

Course: HIST-143-20 Spanish History and Culture  
Instructor: Daniel Cano  
Term: Summer Session II – 2019  
Room: TBD  
Meeting Time: MTWR 5:30 – 7:30  
Office Hours: TR 4:30 – 5:30 (or by appointment)  
Office: TBD  
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#### Course-description:

This course offers a university level introduction to the History and Culture of Spain from the moment of "encounter" between Europeans and natives in The Americas (1492) to the present. Our departure point is the so-called clash of cultures; a moment when great pre-Columbian civilizations, and expanding European empires met. The core part of the survey offers a comparative approach to the way the Spanish Empire interacted with the rest of Europe, the Mediterranean World and the colonies in the Americas. We will discuss, sequentially, the formation and assembly of Spanish colonial state, and the internal and external crises of Spanish colonization in the New World.

In a second part we will analyze the formation of Spain national identity in the nineteenth century up to the Civil War in the early twentieth century. We will pay closer attention to the material culture that Spain created in the formation of its modern national culture.

The Third and last part focuses in the twentieth century with a closer examination to the Civil War and the dictatorship of General Franco. In parallel we will study some specific cultural aspects of the Spanish society, ranging from art, food, sports, fashion, and some basic Spanish language. Finally, we will reflect –historically- about how Spanish people understand and live their world today.

The class is a participatory survey. We will devote our time to discuss, think and write. Materials assigned do acknowledge the time limits of a summer session; no textbook will be used unless a general reference is needed. Instead, we will devote our time to an in-depth review of critical scholarship that has shaped our understanding of the region. The key to success in this class are: engaging in lectures critically; reading all materials assigned on time for discussion; coming to discussion sessions ready to offer questions to share with the class; and finally writing critical essays that offer a creative approach to our common questions.

At the end of this course, a student will:

- Be knowledgeable about the major historical trends in the history and culture of Spain
- Be further prepared to absorb and evaluate historical evidence, including current understandings of key historical questions.
- Be familiarized with the use and analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- Be able to think about current problems in Spain from a historical perspective.

Grading will be based on three components:

- Two five page essays: 50% (25% each essay)
  - One final presentation (by groups of 3-4 students): 20%
  - Participation: 30%
- Active participation means bringing thoughtful questions for group discussion. Attendance is not participation.

Strong essays demonstrate a good depth of knowledge, a critical approach to a relevant issue, and an independent understanding adequately articulated.

Although both papers are supposed to be weighted equally, I will acknowledge improvement. Final essay will test your familiarity with key concepts, and your capacity to elaborate a historical argument incorporating all the material of the course.

Late paper policy: due to the constricted timing during a summer session, late papers will be accepted only in situations of unforeseeable emergencies. Internships and job interviews do not qualify as such. The syllabus schedule will be held. Please, plan accordingly.

I expect all students to maintain the highest standards of academic and personal integrity in pursuit of their education at Georgetown

Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Resource Center (Leavey Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; <http://ldss.georgetown.edu/index.cfm>) before the start of classes to allow their office time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. If accommodations are recommended, you will be given a letter from ARC to share with your professors. You are personally responsible for completing this process officially and in a timely manner. Neither accommodations nor exceptions to policies can be permitted to students who have not completed this process in advance.

## READINGS

### Books:

*Seven Myth of the Spanish Conquest*, by Matthew Restall, (Complete)

*The Life of Lazarillo de Tormes* by Merwin (Translator), (Complete)

*El Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes (Selected chapters, PDF)

*The Odyssey of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade: Americans in the Spanish Civil War*, by Peter, Carroll. (prologue in PDF)

*Dialogue with Death: The Journal of a Prisoner of the Fascists in the Spanish Civil War* by Arthur Koestler (Selected chapters in PDF)

*Spain in Our Hearts: Americans in the Spanish Civil War, 1936–1939*, by Adam Hochschild (Selected chapters in PDF)

*Death in the Afternoon* by Ernest Hemingway (selected chapters in PDF)

### Articles:

*Roger Federer as Religious Experience*, by David Foster Wallace. Published in The New York Times.

*Looking back on the Spanish War* by George Orwell, (PDF)

*Franco and Hitler: the myths of Hendaye 1940* by Paul Preston (PDF)

*Leonard Cohen* – Speech for Award Príncipe de Asturias (PDF)

## FILMS

*1492: Conquest of the Paradise*, Ridley Scott. (1992)

*The Man Who Killed Don Quixote*, Terry Gilliam (2018)

*Pan's Labyrinth* by Guillermo del Toro (2006)

*The Land of the Basques*, Orson Welles Full documentary

*All about my Mother* by Almodovar (1999)

## SCHEDULE

### ***First week: Introduction to Spain and the Age of Empire***

Session 1: Introduction to Spain. The Moment of Global Encounter: Part I

Session 2: The Moment of Global Encounter: Part II

Session 3: Film: *1492: Conquest of the Paradise*, Ridley Scott (1992)

Session 4: Reading: Restall, *Seven Myth of the Spanish Conquest*  
(Paper 1 is assigned).

### ***Second Week: Medieval Spain?***

Session 1: Spanish Inquisition and its Aftermath

Session 2: *El Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes.

Session 3: Film: *The Man Who Killed Don Quixote*, Terry Gilliam (2018)  
Session 4: Reading: *The Life of Lazarillo de Tormes* (Paper 1 is due)

***Third Week: Tradition and Enlightenment***

Session 1: Spain in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A Search for Stability  
Session 2: Spanish Colonies and Independence  
Session 3: Film: *The Land of the Basques* - Orson Welles documentary  
Session 4: Reading: *TBD* (Paper 2 is assigned)

***Fourth Week: Spanish Civil War***

Session 1: Spanish Civil War: Past and Present  
Session 2: Americans and the Spanish Civil War.  
Session 3: Film: *Pan's Labyrinth*, Guillermo del Toro (2010)  
Session 4: Readings: *Looking back on the Spanish War* - George Orwell, (PDF); *The Odyssey of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade: Americans in the Spanish Civil War*, by Peter Carroll. (prologue in PDF); *Franco and Hitler: the myths of Hendaye 1940*, Preston, Paul. (Paper 2 is due)

***Fifth Week: Spanish Culture and Traditions***

Session 1: The “Tauromarquía” or Bullfight, Food, and Music. Selected Readings and Videos  
Session 2: Film: *All about my Mother*, Almodovar (1999)  
Session 3: Spain and Sports: Selected Readings and Videos  
Session 4: Review Session (Course evaluation) + Final Presentation by groups.