

CENTRO NORTEAMERICANO DE ESTUDIOS INTERCULTURALES

Calle Harinas 16-18, Sevilla, España

SPAN 312S: Foundations of Spanish Culture

Profesor: José M^a Grillo Torres

OBJECTIVES:

In this course, we offer a vision of Spanish culture and civilization, concentrating our interests on the city of Seville. We will focus on historical development and the analysis of achievements of Spaniards throughout history, paying close attention to those factors that influence our identities the most (such as language, literature, art, social organization, economy, folklore, music, and film) in order to understand the personality, character, lifestyle, and cultural inheritance that we have today.

We will utilize the resources of Seville and its surroundings, the experience of past and present in music, art, architecture, and popular culture, such as flamenco and film. Multiple class visits throughout Seville will illustrate the themes discussed in class.

STRUCTURE:

The classes will be organized by being split into a brief presentation of general concepts related to each diverse historical time period. Following this, the students, supported by readings, will define the characteristics of each time period and analyze each one of the aspects discussed, developing their critical thinking skills. Our classes will end with a projection of slides and videos. Also, frequent visits will be organized where students are expected to actively participate. These visits will be guided by the students themselves as personal projects.

The class will rely on each student to formulate a list of questions key to each theme. Each list will serve to prepare the unit lectures and facilitate the comprehension of the studied material.

Each student will complete **an investigation report** about one concrete aspect of a subject of the course. The report will be 4-6 pages, written in Microsoft Word, using Arial size 12 font, double-spaced, and following the norms of the Writing Program. The last day to submit this report is indicated in the specific programming section of the syllabus.

TEXTBOOK:

Tamames, R. Imágenes de España. Panorama de la formación de España y de las culturas hispánicas. Madrid: Editorial Edelsa, 2006.

EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated throughout class, with special emphasis on class participation; class attendance is obligatory. A student who attends every class will have a minimum participation grade of "60" and a maximum participation grade of "100." A student who does not attend a single class will have a participation grade of "0." Absences should be excused by the professor and the Resident Director. To supplement participation grades, the professor may ask students to complete brief quizzes about information from the previous class at the beginning of the following class without prior notice.

There will be two tests throughout the course.

The student will present an investigation report to complement his or her final grade. Therefore, the final grade will be based on the following components:

Class participation: 25%
Tests: 25%
Final exam: 25%
Diary of class visits: 25%

THEMES:

1. Spain today. The land and people of Spain. Framework of constitutional law. Contemporary culture.
2. *Hispania*. Romanization. *Hispanoromano* society. Roman culture in Seville and its surroundings.

Visit to the Archeological Collection of Itálica (Obligatory visit)
Visit to the Archology Museum.

3. Muslim conquest. *Al-Andalus*. *El califato de Córdoba*. *La Sevilla almohade*. The reign of the *nazarí* of Granada. Cultural splendor of Muslim Hispania. Andalusian music and the origin of flamenco.

Trip to Cordoba (June 12)
A walk through the Sevilla Almohade

4. The origin of Spain. The reconquest and the myth of Santiago. Repopulation. *El mudéjar*: cultural inheritance and the three cultures.

Visit to the Alcázar of Sevilla. (Obligatory visit)
Walk through the neighborhood of Santa Cruz

5. Medieval society. Origins of Castilian literature. Romance, art of *monacato*. Gothic and the style of the bourgeoisie.

Visit to the Cathedral of Seville (Obligatory visit)

6. The Catholic Kings: the restoration of Spain. Overseas expansion. The Inquisition. Seville and America.
7. The Renaissance. The era of Spanish Imperialism. Science. Humanism. The Reformation. The golden age of culture: Literature and art.

Visit to la Sevilla del Quinientos: City Hall, Court, and el Archivo de Indias.

8. The XVII Century: Crisis and Baroque. Continuation of the golden age of writing. Baroque art. The Baroque period in Seville.

*Visit to the Hospital de la Caridad
Fine Arts Museum of Seville*

9. The XVIII Century: Illustrated reformism. Illustration. Paintings of Goya. The XIX Century: The bourgeois revolution and romanticism.

10. Restoration and the silver age of Spanish culture. The generation of 98 and 27 in literature. Spanish music: *Falla*. Modernism of Gaudí. Artistic vanguards: Picasso and Dalí.

*A walk through Seville of the 29
The Park of María Luisa and the Spanish Plaza*

11. The Second Republic. The civil war and Franco's regime. Democracy and today's society. Spain of the XXI Century.

SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING

First Week

Introduction to the course
Spain today
Rome
Al-Andalus

Visits:

Itálica.
Archeaology Museum.
Seville *almohade*

1st Test

Second Week

Al-Andalus
The Reconquest and the *mudéjar*
Medieval Seville
The Catholic Kings

Visitas:

**The Royal Alcázar.
A walk through the neighborhood of Santa Cruz
The Cathedral of Seville**

2nd Test

Third Week

The Renaissance and the Baroque Period
The XVIII Century: Illustration
The XIX Century: from Goya to 98
The XX Century: Crisis and democracy

Visits:

***Sevilla del Quinientos
Hospital de la Caridad
La Sevilla del 29***

In the afternoon, two movies will be watched depicting themes related to the subject matter on the schedule that does not coincide with other activities.

Investigation Report

Final Exam

The professor reserves the right to modify the specific programming schedule at her discretion.