Course title: Past and Present in Barcelona (English)
Course code: HIST 3002 BASP (ENG)
Programs offering course: Business and Culture, Economics and Culture, Global Architecture and Design, Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

Barcelona is an attractive European and Mediterranean city known by its rich history and art heritage and by its welcoming attitude towards visitors. This course is an interdisciplinary approach to the history of the city from its foundation up to the present day. Course content includes history, politics and urban planning. Barcelona’s historical development is analyzed using a wide range of visual and written material: from historical maps, photos, videos, documentaries, to historical documents, academic and literary texts. By means of frequent on-site classes, this course will scrutinize how current political and socio-economic phenomena (massive tourism, gentrification, the real state bubble, immigration, the heritage of Franco’s fascist dictatorship, and the tense power relations between Catalonia and Spain) collectively shape the present-day reality of the city.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Analyze the main historical facts that have had an impact in the city of Barcelona.
- Compare and contrast Barcelona’s main historical events by establishing cross-temporal connections between past and present.
- Distinguish and argue the main urban changes through maps, photos and other historical visual material.
- Examine the present-day reality of Barcelona by providing historical context.
- Develop oral presentations, written texts and reports with a solid historical perspective.

Course Prerequisites

There are not prerequisites for this course.

Methods of Instruction

The course is structured in both lectures and on-site classes. Lectures will be conducted by the professor using Power Point. Students are expected to participate in class debates, paper discussions and critical analysis of the compulsory readings. Recent newspaper articles will be commented during the debates.

On-site classes are field trips to museums or historical walking tours to places relevant to the course content. Field trips are essential parts of the course and all students are required to attend and write brief commentaries about them.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Final Exam 25%
3. Assignments 20%
4. Oral Presentation 15%
5. Class Participation 20%

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam
Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions about the contents of the first part of the course.

**Final Exam**

Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions about the contents of the entire course.

**Assignments**

Students will be required to write 4 assignments (2/3 pages, double spaced typing). The assignments’ aim is to reflect upon the topic addressed of the on-site classes. Students will be asked to answer an essay question linked to the contents of the fieldtrip.

**Oral Presentation**

Students will be required to give an oral presentation using PowerPoint (15 minutes) on a free topic related to the course contents (to be agreed with the professor).

**Class Participation**

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

**Attendance**

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for short-term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent. Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to Internship, Service Learning, or required field placement. Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences will lead to the following penalties:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</th>
<th>Minimum Penalty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 – 20%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements; grade penalty &amp; written warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td><strong>Automatic course failure</strong>, and possible expulsion</td>
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N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

Class: 1.1  
Introduction to the course

“What do you know about Barcelona?”

Class: 1.2  
“From 3 thousand to 1.6 Million inhabitants”

The origins of Barcelona. From the Roman city to the Global City.

Overview of the changing geography, demography and administrative divisions of Barcelona.

**Week 2**

Class: 2.1  
“Barcelona and Spanish Politics”

Power struggle between Catalonia and Spain. Towards and independent Catalonia?

Reading: Catalonia profile – Timeline. BBC News


Minder, Rafael (2017), The Struggle for Catalonia: Rebel Politics in Spain (London: Hurst) Pages 21-33

https://books.google.es/books?id=SBSZAQAACAAJ&pg=PA21&hl=ca&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false

Class: 2.2  
The Spanish War Succession and the siege of Barcelona


**Week 3**

Class: 3.1  
Beyond the city walls. Barcelona’s Urban growth

The “Pla Cerdà” and the Eixample. Lecture and Walk.

Reading: Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities #13: Barcelona’s unloved planner invents science of ‘urbanisation’, The Guardian


Class: 3.2  
A walk around Roman Barcelona and Medieval Barcelona

ON SITE CLASS

Written assignment 1

**Week 4**

Class: 4.1  
How the Universal Expositions of 1888 and 1929 transformed Barcelona

Class: 4.2  
“Farselona” and the Gothic Quarter

The artificial “gothification” of Barcelona


Week 5
Class: 5.1 The role of public food markets in Barcelona. Beyond “La Boquería”

ON SITE CLASS

Written assignment 2

Class: 5.2 Barcelona and the Second Spanish Republic (1931-1939)

Week 6
Class: 6.1 The city and the Spanish Civil War

The city as a target. The bombardments of the fascist aviation and the city’s passive defense (1936-1939)

Class: 6.2 Franco’s Ghost

Franco’s legacy in present day Barcelona

Reading: Hancox, Dan (2016), The ghosts Spain tries to ignore. The New York Times

Week 7
Class: 7.1 Review

Class: 7.2 Midterm exam

Week 8
Class: 8.1 The Global Projection of Barcelona

From the “Barcelona model” to the “Barcelona brand”

Reading: Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. Metropolitan Barcelona
http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/

Class: 8.2 Past and Present Immigration flows in Barcelona

Gentrifying Barcelona (1) El Raval - ON SITE CLASS

Written assignment 3

Week 9
Class: 9.1 Migrants and refugees in Barcelona

Class: 9.2 1992: Barcelona’s “Olympic” urban transformation

Reading: Leafe, Michael (2017), Olympic Gold. Barcelona Metropolitan
http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/sport/olympic-gold/

Week 10
Class: 10.1 “Your selfies are rising our rents! Tourists go home!”

Barcelona and he controversy about the touristic explosion

Reading: Roca Cristina (2017), Barcelona could die of success': Why a Spanish city is cracking down on tourism. CBC News
Class: 10.2 Gentrifying Barcelona (2)

Exploring the 22@ district and the superblocks model. ON-SITE CLASS

Reading: Bausells, Marta (2016), Superblocks to the rescue: Barcelona’s plan to give streets back to residents. *The Guardian*

https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share_btn_fb

Written assignment 4

**Week 11**

Class: 11.1 Oral Presentations

Class: 11.2 Oral Presentations

**Week 12**

Class: 12.1 Oral Presentations

Class: 12.2 Oral Presentations

**Week 13**

Class: 13.1 Review

Class: 13.2 Final exam

**Course Materials**

**Readings**

Students will be provided with current newspaper articles (Barcelona-Metropolitan, The Guardian, The Economist, El País English edition, etc.), which will be used to discuss and reflect upon issues addressed in class.

Agustí, David (2014), The development of the feudal city. In: A brief history of Barcelona. Pp. 31-54 Comanegra


Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities #13: Barcelona's unloved planner invents science of 'urbanisation', The Guardian


Bausells, Marta (2016), Superblocks to the rescue: Barcelona's plan to give streets back to residents. The Guardian

https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share_btn_fb


https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/6/2043

Cócola Gant, Agustín (2013) The invention of the Barcelona Gothic Quarter, Journal of Heritage Tourism, 9:1, 18-34,


Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. Metropolitan Barcelona
http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/

Leafe, Michael (2017), Olympic Gold. Barcelona Metropolitan
http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/sport/olympic-gold/

Minder, Rafael (2017), The Struggle for Catalonia: Rebel Politics in Spain (London: Hurst) Pages 21-33
https://books.google.es/books?id=SBSZAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA21&hl=ca&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false

Roca Cristina (2017), Barcelona could die of success': Why a Spanish city is cracking down on tourism. CBC News