



COURSE: SPAN 303- Spanish Civilization I

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will be offered a general view of Spanish civilization from prehistory to the Middle Ages, covering fascinating stages such as the Roman Empire, the Islamic period and the Christian Reconquest. To this end, we will study different activities of our society: politics, economics, music, painting, architecture and other artistic expressions which continue to manifest the personality of the peoples inhabiting the Iberian Peninsula during these periods.

STRUCTURE

Classes will start with a brief exposition of concepts related to different historical eras. Then students, with the help of the readings, will define the characteristics of each period and analyze each one of the aspects discussed, developing their critical thinking. Classes finish with the projection of slides and videos. Additionally, there will be frequent field trips in which students will actively participate. Students may comment on these excursions as a personal project.

Students will receive a list of key questions on each topic. This list will aid them as they approach the material and facilitate their comprehension of the concepts.

Each student will complete a **research paper** on some specific aspect of the course content. The paper will be 6 -8 pages long, typed in Word format with a 12-point Arial font, double-spaced and following the guidelines of the Writing Program. The deadline appears in the list of specific plans.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BENASSAR, B. Inquisición española: poder político y control social. Barcelona: Grijalbo, 1991.

COMELLAS, J.L. Historia de España moderna y contemporánea. Madrid: Ariel, 2004.

DOMÍNGUEZ ORTIZ, A. El antiguo régimen: los Reyes Católicos y los Austria. Madrid: Alianza Editorial, 1990.

ELLIOT, J. España y su imperio. 1500-1700. Madrid: Alianza Editorial, 1990.

MELARBE, P. La crisis del estado: Dictadura, República, Guerra. Madrid: Labor, 1993.

MUÑO DE LARA, M. Transición y Democracia. Madrid: Labor, 1993.

TEXTBOOK

Our textbook will be a dossier of readings on different topics to be covered in the course.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is ongoing and attendance mandatory. Those attending class will receive a minimum grade of 60 and a maximum of 100. Any student who does not attend class will receive a 0. Absences must be approved by the instructor and Administration.

Evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

- **Class participation** will be based on previous study of the readings, discussion, general interest in the subject and participation in class.
- **Two oral presentations**, lasting five to ten minutes, on a topic assigned by the instructor.
- **Readings, answers, questions and activities** on homework assigned in class.
- **Two exams**, a midterm in the middle of the course calendar and a **final exam** at the end.
- Students will present a **research paper** that will complete the final grade.

The final grade will be based on the following components:

Participation	20 %
Mid-term exam	20%
Final exam	20%

Research paper	20 %
Oral presentations	10 %
Activities	10%

1. COURSE TOPICS

	Topic/ Activity planned
Week 1	<p>Course presentation.</p> <p>Topic 1: Prehistory. The Paleolithic. The Mesolithic. The Neolithic. The Metal Age.</p>
Week 2	<p>Topic 2: Pre-Roman cultures. Indoeuropeans. Phoenicians, Greeks and Carthaginians. Tartessos. Iberians. Celts.</p>
Week 3	<p>Topic 3: Hispania Romana. The conquest. Romanization. Economy. Society. Culture and art.</p>
Week 4	<p>Topic 4: Daily life in Hispania. Oral Presentation 1</p> <p>Visit to the Antiquarium of Seville.</p>
Week 5	<p>Topic 5: The arrival of Germanic people. The invasion. The Visigoth Reign in Toledo. Political organization. Economy. Society. Culture and art.</p>
Week 6	<p>Review and mid-term exam November 2-3.</p> <p>Topic 6: Islamic Spain. The Muslim conquest. Political transformations. The Cordoba Emirate and Caliphate.</p>
Week 7	<p>Topic 6: Islamic Spain. Taifa Reign. Almohades and the Nazari Reign in Granada. Political institutions. Economy and society in Al-Andalus. Culture and art.</p>

Week 8	Topic 7: Daily life in Al-Andalus Oral presentation 2 Visit to Islamic Seville.
Week 9	Topic 8: Medieval Christian kingdoms. Formation. The Reconquest. Repopulation. Spanish Christian society. Economy. Political structure.
Week 10	Visit to the Santa Cruz quarter Topic 9: Culture and art in the Christian era. Language. Universities. Romanic art. Gothic art. Mudejar art. Hand in the research paper: December 2
Week 11	Final review of the course Final exams: December 15-17

The instructor may change these specific plans at his discretion.