



HIS340E – Ancient & Medieval Spain

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Office Hours: M-Th 9:30-10:20 & by appointment

Course Information:

Fall 2016

Class Hours:

T/Th 12:00-13:20

Course Description

The objective of this course is to give students an introduction and overview of the political evolution of the Iberian Peninsula (or IP) from the late Roman Empire to the monarchies of the mid to late fifteenth century. Prior to dealing with ancient history, the students will receive an overview of the history of the genus *homo* in the Iberian Peninsula, as well an instruction to the main pre-Roman cultures that lived in the peninsula, both native and foreign.

It is important for the students to note and to fully comprehend from day one that the political and cultural entity that constitutes modern day Spain did not exist in antiquity, and that it slowly came into being during the medieval period. And even during the Middle Ages the concept of Spain did not constitute a centralized entity, which in the particular case of Spain did not come into existence until the arrival of the Bourbon dynasty in the 18th century, and more importantly it was not until 1833 that the Kingdom of Spain was born. Therefore students of this course must familiarize themselves with the political entities that existed after the fall of Rome, such as, but not limited to, the Visigoth Kingdom of Toledo, the Hispanic March, the Kingdom of Asturias, the Caliphate of Cordoba, the Kingdom of Leon, or the last Muslim kingdom in Europe, the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada, to name a few.

Prerequisites

None

Course Goals and Methodology

The complexity of the history of the IP after the year AD 711 –arrival of Islam– does not allow for a typical history course, whereas chronology serves as the basis of class routine. Historical chronology will indeed be important from prehistory to the arrival of the various Germanic tribes to the Roman Empire in the 4th century and early 5th century. After 711, lectures will be divided upon historical blocks by topic; for example the 8th century will be studied in three blocks: the region known as Asturias, the Hispanic March, and Emirate of Cordoba.

This method will ensure that the student fully comprehends the history of the IP without leading to confusion among the various political entities that existed within the IP. This method will continue to be used until the mid-13th century, when the IP was divided upon the main kingdoms of Leon-Castile, Portugal, Navarra, Aragon, and finally, Granada.

Required Texts

-Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains*. (2003)

Additional required readings (selections)

- Roger Collins, *Early Medieval Spain*. (1995)
- Olivia R. Constable (ed.), *Medieval Iberia*. (1997)
- Richard Fletcher, *Moorish Spain*. (2001)
- John Richardson, *The Romans in Spain*. (1998)
- Dan M. Serradilla Avery, *Seville, between the Atlantic & the Mediterranean: 1248-1492*. (2007)

Additional bibliography

- Simon Barton, *A History of Spain*. (2004)
- Raymond Carr (ed.), *Spain: a history*. (2000)
- Charles Chapman, *A History of Spain*. (1918)

Online material

The effort has been made to provide the student with quick and easy access to some material, assignments, and study guides via the internet (such as dropbox). For example, certain maps, primary sources, etc., will be available for your viewing online. It is important that the student review these material, as they will be part of the examination.

To access the material just click on the link sent to you by your professor within the first week of classes.

It is the student's responsibility to check the online material on a regular basis, since many assignments will be posted on-line and will not be announced in class. Also, the student is responsible to make sure that they can access this platform.

General Course Policies

Please keep your mobile devices turned off during class. The usage of mobile devices during class time will result on an automatic absence. (See absence policy below).

Personal computers (or tablets) can be used in class for note-taking; however, the misuse of this device will result in losing this privilege. No food is to be consumed in class.

Course Requirements and Grading

Oral participation is very important, and each student is expected to contribute enthusiastically and to be courteous while in class. The participation grade will take into account the initiative and creativity during the different activities scheduled during the course, but also any outside activity that the student may participate in.

Students must come prepared to class, which means that each chapter must be read *prior* to class (excluding the first two days of classes), and students are expected to arrive on time. Furthermore, the students must also read a series of primary sources related to the topic at hand and/or lecture. Later on, the students will work on a series of commentaries based upon these sources, which will complement the course. These sources and their respective commentaries, may also appear as part of the examination.

Apart from the commentaries and class participation, there is a midterm and a final examination.

The final grade is broken down as follows:

Class Participation	10%
Primary Source Commentary	30% (6% each)
Exams	60% (30% each)

All assignments will be graded using the Spanish grade scale, please see the UPO student handbook for further detail.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance is mandatory. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in the lowering of the final grade. Students with more than 2 such absences may not challenge the final grade received. Punctuality is required – lateness will be penalized by 0.5 (over 15mins) or 1 absence (over 30mins). Students who were absence for medical reasons, must submit a physician note upon their return to class.

Students who miss class, regardless of reason, must contact their professor in order to find out which material they have missed.

Missed or Late Work

Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be typed according to the guidelines given and must be submitted at the beginning of each class, or the given time if submitted online. No late assignments will be graded (any time after the beginning of class) unless it is due to an excused absence (usually medical). Missed or late work will be automatically given a zero.

Academic Dishonesty

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 or endnotes and a bibliography).

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that requires special academic accommodation, please speak to your professor within the first three (3) weeks of the semester in order to discuss any adjustments. It is the student's responsibility to provide the International Center with documentation confirming the disability and the accommodations required (if you have provided this to your study abroad organization, they have most likely informed the International Center already but please confirm).

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.

Course Schedule

Session 1 – Introduction & overview of syllabus.

Session 2 – Prehistory: The Stone Age; from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic.

Session 3 – Proto-history: The Metal Age; natives cultures vs. foreign.

*Readings: Chapman, Chapter II: Early People to 206BC.

Session 4 – Ancient History I; Phoenicians, Greeks and the rise of the Carthaginians.

Session 5 – Ancient History II; the rise of Rome and the Punic Wars.

*Readings: Richardson, Chapter I: Romans & Carthaginians, 237-206BC.

-Paper **commentary I due IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. (Sep 23rd)**

Session 6 – Ancient History III; Roman Hispania.

*Readings: Collins, Chapter I: The Emergence of a New Order.

Session 7 – Late Antiquity & Early Middle Ages; the 4th & 5th century AD.

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 1: At the Edge of the Empire.

Session 8 & 9 – Early Middle Ages; the fall of Rome & the Germanic tribes.

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 2: The Germanic Kingdom in Iberia, 569-711.

Session 10 – The Visigothic Kingdom of Toledo (XXX-711).

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 1: Romance & Reality.

Session 11 – AD 711; Islam & al-Andalus.

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 3: Iberia and the Dār-al-Islam, 711-1009 & Fletcher, Chapter 2: The Secret of the Tower.

-Paper **commentary II due IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. (Oct 11th)**

Session 12 – The birth of the Emirate (756-929) & the Christian kingdoms.

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 3: The Curve of Conversion.

Session 13 – The Caliphate (929-1031) & the Taifas (1031-1091).

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 4: The Caliphate of Cordoba.

Session 14 – The Christian north (8th to 11th century).

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 4: Christian Reconquista and African Empire, 1009-1157 & Fletcher, Chapter 5: The Party Kings: 'Cats puffed up to look like Lions.'

Session 15 – Midterm Exam (Oct 25th)

Session 16 – Almoravids (1091-146) & Almohads (1147-1238).

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 6: The Moroccan Fundamentalists.

Session 17 – The Christian north (11th to 13th century).

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 5: The Definition of Iberian Autonomy: 1157-1295.

-Paper **commentary III due IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. (Nov 3rd)**

Session 18 – AD 1248; Seville & the end of the Reconquest (?)

*Readings: Serradilla, Chapter 1: The Kingdom of Seville after the Reconquest.

Session 19 – Economic growth of Seville (1248-1350).

*Readings: Serradilla, Chapter 2: Commerce and Commercial Districts of Seville.

Session 20 – Visit: Medieval Seville (see below!) (Nov 15th)

Session 21 – The 14th century crisis of the Late Middle Ages.

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 6: The Evolution of the Medieval Order in Iberia.

-Paper *commentary IV due IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. (Nov 17th)*

Session 22 – From the War of the Two Peters to the First Castilian Civil War (1350-1369).

Session 23 – The downfall of the Burgundian and the rise of the Trastamara dynasty.

Session 24 – The 15th century crisis; Second Castilian Civil War (1474-1479).

*Readings: Reilly, Chapter 7: the Passing of Medieval Iberia, 1248-1474.

Session 25 – AD 1492; from Granada to the Bahamas.

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 8: Nasrid Granada.

-Paper *commentary V due IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. (Dec 1st)*

Session 26 – AD 1516; the arrival of the Hapsburgs.

*Readings: Fletcher, Chapter 9: An August Pomegranate.

Session 27 – Final Exam; time/location: TBA

Visits

Class visits are an integral part of this course, some of which are required. Although the classroom setting will be altered, the students are expected to attend and to behave as if he/she were in a classroom. Furthermore, due to time restrictions some of these visits may take place in the afternoon, or even on Fridays.

Required:

-Carmona: Friday, Nov. 11th, 9-14hrs. Meeting point: TBA.

-Medieval Seville: Nov 15th., at 1800hrs. Meeting point: Puerta Jerez Metro.

This syllabus is subject to change.