CIEE Barcelona, Spain

Course title: Past and Present in Barcelona (Spanish)
Course code: HIST 3002 BASP (SPAN)
Programs offering course: Business and Culture, Economics and Culture, Global Architecture and Design, Liberal Arts
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring 2021

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is analyzed using a wide range of visual and written material: from historical maps, photos, videos, documentaries, to historical documents, academic and literary texts.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

4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent).

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 must submit 2 assignments before the midterm exam and 2 assignments before the final exam.

Oral Presentation

Students will be required to give an oral presentation using PowerPoint (15 minutes) on a topic related to the course contents. The professor will provide a list of topics and topics will be selected by students right after the add/drop period.

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

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be prepared for the day’s class activities. CIEE does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences, whether due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transportation delay and/or other impediments. You are considered responsible of managing your own absences. Please keep in mind that exams, paper submission dates, presentations and any other course work deadlines cannot be changed.

No academic penalty will be applied if students miss up to 3 class sessions. If students miss up to 6 class sessions, students’ final course grade will drop 5 points out of 100 on the CIEE grade scale for each additional absence beyond 3 (for example a 95 will become a 90 if they reach the 4th absence, and an 85 if they reach the 5th absence). Students will automatically fail the course if they miss more than 20% of total class hours (i.e. if they exceed 6 absences).

For students who miss up to 20% of the total course hours due to extenuating circumstances, the Academic Director may allow for exceptions to the local attendance policy based on documentation such as proof of bereavement, religious observances, hospitalization etc.

Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to the class will be considered absent for a day.

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 Presentation of the course

Quiz: What do you know about Barcelona?

Class: 1.2 City origins and foundation

Laie, Barkeno, Barcino

Pre-class reading: From Bàrcino to Barcelona. Chapters:

1 - Before Barcino-
Week 2
Class: 2.1 ON-SITE CLASS: Barcino -MUBHA-
Pre-class reading: -depends upon museum availability-

Class: 2.2 Medieval Barcelona: maritime capital
Oral presentation: Multiculturalism: Islamic Barcelona and Jewish Barcelona.
Oral presentation: Women in the Middle Ages
Oral presentation: Barcelona and the sea. Yesterday and today.

Week 3
Class: 3.1 ON-SITE CLASS: "Falselona", the "gotificación" of the ancient city

Class: 3.2 The Catalan revolts in modern times
"La guerra dels Segadors" and "La guerra de sucesión".
Oral presentation: “La revolta dels segadors” y el himno de Cataluña.
Oral presentation: “La Guerra de Succesión” en la cultura hoy 1714-2014”.

DEADLINE 1st ESSAY/ASSIGNMENT

Week 4
Class: 4.1 Barcelona grows: urban morphology and neighborhood history
Past and present.
Pre-class activity: What about your neighborhood? Investigate & share:
Oral presentation: The Born and the Rivera
Oral presentation: La Barceloneta.
Oral presentation: El Raval.

Class: 4.2 ON-SITE: The Born Cultural Center

Week 5
Class: 5.1 Barcelona is modernized (I)
The industrialization of Barcelona: agents, products and spaces
Pre-class Reading: Indianas. The origins of industrialization.
http://www.bcn.cat/museuhistoriaciutat/docs/programa_CAST.pdf
Oral presentation: industrial neighborhoods.
Oral presentation: anarchists and burgesses.

Class: 5.2 ON-SITE CLASS: Las Ramblas and El Raval. Yesterday and today

Week 6
Class: 6.1 Barcelona is modernized (II)
Down the walls! Plan Cerdà and the new urban image
Oral presentation: Alternatives to Cerdà
Oral presentation: Cerdà and the superblocks

Class: 6.2 ON-SITE CLASS: Museu Història de Catalunya

DEADLINE 2nd ESSAY / ASSIGNMENT

Week 7
Class: 7.1 Midterm review at class + Short field trip: proeixample project & Cerdà

Class: 7.2 MIDTERM EXAM

Week 8
Class: 8.1 Barcelona is modernized (III)
Universal exhibitions, redevelopment and international projection. 1888-1929.
Oral presentation: Montjuïc, past and present.
Oral presentation: Parc de la Ciutadella, past and present.

Class: 8.2 ON-SITE CLASS: Ciutadella Park & Catalan Parliament

Week 9
Class: 9.1 The second republic: prelude to war
Pre-class activity: search and creation of a diagram about the parties of the 2nd Republic.
Oral presentation: women in the 2nd republic.
Oral presentation: the Catalan situation in the 2nd republic.
Oral presentation: Pla Macià & Casa Bloc. The modern Barcelona.

Class: 9.2 A city at war 1936-1939
Oral presentation: the role of women in the civil war through the posters
Oral presentation: the role of Itàlia and Germany.
Oral presentation: the role of the Soviet Union and the International Brigades.
**Week 10**

**Class: 10.1** ON-SITE CLASS: anti-bomb shelters de Gràcia

Pre-class task: visit this website [http://www.bunkers.cat/en/](http://www.bunkers.cat/en/) read all the information and visit the tourist place before our fieldtrip to Gràcia.

**Class: 10.2** Refugees and repression


Oral presentation: the republican exile

Oral presentation: Barcelona and the refugees today

Oral presentation: Catalan repression under the Franco regime (*franquismo*)

Oral presentation: resistance during the *franquismo*

**Week 11**

**Class: 11.1** In transition. Is it a transition?

Pre-class short documentary: "40 years on, Franco's ghost still haunts Spain", [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zNEe9ItTd_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zNEe9ItTd_c)

Oral presentation: "the valley of the fallen". Yesterday and today.

Oral presentation: "llibertat, amnesty and statut d'autonomy". Barcelona 1977

**Class: 11.2** The Olympic Games and their inheritances. Barcelona 1992


Pre-class documentary: Bye, bye Barcelona [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdXcFChRpmI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdXcFChRpmI)

Oral presentation: The Olympic Games in numbers

Oral presentation: "Barcelona posa't guapa" marketing campaign

**Week 12**

**Class: 12.1** The Cultural Olympics. Forum of Cultures 2004

Pre-class documentary: Megalopolis. Titanic structures. The forum of cultures. Barcelona. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWFxPNs6lw&t=693s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWFxPNs6lw&t=693s)

Oral presentation: x-ray of tourism in Barcelona

Oral presentation: importance and impact of cruises in Barcelona

**Class: 12.2** Review session. ON-SITE CLASS: visita al Museu d'Història de Catalunya

**DEADLINE 4th ESSAY/ASSIGNMENT**

**Week 13**

**Class: 13.1** Clousure: “Tourists go home!” / “Tourists go home?” Debate


Course Materials

Readings

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


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


http://urban-networks.blogspot.com/2015/05/ciudades-medievales-barcelona-ciudad.html


Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. Metropolitan Barcelona

http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/

Online Resources

Barcelona en posguerra -exposición virtual- Ayuntamiento de Barcelona:


De Bárcoin a Barcelona. Capítulos:

1 - Antes de Bárcoin-

2 - Colonial Julia Augusta Flaventia Paterna Bárcoin-

40- Barcelona bajo las bombas.

http://www.bcn.cat/historia/pag/capitols_es.htm

Historia barrios de Barcelona. Ajuntament:

https://www.barcelona.cat/es/conocebcn/pics

Historia del parlamento de Cataluña:


Indianas. Los orígenes de la industrialización.
Media Resources

Megalópolis. Estructuras Titánicas. El fórum de las culturas. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWFxPNs6lw&t=693s

Bye, bye Barcelona.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdXcFChRpmI

“40 years on, Franco’s ghost still haunts Spain”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zNEe9ITd_c