

The Seven Wonders of Spain, Spanish Architecture History

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 hour

Total length of the module: 45 hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This program has been designed to teach students about the cultural diversity and richness of the Spanish Heritage. They will study the most representative buildings of each period that have been included in the UNESCO's World Heritage Site List for having outstanding universal value. Along the course, students will be also able to recognize the most important masterpieces of the Spanish architecture, know the reasons that account for their unanimous positive appraisal, and analyze their artistic characteristics and their social and historical implications. The methods of instruction will include lectures and field visits.

REQUIREMENTS

- Fluent in English
- Interest in the Humanities, and more particularly in art, architecture and history

CONTENTS

1. UNESCO and its World Heritage Site list.
2. The Sistine Chapel of the Paleolithic.
 - 2.1. Archaeological Site of Atapuerca
 - 2.2. Cave of Altamira and Paleolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain
 - 2.3. Rock Art of the Mediterranean Basin on the Iberian Peninsula
3. Roman Hispania.
 - 3.1. Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida
 - 3.2. Archaeological Ensemble of Tarraco (Tarragona)
 - 3.3. Old Town of Segovia and its Aqueduct
 - 3.4. Roman Walls of Lugo
4. Al-Targ-Lulà, the Iberian Peninsula under the muslim.
 - 4.1. Alhambra, Generalife and Albayzín of Granada
 - 4.2. Historic centre of Cordoba

5. Christianity in the borders.
 - 5.1. Catalan Romanesque Churches of the Vall de Boí
 - 5.2. Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of Asturias
 - 5.3. Santiago de Compostela
 - 5.3. Route of Santiago de Compostela
 - 5.4. Mudéjar Architecture of Aragon
 - 5.6. San Millán Yuso and Suso Monasteries

6. God is light. The stained glass windows of Gothic Cathedrals. The power of the sea, commerce in the Mediterranean
 - 6.1. Burgos Cathedral
 - 6.2. Poblet Monastery
 - 6.3. La Lonja de la Seda de Valencia

7. Is there Renaissance in Spain?
 - 7.1. Monastery and Site of the Escorial, Madrid.
 - 7.2. Historic City of Toledo.
 - 7.3. Old town of Cáceres
 - 7.4. University of Alcalá de Henares
 - 7.5. Renaissance Monumental Ensemble of Úbeda and Baeza

8. The imperial Spain. Lights and Shadows of the golden century
 - 8.1. Cathedral, Alcázar and Archivo de Indias in Seville
 - 8.2. Old city of Salamanca
 - 8.3. Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe

9. A new image for a new city. Modern architecture and the Modernisme
 - 9.1. Vizcaya Bridge
 - 9.2. Work of Antoni Gaudí
 - 9.3. Palau de la Música Catalana and Hospital de Sant Pau, Barcelona.

GRADING

Papers (20%): Students will write a term paper. Papers are to be approximately 10 pages in length, excluding illustrations and bibliography. At least 6 scholar sources must be used. Topics will be individually discussed with the professor.

Presentation in class (20%): each student will give an oral presentation about his/her term paper, of 20'.

Midterm Exam (15%): It will be a multiple-choice exam with 50 questions. Each question will have 4 possible answers and only one of them will be correct. There is no penalization for mistakes.

Final Exam (35%): This exam will consist in writing two short essays.

Class participation and other homework (10%).

- Attendance and participation are not compulsory; however, they are going to be positively valued for students that show a full commitment with the course.
- The evaluation is going to take into account the continuous work of the student. During the course, small exercises will be proposed to the students.

High grades will be awarded for work that demonstrates:

- A good knowledge of course material, including readings and notes from class and site visits.
- The ability to articulate clearly on the style and subject matter of the building, architect and works of art covered through the use of appropriate terminology and methods.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

AA. VV, *Gestió del patrimoni històric*, Barcelona, 2001.

GONZÁLEZ-VARAS, I., *Conservación de Bienes Culturales. Teoría, historia, principios y normas*, Madrid, 1999.

SUTTON, I., *Western Architecture*. London, 1999.

<http://whc.unesco.org/> (January 2010).

www.ciudadespatrimonio.org (August 2010)

www.patrimonio-mundial.com (August 2010)

Due to the extent of the content of this course, more specific bibliography and references will be provided during each session.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Relevant study tours are arranged. The assistance to these field visits is compulsory. If there is an entrance fee, it will be charged to each student.

Ground rules:

- Students should come to class fully prepared to participate and to cooperate with the professor in order to create a seminar style ambient in class.
- Food and drinks are not allowed in class (only water bottles).
- There will be a 10 minutes break.
- Students will not leave the classroom during the session.
- If a student needs to leave the class early, tell the professor before the class starts.
- Students are not allowed to use any type of MP3, iPod or similar in class.
- If a student is using his/her personal laptop to write notes about the class he/she cannot check e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, Google or similar, at any time during the class.
- Professor cannot allow the presence of a student in class that is not dressed properly for an academic context, or that shows an inadequate attitude.