



“SPANISH CULTURES FROM AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE”

COURSE: SPANISH CULTURES FROM AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE (CULTURAS ESPAÑOLAS DESDE UNA PERSPECTIVA INTERCULTURAL)

PROFESOR/A:

TEACHING HOURS: 45h

ONLINE WORK AND SELF STUDY: 15h

- Exercises, class projects and homework

CREDITS: 6 ECTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY:

The course approach is thought to be participative. Discussion of the issues related to several topics will arise from the texts and audio-visual documents that we work with. Therefore, the interaction of the students with the teacher will be a decisive element in the development of the course and also in the assessment thereof, together with the daily tasks given by the teacher (readings, surveys to Spanish people, analysis of Spanish press...) and the final exam.

During the last week of the course, the students will make an oral presentation, in pairs or individually, about the final work. The presentation has to be about a specific aspect of one of the topics included in this program and which has not been deepened in class before. It is compulsory to use some support material (photocopies, pictures, videos, slides, etc.) that facilitates the understanding by the rest of the classmates.

Teaching language: English

TEXTBOOKS:

Material provided by the teacher

ASSESSMENT:

Work in class, readings and participation	30%
Final Project and presentation	30%
Final exam	40%
Date of the final exam: on the last day of class, during the normal class schedule	

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The final grade will not be just the result of the final exam, but of the sum of all components specified at the "Assessment" section.
2. To pass the course, the average mark has to be equal or over 6/10.
3. The student takes a single exam at the end of the course, without any dates for retake or additional calls. Exam dates are indicated in this program and will not be changed to fit travel plans or other personal circumstances.
4. Non-attendance to 80% of the total course hours, more than 4 days of class (8h) with no justification, implies not being entitled to take the final exam and, therefore, not obtaining the official certificate of the course.

OBJECTIVES / STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The course is aimed at foreign students who have not yet reached the level of competences in Spanish language that allows them to follow a course of culture in Spanish and it has two fundamental objectives:

To develop intercultural awareness, strategies, skills of students as well as their intercultural mediation tools.

To approach the student to contemporary Spanish reality and to the aspects that make it up, emphasizing the understanding of them rather than just accumulating information. We seek an approach to the complexity of this reality, its richness of languages, cultures and diverse historical and social realities. For this reason, we will delve into the historical origin of such diversity. All of this, together with a panoramic view of the media and the arts in the XX and XXI centuries, will help students to understand the complex socio-political and cultural situation of "las Españas" of today, as well as the personality of the people who inhabit them.

CONTENTS/OUTLINE:

1. What is intercultural awareness?

- 1.1. Turn the strange into familiar and the familiar into strange.
- 1.2. The opacity of the cultural substrate.
- 1.3. Cultural dialects.
- 1.4. The idea of "accommodation" or "adaptation" of Gilles applied to intercultural communication.
- 1.5. Intercultural communication and mediation: intercultural strategies, the student and the teacher as intercultural mediators.

2. Landscapes: culture or cultures?

- 2.1. The Bull-Hide. Location and relief. Water: coasts and rivers. Climates and landscapes.
- 2.2. Population. Where do we come from? The Spanish language. Diversity of languages.
- 2.3. Autonomous communities. The autonomic Spain.
- 2.4. Origins and formation of the Spanish State.

3. Politics

- 3.1. Political life. Political organization in Spain.
- 3.2. Legislative power. Executive power. The National State Administration. The administrative decentralization.
- 3.3. Spain in the world. Spain and the European Union. Spain in international organizations.

4. Society

- 4.1. Evolution of Spanish society. The Spaniards today. Spanish demographic structure.
- 4.2. Social relationships. Family. The new family structure.
- 4.3. The situation of women.
- 4.4. Education. Education system. The Spanish University and the EU.

4.5. Jobs. Professional life. Unemployment. The schedules. Immigration / emigration: in pursuit of a future. Changes in Spanish society.

4.6. Schedules.

4.7. Religion.

4.8. Media.

5. Economy

5.1. Spain today. Economic image of Spain. Countryside. Industry. The foreign sector.

5.2. Modernization. Renovation of transport infrastructures. Communication technologies. Energy.

5.3. "Made in Spain" products.

5.4. Tourism.

5.5. The Spanish fashion.

5.5. Gastronomy.

Sociocultural activities

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