



SPAN315E Spanish Civilization and Culture

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Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-1:00pm and by appoint.

Course Information:
Spring 2020
Tuesdays & Thursdays
A: 10:30 -11:50
B: 12:00-1:30

Course Description

In this course, students will become familiar with the underlying anthropological and sociological foundations of modern Spanish culture. In fact, the course contents will provide them with a solid theoretical understanding of the cultural idiosyncrasy of the Spanish people in order that, as the term moves forward, they may be able to critically apply those tools when giving meaning to their daily experiences interacting with local people and customs.

Course Goals and Methodology

The main goal of this course is to increase the students' knowledge and appreciation of Spanish culture and its people. Accordingly, Spain's richness and diversity will be explored through the critical analysis of the most relevant socio-cultural phenomena which constitute its present identity. Through said comprehensive overview of defining themes and topics, students should be able to make the most of their immersion experience.

The methodology of the course will be based on an eclectic and complementary academic and experiential approach to culture teaching by virtue of which theory and practice feed one another bidirectionally. In other words, class work will both anticipate and help contextualize out of class experiences in as much as out of class experiences will also serve to confirm and/or question scholarly discussions previously held in the classroom.

Learning Objectives

Through this course, students will:

- Understand the latent and patent ideological substrates governing Spanish culture.
- Analyze socialization practices, customs and rituals as they are experiencing them themselves.
- Describe and evaluate candidly and critically the degree of depth, width and breadth of their immersion experience.
- Demonstrate that culture differences can always be handled successfully.

Required Texts

A course pack with all the required reading assignments will be permanently available on the university online platform.

Additional bibliographical, audiovisual and online sources

Fernández Santiago, Miriam. *Spanish Civilization and Culture*. Seville, 2006.
 Gies, David (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*. CUP, 1999.
 Hooper, John. *The New Spaniards*. (2nd edition). Penguin Book, 2006.
 Richardson, Bill. *Spanish Studies: An Introduction*. London: Arnold, 2001.
 Brennan, Gerald. *The Spanish Labyrinth*. (new ed. of 2nd revised edition). CUP, 1990.
 Kamen, Henry. *Imagining Spain: Historical Myth and National Identity*. YUP, 2008.
 Payne, Stanley. *España: Una Historia Única*. Temas de Hoy, 2008.

Arteseros, Alfonso. *España en la Memoria: Intereconomía TV*, 2009.
 García de Cortázar, Fernando (coord.) *Memoria de España*: RTVE, 2004.
 Prego, Victoria. *Historia Audiovisual de la Transición*: Tiempo, 2003.

www.cervantes.es - Instituto Cervantes
www.mecd.gob.es - Spain's Department of Education and Culture
www.rtve.es - Spanish National Public Broadcaster
<http://www.accioncultural.es> - Acción Cultural Española

Course Requirements and Grading

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Participation (15%): The whole course is structured around class discussion based on reading assignments, teacher instruction and in-class debates. Class participation will be graded in accordance to the frequency, quality and relevance of the students' contributions to discussion (see rubric below). Similarly, it should be noted that keeping with the General Course Policies and Behavior Policies listed below will also condition the students' participation grade.
- Mid-term Exam (20%): This test is aimed at evaluating the students' knowledge of the different topics covered until then with a focus on detail. It will hinge around the information from the readings and the material presented and discussed in class and will feature true/false questions, definitions, multiple choice activities, short questions and a 2-page long essay at the end.
- Mid-term Paper (25%): The students will have to conduct some research and write a 3,000-word paper whose topic they will have to choose from a list that the professor will provide beforehand. The paper will be typed and printed (Times New Roman pt.12, 1 & ½ spaces). Its grade will depend on parameters such as thematic pertinence and coherence, appropriateness of language use, quality of the cross-cultural reflections included and reliability of the sources explored. Handwritten and emailed papers will not be accepted.
- Group Presentations (15%): Towards the end of the term, students will be expected to deliver interactive group presentations about one of the topics proposed by the instructor. Each group will be formed by a maximum of 5 members, each of whom will have to present an aspect of the topic selected for about 10 minutes. Previously, the groups will be required to hand in a neat outline of the overall presentation to the instructor and their classmates. The overall grade will be based on each student's presentation along with the overall quality of the group performance.

- Final Exam (25%): This test will measure the students' ability to critically react to the material covered in class, with a focus on establishing thematic links among topics. They will be asked to write a 4-page long essay on 1 of the 5 different topics which the professor will previously select and announce in class.

What follows is the rubric that will be used to determine the students' participation grade. Designed by Ana Miqueles Schreiner, it is available on www.academia.edu.

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0-No Cumplió	1-Deficiente	2-Regular	3-Buena	4-Muy Buena	5-Excelente	N/A-No Aplica			
CRITERIOS			0	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
1. Contribuye frecuentemente a las Discusiones en clase.									
2. Demuestra interés en las discusiones en clase.									
3. Contesta preguntas del facilitador y sus compañeros.									
4. Formula preguntas pertinentes al tema de la clase.									
5. Viene preparado(a) a clase.									
6. Contribuye a la clase con material e Información adicional.									
7. Presenta argumentos fundamentados en las lecturas y trabajos de la clase									
8. Demuestra atención y apertura a los puntos y argumentos de sus compañeros.									
9. Contesta preguntas y planteamientos de sus compañeros.									
10. Demuestra iniciativa y creatividad en las actividades de clase.									

General Course Policies

Leaving the classroom: Leaving the classroom on repeated occasions is disturbing to both your professor and your classmates and may adversely affect your participation grade. Please make use of the 10-minute breaks in between classes to fill up your water bottle, use the restroom, etc.

Punctuality and tardiness: Arriving late to class is disruptive to both the professor and your classmates. Please be punctual as your professor may count your late arrival as half of an absence or simply close the door, not let any late students in and consider it as one full absence.

Communicating with instructor: Please allow at least 48 hours for your instructor to respond to your emails. The weekend is not included in this timeframe. If you have an urgent request or question for your professor, be sure to send it during the week.

Attendance and Absentee Policy

Attendance is mandatory at all classes. As we understand that you might fall ill or be unable to come to class (e.g. due to a religious holiday, a flight delay, a family wedding/reunion, a graduation, a job interview, etc.) at some point during the semester, you are allowed up to 4 absences. You will be responsible for the material covered and any work missed. You will not need to justify your absences (up to 4) in any way unless you miss an exam, a presentation, a quiz, etc. In this case, you must present a doctor's note (signed, stamped and dated) to be able to reschedule the exam, etc. It will still count as an absence but you will be allowed to retake the exam, etc. We don't encourage you to use all 4 days unless you really need them as your participation grade may suffer if you are not in class. If used unwisely and you get sick late in the semester, the following penalties will apply:

- On your 5th absence, 1 point will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 6th absence, 3 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 7th absence, 5 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade

For classes that meet once a week, each absence counts as two. For classes that meet daily, the penalties outlined above apply if you go over 6 absences (7th absence=5th absence above). Exams missed due to an excused absence must be made up within a week of returning to classes. Talk to your professor immediately after your return.

Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Pablo de Olavide University. Cheating on exams and plagiarism (which includes copying from the Internet) are clear violations of academic honesty. A student is guilty of plagiarism when he or she presents another person's intellectual property as his or her own. The penalty for plagiarism and cheating is a failing grade for the assignment/exam and a failing grade for the course. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly, using footnotes and a bibliography, and not cutting and pasting information from various websites when writing assignments.

Learning Accommodations

If you require special accommodations, you must stop by the International Center to speak to Carmen G. Hernández (the Faculty coordinator: cgheroje@acu.upo.es) to either turn in your documentation or to confirm that our office has received it. The deadline is February 21st. Carmen will explain the options available to you.

Behavior Policy

Students are expected to show integrity and act in a professional and respectful manner at all times. A student's attitude in class may influence his/her participation grade. The professor has a right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is unruly or appears intoxicated. If a student is asked to leave the classroom, that day will count as an absence regardless of how long the student has been in class. Cell phone use is not allowed and animals (except seeing-eye dogs) are not permitted in the classrooms.

Course Contents

Unit 1: Understanding Spain
 Unit 2: Contemporary Spanish Society
 Unit 3: Contemporary Spanish Politics
 Unit 4: Contemporary Spanish Art
 Unit 5: Education in Spain
 Unit 6: Faith and Religion
 Unit 7: Social Life and Leisure
 Unit 8: Spanish Regional Diversity
 Unit 9: Immigration and the Media
 Unit 10: Stereotyping and Culture Shock

Class Schedule

Thurs., January 30th

Course Introduction

Tues., Feb. 4th

Unit 1: Read "The Change in Spain" & Texts about Contemporary Spain.

Thurs., Feb. 6th

Unit 1: Read Texts about Spain's History.

Tue., Feb. 11th

Unit 1: Read "Spanishness: How Spanish Are the Spaniards?"

Thurs., Feb. 13th

Unit 2: Read "From Hunger to Prosperity."

Tues, Feb. 18th

Unit 2: Read "Sex: From Francoist Prudery to Gay Marriage." & "Men and Women: Machismo Meltdown."

Thurs, Feb. 20th

Unit 2: Read "Family Values and Home Truths."

Tues., Feb. 25th

Unit 3: Read "History, Politics and Culture (1936-1975)."

Tues., March 3rd

Unit 3: Read "History, Politics and Culture (1975-1996)."

Thurs., March 5th

Unit 3: Read assigned article on contemporary Spanish politics.

Tues., March 10th

Unit 4: Read "Changing Traditions: Flamenco and Bullfighting." **REVIEW**

Thurs., March 12th

Mid-Term Exam

Mid-Term Paper Due

Tues., March 17th

Unit 4: Read "Changing Traditions: Flamenco and Bullfighting."

Thurs., March 19th

Unit 5: Read "Home and School: Learning to Be a Spaniard."

Tues., March 24th

Unit 5: Read assigned article on Spanish education.

Thurs., March 26th

Unit 6: Read "Faith: What Do Spaniards Believe?"

Tues., March 31st

Unit 6: Read assigned article on religion in Spain.

Thurs., April 1st

Unit 7: Read "Language: How Do Spaniards Speak?"

Tues., April 14th

Unit 7: Read "Place: y tú, ¿de qué tierra eres?" & "Spanish Cuisine"

Thurs., April 16th

Unit 8: Group Presentations

Tues., April 21st

Unit 8: Group Presentations

Thurs., April 23rd

Unit 8: Group Presentations

Tues., May 5th

Unit 9: Read "New Arrivals and Old Prejudices".

Thurs., May 7th

Unit 9: Read "The Press: More Influence than Readers."

Tues., May 12th

Unit 10: Read assigned article on stereotyping and culture shock.

Thurs., May 14th

Review class.

Holidays

- Thursday, February 27: "Puente." No classes will be held.
- Friday, February 28: Día de Andalucía.
- Monday, March 2: "Puente." No classes will be held.
- Sunday, April 5 - Sunday, April 12: Semana Santa (Holy Week).
- Friday, May 1: Labor Day.
- Saturday, April 26 - Sunday, May 2: Feria de Abril (Seville's April Fair).