Juana I “La Loca” to Felipe II.
- Reading: Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.

***Day 10:**

- Spanish Renaissance Art.

- Reading: Abrantes (135-157).
- *Day 11:**
 - **Exam I.**
 - **From “Introduction to the Geography and Culture of Spain” hasta “Spain and America: the “Era of Discoveries”, Both topics included.**
- *Day 12:**
 - The Religious Crisis in Modern Spain: from the Inquisition to Protestantism
 - Reading: Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 13:**
 - Spanish Baroque and Enlightenment : Politics, Economy and Society
 - Reading: Quesada (97-100, y 111-119) and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 14:**
 - Spanish Baroque art and literature.
 - Reading: Quesada (76-84 y 100-105) and Abrantes (159-179).
- *Day 15:**
 - Academicism and Neoclassicism. Francisco de Goya.
 - Reading: Abrantes (183-200).
- *Day 16:**
 - The 19th Century: Politics, Economy and Society. Art and Culture.
 - Reading: Quesada (127-144) and Abrantes (203-212).
- *Day 17:**
 - The 20th Century (I): the Francoist decades
 - Reading: Quesada (183-185) and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 18:**
 - The 20th Century (II): the Spanish Transition
 - Reading: Quesada (183-185) and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 19:**
 - The 20th Century (III): Contemporary Spanish Politics, Economy and Society
 - Reading: Quesada (186-187, y 200-211).
- *Day 20:**
 - Architecture of the 20th Century. Cultural Evolution of Spain in the 20th Century.
 - Reading: Abrantes (215-221), Quesada (156-171), and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 21:**
 - Pablo Ruiz Picasso.
 - Reading: Abrantes (223-232) and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.
- *Day 22:**
 - Surrealism: Luís Buñuel, Joan Miró and Salvador Dalí
 - Reading: Abrantes (233-241) and Fernando D. Buiza’s coursepack.

Grading

- Three midterm exams, which will in total make up **60% of the final grade**. The exams will consist of different sections including short answer, relationship of terms, and short definitions, as well as essay options-
- In order to be able to take the exams, each student must first turn in a certain number of questionnaires referring to the recommended readings for each topics. These, combined with other possible short monographic works, will make up **10% of the final grade**. Students will have a week to turn in these questionnaires and works after they are assigned.
- Three required papers, one on the subject matter for each respective midterm exam. These papers allow students to demonstrate their acquired knowledge through “field investigations.” The subjects of the papers will be the following (students may choose one of the two options presented for each cycle of the course:
 - **First paper:**
 - “Sevillan urbanism in antiquity and in the Middle Ages”
 - This will require addition of maps and photographs, as well as students’ observations of the squares and streets of the historical center of the city
 - “Daily life in Ancient Rome”
 - Students will visit the Provincial Archaeological Museum, where they exhibit domestic, scientific and commercial tools related to Roman Hispania. From that visit, and based on material learned in class, students must create a composition on the customs of the society of that time
 - **Second paper:**
 - “Religion and Society in Spain of the Renaissance and the Baroque”
 - Students will visit the interpretation center on the Spanish Inquisition, established in the archaeological ruins of the San Jorge Castle
 - “Art, society and faith: Social institutions in Baroque Spain under the influence of the Counter-Reformation”
 - In order to contribute to their knowledge of how the Church and the State organized their social institutions at the time, they must visit the facilities of the Hospital of the Holy Charity of Seville, which will serve to analyze both the Baroque art of the city as well as the social services imposed since the 16th century
 - **Third paper:**
 - “Sevillan urbanism of the 19th Century”
 - Providing maps and photographs, and after visiting different enclaves of the city, students will analyze the effects of the urban development of Seville of that century, as well as the main transformations of the historic center
 - “Current Heritage: Conservation and modernization”
 - Students will visit the Cartuja Monastery of Santa María de las Cuevas and the Andalusian Center of Contemporary Art, which will allow them to analyze the conservation of archaeological and architectural remains of the past as well as one of the main museums of Spanish Contemporary Art

- These papers will each be 3-4 pages (not counting maps or photographs). They must be typed, double-spaced with 12-point font. The papers must include not only information cited from class texts, websites, newspapers, etc. but also personal opinions of the students regarding the subject matter.
- Papers must be turned in in printed form – the professor will not accept them by email
- All of the papers will make up **30% of the final grade**

Classroom Rules

- Both visits to monuments and classes will count the same in terms of absences
- The exams and quizzes that are scheduled for the class cannot be moved for personal reasons (private trips, family visits, etc.)
- In the event that a student cannot attend class on a day that an exam or quiz is scheduled, they must make it up at the end of the course, on a day to be determined
- Eating is not allowed in the classroom, nor is the use of laptops, electronic tablets, mobile phones, etc.

Bibliography

Students will use during the course, as their basic bibliography, the following texts:

- Abrantes, Ricardo; Fernández, Araceli; Manzarbeitia, Santiago. *Arte Español para Extranjeros*. Madrid: Editorial Nerea, 2004. ISBN 84-89569-36-3 (students will be able to borrow this from the program)
- Díaz Buiza, Fernando. *Coursepack of photocopied texts and exercise* (students will buy this at the start of the course)
- Quesada, Sebastián. *Curso de Civilización Española*. Madrid: SGEL, 2002. ISBN 84-7143-489-X (students will be able to borrow this from the program)

Additional Information

- All students are required to participate in the scheduled activities of the course (excursions, guided visits, etc.)
- The professor will have office hours that will be announced the first day of class