CIEE Seville, Spain

Course title: Social History of Contemporary Spain
Course code: HISP 3501 CSCS
Programs offering course: Advanced Liberal Arts
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

This course is especially intended for advanced students who are going to take classes at the University of Seville. The course will be taught exclusively in Spanish and is designed to help students adapt to the rigors of the Spanish academic environment. It is an intensive class designed to help students learn more about topics related to Spain in the 20th century and today from a variety of perspectives: historical, political, social, cultural, etc.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Demonstrate content knowledge of Spanish History in the 20th and 21st centuries.
- Be able to think historically: identifying the unique characteristics of the 1900s, articulating causality, and analyzing change over time.
- Be aware of the interconnections between past and present.
- Interpret in their historical context primary sources.
- Engage critically with historical argument: identifying underlying theories, assumptions, and approaches.
- Conduct original historical research using primary sources and placing one’s own work within historical debates.
- Communicate historical knowledge, interpretations, and arguments clearly in writing, oral presentations, or group projects.

Course Prerequisites
This class is designed specifically for Advanced Liberal Arts students who are going to take regular university classes with Spaniards at the Universidad de Sevilla. 3.0 GPA in Spanish language. 6 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent). Students need to have a GPA of at least 2.9. Students’ language level, as evidenced by their result on the Online Language Placement Test, will determine their participation in this or other Intensive Session course.

Methods of Instruction

This course will provide the student with the opportunity to visit different historical places of interest, which will complement the material presented in class. However, these out-of-class visits may require a change in the class schedule of which students will be notified in advance. Finally, the class will also employ different audiovisual materials whenever possible in order to illustrate different aspects of the course.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Newspaper Article Review 15%
2. Exam I 25%
3. Exam II 25%
4. Walk-Log 20%
5. Participation and Classwork 15%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Newspaper Article Review

Each student must submit a historical document commentary of a Spanish newspaper article (from abc.es, or from lavanguardia.es) from the period 1940-1986 (1500 words).

Exam I

Exam II

In this course, there will be two examinations. Due to the nature of this course, the final may have information covered prior to the midterm. Both exams have the same format and the same weight (see above). In the first section (30% of exam grade)
students are asked to define 3 of 4 terms, explaining their importance in the course (each definition 100 words). In the second section (70% of exam) students are asked to write an essay choosing one of two essay topics. Answers should be in a complete essay form (at least 1 paragraph introduction, 3-4 paragraphs body, 1 paragraph conclusion), addressing material from different readings, primary sources, maps, etc.

Walk-Log

Students will turn in a ‘walk-log’ with comments and impressions of visits (5000 words) at the end of the course. Students must describe what was covered during the visits and make connections with class reading and discussions.

Participation and Classwork

Oral participation is very important: each student must participate actively and courteously in class. Students are expected to answer and, more importantly, make questions on the daily assigned readings. Students are also expected to make relevant contributions to the course forum in Canvas.

Attendance

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind. If a student misses class once without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 10 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 3 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on-time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence. Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor’s note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Program Manager if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.
Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE’s standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.

Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, and local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1.0 Spain at the beginning of the 20th century:

Demography, society, economy and political life.

Class 2.0 The road to war, 1898-1936 (Casanova, 1-18).

Discussion of the cleavages and tensions during parliamentary monarchy, dictatorship and republic which ultimately led to war. Video: “Speeches from general Primo de Rivera, Alfonso XIII and Alcalá Zamora”.

Class 3.0 The Spanish Civil War, 1936-39 (Moradiellos, 395-404).

Discussion of the situation in the Republican and Rebel zones, the terror and repression, the international dimension, etc. Music: “War songs.” Newspaper article review due.

Class 4.0 The Franco dictatorship, 1939-1957 (Casanova & Gil Andrés, 157-162).

Repression, autarky and isolation define this period of the Francoist regime.

Class 5.0 Mid-term Test
ACTIVITIES AND ADDITIONAL VISITS (WEEK 1)

Walk through ancient Seville

Seville’s wall

Walk through the Jewish quarter

Week 2

Class 6.0 The Franco dictatorship, 1957-1975 (Casanova & Gil Andrés, 163-183).

Spain underwent tremendous economic and social changes during this period, which would facilitate later developments. Video: “Spanish newsreel NODO”

Class 7.0 Resistance to Franco, 1939-1975 (Casanova & Gil Andrés, 184-188).

The regime succeeded in repressing the opposition by the late 1940s. New sources of resistance emerged since the late 1950s. Clip from “Operación Ogro” (G. Pontecorvo, 1979).

Class 8.0 Transition to and Consolidation of Democracy, 1976-1982

(Casanova & Gil Andrés, 203-224). After the death of Franco, Spain underwent a swift and uncertain process of democratization, which consolidated by the early 1980s. Video: “the Coup of 2/23/81”.

Class 9.0 Class discussion and review: Spain, 1982-present.

From the PSOE victory to alternation with the PP since the 1990s. During this period Spain joined the EU and the Euro, experienced prosperity and immigration, as well as the Great Recession. A key recent development is the rise of new political parties.

Class 10.0 Final Test. Walk log due
ACTIVITIES AND ADDITIONAL VISITS (WEEK 2)

Seville and its river

Walk through the Seville of 1929

Isla de la Cartuja and Andalusian Contemporary Art Center

Course Materials

Readings

Readings

• CASANOVA, J. y GIL ANDRÉS, C. (2012) Breve Historia de España en el siglo XX.
• Other materials: primary sources and documents, newspaper articles, videos, documentaries, music etc.

Complementary references


PÉREZ PICAZO, Mª T. (1996) Historia de España del siglo XX.


