



HIS312E History of Spain

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Information:

Spring 2024

History of Spain

M/W 12:00-13:20

Course Description

This survey course traces the political, socio-economic, cultural, and religious history of the Iberian Peninsula from Prehistory to contemporary times. While your main focus in this course is upon the lands and peoples of what has today become Spain, you will also examine the creation of Portugal, the interaction of Spain with European and North African neighbors, as well as her complex relations with her overseas empire and later former colonies. You will come to appreciate that the Iberian Peninsula was, and in many ways still is, a historical crossroads of western Mediterranean societies, cultures and peoples. Bearing this in mind, you will investigate the rich culture and civilization of the many peoples who put down roots in these surprising lands: native Iberian peoples, Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, German tribes, Arabs, Berbers, and modern immigrants— all of whom together set the course for making of Spain a World Empire and later member of the new European Union.

The Romanization of the Iberian Peninsula began in pre-Christian times with Rome's defeat of the Carthaginians at Ilipia just outside Seville, one of the most important events of the Classical World, marking as it did the birth of the Roman Empire. For the next 500 years, Rome would give Spain its language, its law and political institutions but also its culture and architecture.

The Fall of Rome marked the birth of Europe and the later 8th century invasion of Spain by the Semitic-speaking Arabs and Berber allies who so richly contributed to the history of Spain. *Al-Andalus*, as the Iberian Peninsula was called by the new Muslim rulers, became the center of intellectual, cultural and scientific creativity in Western Europe in the 11th century. It is here that the greatest works of the Classical World would be preserved and translated for the later "discovery" by Christian Europe.

While the Catholic conquest of Iberia visited misery upon Muslim and Jewish populations, it also produced fortune-seeking soldiers who, after 1492, turned their ambitions for wealth and adventure overseas, this time as New World *conquistadors*, transforming Spain from war-torn country to world Empire. You then trace the complicated history of 18th and 19th century Spanish society that gave rise to the Kingdom of Spain in the mid-19th century. This is the kingdom that underwent the many political convulsions that later made the Franco Regime possible. You conclude your survey with an appreciation of post-Franco Spain, the return of democracy and the vibrant cultural renaissance of Spain over the last 30 years.

Course Goals and Methodology

By the end of the semester, the student should be able to organize and interrelate different historical events and periods as they relate to the creation of modern Spain, to trace chronologically and account for the arrival of different cultures and peoples that called

"Spain" home during their respective historical periods. For example, the student should be able to identify and describe the historical significance of the different religions that developed in Spain (e.g. Arians, Trinitarians, Judaism, Islam, Catholicism, Protestants, etc.).



Required Readings:

- William D. Phillips & Carla R. Phillips, *A Concise History of Spain*. (2010)
- Raymond Carr (ed.), *Spain: A History*. (2000)

Additional Bibliography:

- Simon Barton, *A History of Spain*. (2004)
- Olivia R. Constable (ed.), *Medieval Iberia*. (1997)
- Jon Cowans (ed.), *Early Modern Spain* (2003) & *Modern Spain*. (2003)

Course Requirements and Grading

Participation is very important, and each of you is expected to contribute enthusiastically and to be courteous while in class, whether is online or in the classroom. The participation grade will take into account your initiative and creativity during the different activities scheduled during the course, but also any outside activity that you participate in. You must come prepared to class, which means that you are required to read the assigned chapters *prior* to class, and you are expected to arrive on time.

There will be two examinations: a midterm and a final, both of which are composed of both an essay part and a series of short answer questions. To prepare for these short answer questions there will be three quizzes; we may also have surprise quizzes, which won't have a negative effect. There will also be small commentary of primary sources (2-3 pages) due later in the semester. A previous, and voluntary commentary, will due in the beginning of the semester. Further information will be given in due course.

The student will be provided with a short guide on how to write an historical commentary. The purpose of these small assignments is to provide the student with a first-hand account of the events discussed in class, as well as permit the student to critically think and analyse historical documents.

The final grade is broken down as follows:

Participation	10%
Quizzes 3	30% (10% each)
Text Commentary	10%
Midterm & Final Exam	50% (25% each)

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.

All assignments will be graded using the Spanish grade scale.

General Course Policies

Each student is expected to be familiar with the course syllabus. Students are expected to focus their full attention on the class, arrive on time, and stay until class ends. Leaving the classroom on repeated occasions is disturbing to both your professor and your classmates and may adversely affect your participation grade. Please make use of the 10-minute breaks in between classes to fill up your water bottle, use the restroom, etc.



Students are expected to listen and respect other points of view. Phone calls, social media, email, or Internet browsing at any time during class are not acceptable during class except for specific class-related activity expressly approved by your instructor. You are responsible for any and all course material covered in class, announcements, and/or handouts if you are not present for any reason. Students will be held responsible to be up to date by attending to class regularly and checking both email and the Blackboard site of the course frequently (monitor your email and Blackboard announcements at least once every 24 hours).

Communicating with instructor: Please allow at least 48 hours for your instructor to respond to your emails. The weekend is not included in this timeframe. If you have an urgent request or question for your professor, be sure to send it during the week.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance is mandatory at all classes. As we understand that you might fall ill or be unable to come to class (e.g. due to a religious holiday, a flight delay, a family wedding/reunion, a graduation, a job interview, etc.) at some point during the semester, you are allowed up to 4 absences. You will be responsible for the material covered and any work missed. You will not need to justify your absences (up to 4) in any way unless you miss an exam, a presentation, a quiz, etc. In this case, you must present a doctor's note (signed, stamped and dated) to be able to reschedule the exam, etc. It will still count as an absence but you will be allowed to retake the exam, etc. We don't encourage you to use all 4 days unless you really need them as your participation grade may suffer if you are not in class. If used unwisely and you get sick late in the semester, the following penalties will apply:

- On your 5th absence, 1 point will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 6th absence, 3 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 7th absence, you will fail the course

For classes that meet once a week, each absence counts as two. For classes that meet daily, the penalties outlined above apply if you go over 6 absences (7th absence=5th absence above). Exams missed due to an excused absence must be made up within a week of returning to classes. Talk to your professor immediately after your return.

COVID-19

If an absence is related to COVID-19 the procedure to follow will be in accordance to the current legislation in the region of Andalucía, Spain.

Academic Honesty

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. The International Center may also report this to your home university. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly, using footnotes and a bibliography, and not cutting and pasting information from various websites when writing assignments.



Learning Accommodations

If you require special accommodations, or have any other medical condition you deem may affect your class performance, you must stop by the International Center to speak to the Faculty Coordinator to either turn in your documentation or to confirm that our office has received it. The coordinator will explain the options available to you.

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 & Content Areas

Unit 1 - Introduction & pre-Roman Iberia:

Session 1 – Introduction & the Iberian Peninsula: its geography and its people.

Session 2 & 3 – Prehistory I: from the Palaeolithic to the Metal Ages & Natives Cultures.

Reading: Phillips, Preface/Chapter 1.

Session 4 & 5 – Ancient History I: Celts, Phoenicians, Greeks, and Carthaginians & Romans.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 2; Carr, chapter 1.

Unit 2 - Rome & Early Middle Ages:

Session 6 & 7 – Late Antiquity & Early Middle Ages: fall of Rome to the Germanic invasions.

Reading: Carr, chapters 2.

Unit 3 - Late Middle Ages & Early Modern:

Session 8-11 – The Middle Ages: from the Visigoths to the peninsular unification.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 3; Carr, chapters 3.

Session 12 & 13 – The creation of the “modern state”: from the Catholic Monarchs to Philip I.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 4.

Session 14 – Paper commentary DUE: this a practice commentary, no grade will be given.

Midterm Exam. (Mar. 13th)

Unit 4 - Modern History:

Session 15 & 16 – 16th Century: from Charles I to Philip II (birth of an Empire).

Reading: Carr, chapter 5 & 6.

Session 17 & 18 – 17th Century: from Philip III to the Spanish War of Succession.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 5; Carr, chapter 7.

Session 19 & 20 – 18th Century: from the Bourbons to Bonaparts (1700-1808).

Reading: Phillips, chapter 6.

Unit 5 - The 19th century:

Session 21 & 22 – 19th Century: 1808-1898.

Reading: Carr, chapter 8.

Unit 6 - Contemporary History:

Session 23 to 24 – 20th Century: 1898-1931 & 1931-1939 (2nd Republic)/Civil War documentary.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 7; Carr, chapter 9.

Session 25 & 26 – 20th Century: 1939-1977 (Franco Regime) & 1977-Today.

Reading: Phillips, chapter 8.

Session 27 – Final Exam. (Date/time TBA). Paper commentary *due* – NO EXCEPTIONS

***This syllabus is subject to change.**