Course title: Contemporary Portugal: Politics and Culture
Course code: HIST 3004 LILC
Programs offering course: Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring 2021

Course Description
This course presents an overview of the Portuguese contemporary history and culture, from the 20th century to recent events (21st century), thus providing a better understanding of Portugal in its political, social, economic and cultural dimensions. In addition to a diachronic analysis, designed to allow an understanding of the major changes, events and continuities regarding the 20th and 21st centuries, this course will explore specific themes and issues. All the topics will be introduced and debated in a comparative manner.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will:

- Argue about the most important issues of contemporary Portugal and the major challenges of Portuguese society;
- Examine the key questions and debates related to Portuguese modern history in a comparative perspective;
- Estimate the importance of historical background to understand Portuguese politics and culture and to compare and relate it to their own experience and knowledge;
- Critically examine academic literature on contemporary history and society;
- Develop independent research and informed opinions on topics related to the contemporary Portuguese politics and culture and to be able to present and debate them in class.

Course Prerequisites
None.

Methods of Instruction
The course uses different methods of instruction from lectures to several in-class activities, exercises, group presentations and assignments. Lecturer presentations will provide students with basic historical information and analytical tools. This course will be interactive, so students are expected to prepare the assigned readings and homework and to participate actively in in-class debates.

Assessment and Final Grade
1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Oral Presentation 20%
3. Essay 1 20%
4. Essay 2 20%
5. Class Participation & Homework 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Midterm Exam
The midterm exam will consist in essay questions. Students are expected to know key facts about Contemporary Portugal discussed to date and briefly analyze the major changes in political and social history of Portugal.

Oral Presentation
Students must prepare a 10/15 minutes oral presentation (could be prepared using Power Point or Prezi) of a topic previously assigned. Students should meet time constraints and it is strongly encouraged to stimulate class discussion. This is a group assignment (groups should have no more than 3 students). Each member of the group must participate in the preparation and in the oral in class presentation. Presentations will be assessed based on content, structure, critical analysis and communication.

**Essay 1**

**Essay 2**

For both essays, students must choose a topic from the course (subject to the lecturer’s approval) and write a 1500-word paper. This research must consider the course’s topics, but a comparative analysis with other national cases is strongly encouraged. This is an individual assignment. The essay should follow academic standards relating to citations and bibliography. The paper will be assessed on structure, clarity, critical analysis / argument, style and referencing.

**Class Participation & Homework**

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and the tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students are expected to prepare the assigned readings and to participate actively in class discussions. The participation grade will be accessed based on the preparation for each session and the quality and pertinence of in-class interventions. Homework assignments consist of short research questions.

**Attendance**

CIEE students are required to attend all classes. Absences are not allowed. If you are sick, you must inform your professor and provide a doctor’s note to the Center Director. Half a point will be subtracted to your final grade if you miss 5 hours of classes. A point will be subtracted to your final grade if you miss 6 hours of classes. Two points will be subtracted to your final grade if you miss 7 hours of classes. You will fail the course if you miss more than 7 hours of classes.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

Class: 1.1 Introduction to Portugal

General Introduction
Discussion of course objectives, assessment and methodology.

Class: 1.2 Portuguese history: an overview

Portuguese History: main periods and the most important questions.

**Week 2**

Class: 2.1 Republican Portugal

Imagining a new country: republican Portugal.
The republican political project.

Class: 2.2 The crisis of the Republic.
The end of the Portuguese Republic and the military coup (1926).
(Pinto 2003, 1-22)

**Week 3**
Class:  3.1  The New State

Salazar and the New State: the construction of a dictatorial State

Key features of the Portuguese dictatorial regime.

(Pinto 2003, 22-46)

Oral presentations

Class:  3.2

Salazar and the New State: the political project

Commemoration and propaganda in the New State.

(Corkill 2009, 381-399)

Oral presentations

Week 4
Class:  4.1  Fieldtrip

Fieldtrip to Aljube (Museum of Aljube Resistance and Freedom)

“The Permanent Exhibition of the Museum offers to visitors a general characterization of the Portuguese dictatorial regime (1926-1974), its means of oppression over the population (through Censorship and the repressive action of the political police and the political courts), the response of the opposition, semi-legal and clandestine, and also aspects of the anti-colonial struggle that induced the military to overthrow the regime through a military coup in 1974.”

[https://www.museudoaljube.pt/en/]

Week 5
Class:  5.1  Political and cultural resistance

Mapping the social and political networks of resistance to the New State.

The political agents engaged in the opposition and in the resistance to the New State.

(Gallagher 1979, 385-402)

Oral presentations

Class:  5.2

Cultural Resistance: art, political literature and music ("protest" songs).

The role of cultural agents in the resistance to the regime. Music and Resistance.

(Corte-Real 2015, 272-278)

Oral presentations

Week 6
Class:  6.1  The Portuguese colonial empire and independence wars

The myth of the empire and the colonial wars.

(Oliveira 2017)

Class:  6.2

Midterm

Week 7
Class:  7.1  Revolution and the revolutionary years
The 25th of April 1974: Carnation Revolution

The new political cycle: Decolonization, Democratization and Development.
(Rezola 2012, 83-99)

Oral presentations

Class: 7.2

The revolutionary years
The social, political and cultural dynamics of the revolutionary period in Portugal.
(Portuguese workers campaign for societal change)

Oral presentations

Week 8
Class: 8.1 Democratic Portugal
The end of the 20th century: the 80’s and 90’s
The key political, social and cultural features of the period.
(Lloyd-Jones 2001)
Oral presentations

Class: 8.2

Portugal in the 21st century
The key political, social and cultural features of the period. The European option.
(Cabral 1-13)
Oral presentations

Week 9
Class: 9.1 Social and cultural change in Contemporary Portugal
Social change in Contemporary Portugal
Sociocultural evolution of the Portuguese society
(Barreto 2003, 159-182)

Class: 9.2

Portuguese cultural scene
Mapping Portuguese cultural scene.
(Garcia 2016, 1-17)
Essay 1 due

Week 10
Class: No classes

Week 11
Class: 11.1 Gender issues in Portugal
The role of women in 20th century Portugal
The role of women in the New State and in the democratic years.
Class: 11.2.

Gender and sexuality

Gender and sexuality: new debates.

(Almeida 2008, 1-15)

**Week 12**

Class: 12.1 Immigration and racism

From a country of emigration to the immigration to Portugal.

Screening of Lisboetas [extracts] (Sérgio Tréfaut, 2004).

(Passos 2008).

Class: 12.2.

Racism

Contemporary debates in Portugal: Racism.

(Araújo 2006, 1-21)

**Week 13**

Class: 13.1 Challenges of a touristic destination: the case of Lisbon

Tourism: pros and cons

(Moreira 2018)

Class: 13.2.

Tourism: pros and cons

Wrap-up

(Mendes 2018, 25-48)

Essay 2 due

**Course Materials**

**Readings**


http://estudogeral.uc.pt/bitstream/10316/42632/1/The%20colour%20that%20dares%20not%20speak%20its%20name.pdf


DOI: 10.1080/10286632.2016.1248950

To link to this article: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10286632.2016.1248950


URL : http://journals.openedition.org/mediterranee/10402 ;

DOI : 10.4000/mediterranee.1040


Portuguese workers campaign for societal change (Ongoing Revolutionary Process), 1974-1976

