

SPANISH HISTORY AND POLITICS: 1936 TO THE PRESENT *Mediterranean Studies*

Course contact hours: 45

Recommended credits: 6 ECTS – 3 US

OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the recent Spanish history and its political system(s). Following a chronological explanation, the major historical, political and military events will be explained, not losing perspective from its social and economic consequences, and always trying to picture the big periods and changes that the country has undergone in the last decades.

There will be a special interest in the teaching of the Spanish political mentality, or at least the majoritarian ones from each period, giving as many perspectives and interpretations as possible. The different steps throughout the semester will be: an overview of the current Spanish political situation, main characters, political parties, etc., so that students get acquainted with the specific vocabulary; an introduction to the late 19th and the early 20th, paying special attention to the events that can be considered as immediate precedents, both ideologically and historically, to the Spanish Civil War; the Civil War itself and the subsequent dictatorship by Francisco Franco, both unavoidable to understand the political and cultural mentality of every Spaniard today; the Transition and the Democratic years until the present, or how Spain has struggled to normalize its political and social life.

CONTENTS

First Unit

Introduction and Syllabus

Overview and basic concepts

Second Unit

Introduction to the Spanish Civil War 4th session

The Spanish Civil War (I), 1936-1939

Third Unit

The Spanish Civil War (II), 1936-1939 6th session

The Francoist Dictatorship (I), 1939-1975

Fourth Unit

The Spanish society restrained.

Movie: *Pa negre*

The Spanish society restrained (II).

Social impacts of war & dictatorship.

Fifth Unit

The Francoist Dictatorship (II), 1939-1975
The Francoist Dictatorship (III), 1939-1975

Sixth Unit

CLASS ACTIVITY: Women under Franco
Review and Group Work preparation

Seventh Unit

MIDTERM: The Spanish Civil War & The Francoist Dictatorship.
IN CLASS GROUP WORK – Concept Research

Eight Unit

The Spanish Transition (I), 1975-1982 16th session
The Spanish Transition (II), 1975-1982

Ninth Unit

Documentary: The 23-F failed coup.
CLASS ACTIVITY: Transition & Memory

Tenth Unit

CONCEPT PRESENTATIONS
The Spanish Democracy, 1982-1996 20th session
CONCEPT PRESENTATIONS
The Spanish Democracy, 1996-2004

Eleventh Unit

CONCEPT PRESENTATIONS
The Spanish Democracy, 2004-11 22nd session
CONCEPT PRESENTATIONS
The Spanish Democracy, 2011-2018

Twelfth Unit

The effects of corruption in Spain Documentary: *Las cloacas de interior*
The effects of corruption in Spain Documentary: *Las cloacas de interior*

Thirteenth Unit

CONCEPT PRESENTATIONS
The Spanish Democracy, 2018-Today
Review & Feedback

Fourteenth Unit

FINAL EXAM

ASSESSMENT

Midterm (25%) – Not cumulative.

This Midterm Exam will consist of a multiple choice exercise with 50 questions and several complementary exercises of diverse nature (fill in the blanks, related concepts, etc.) about the specific data covered during the sessions so that students can prove a detailed and specific knowledge of the main historical/artistic events and characters.

Class Activities (2 x 15% each = 30% total) – Individual or group work.

Throughout the semester, two Class Activities or Case Studies will take place. They will focus on more specific and relevant topics related to the general contents.

During these activities, students will be expected to work on the materials provided by the professor and complete the goals of the session. A proper behavior and commitment with the activities are needed to achieve the total grade. See attached rubric for more detail. If missed, these activities can be made up for 50% of their value. Ask the professor for instructions.

Concepts research & presentation (20%) – Group work.

Each group of students will be assigned a series concepts/characters to research and explain in class in the given day. The presentation will have to be fluent and show the comprehension and internalization of the concepts and the ability to adapt to the needs of the lectures. See attached rubric for more detail.

Final Exam (10%) – Not cumulative.

One topic to be explained in an essay-style. The approach and length of these questions will be completely free. The answer has to prove the student's understanding of the specific topic by covering as much information from the theory lectures as possible, and his/her ability to link the different lectures, seminars and class activities in order to enrich the answer.

Class Participation (15%)

Participation and behavior during the class sessions will be monitored throughout the whole semester.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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