



Universidad de Sevilla/Facultad de Geografía e Historia

Course GA-01

CULTURE AND SOCIETY IN PRESENT-DAY SPAIN

(45 class hours)

Lecturer: Dr. Juan Agudo Torrico (torrico@us.es)

Substitute Lecturer: Dr. Javier Hernández Ramírez
(jhernandez@us.es)

OBJECTIVES

To foreground Spain's cultural plurality, while analyzing the reasons for this diversity, as well as for the prolific range of manifestations through which it is expressed.

METHODOLOGY

The syllabus items that make up the Program will be developed in class sessions by means of a combination of explanatory presentations on the part of the lecturer, together with the exploration of audiovisual documents by which to encourage active student participation.

SYLLABUS

1. INTRODUCCIÓN

An initial approach to, and further explanation of, certain key concepts from an anthropological perspective: Culture, Society, Social Classes, Enculturation, Socialization, Ethnic Identity, Nation, State, Ethnocentrism.

2. SPAIN'S POLITICALADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The historical process at work within Spain's emergence as a State.

Geographical and historical factors affecting Cultural Plurality.

The present-day political-administrative model: State, Autonomous Communities, Municipal Boroughs. Spain and the European Union.

3. CULTURAL DIVERSITY WITHIN SPAIN

The environmental variable as a factor within the construction of Spain's cultural diversity: dry Spain and wet Spain.

The Cantabrian Cornice: Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria, the Basque Country.

The Culture of the Mediterranean: Catalonia, Levant, Andalucía. The Central Tableland.



4. RURAL SPAIN AND URBAN SPAIN

The historical configuration of the present-day dual-based system of differentiation within Spain.

Scattered population and centered population.

Agricultural townships and medium-sized townships.

The large metropolitan sprawls.

5. SPAIN'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

The productive sectors.

Spain's social structure.

Emigration and Immigration.

The Welfare State and the Social Security system.

6. AGE AND GENDER IDENTITY

Education and Socialization: The Education System.

Age and social status: Rites of Passage.

Gender Identity and Social Roles.

Women's standing in present-day Spain

Spain's Youth.

7. RELIGION IN SPAIN

From National-Catholicism to religious freedom.

Religious rituals and worship.

Institutional religion and popular religious sentiment.

8. TRADITIONAL FESTIVE EVENTS (FIESTAS)

Significance and function of Festive Events.

The Festive Cycle.

Secular and religious Festive Events.

Public and private Festive Events: social relations within the festive environment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (General monographic sources)

CARO BAROJA, J. (1975) Estudios sobre la vida tradicional española. Barcelona: Península.

-----. Los pueblos de España, 2 Vol. (1975). Madrid: Istmo.

CUCÓ, J. (Coord.) (1990) Identidades colectivas: etnicidad y sociabilidad en la Península Ibérica. Valencia: Generalitat Valenciana.



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LISÓN TOLOSANA, C. (1980) *Invitación a la Antropología Cultural de España*. Madrid.

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PAREDES, J. (Coord.) *Historia contemporánea de España. Siglo XX*. Madrid: Ariel, 2010.

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PRAT, J., MARTÍNEZ, U., CONTRERAS, J. y MORENO, I. (Comp.) (1991) *Antropología de los pueblos de España*. Madrid: Taurus

VILAR, P. *Historia de España*. Barcelona: Grijalbo, 1986.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Attendance on a regular basis and active participation in class sessions: 20% Grades

obtained in the mid-semester and end-of-semester exams: 50% Essay assignments (2

to be undertaken as the Course develops): 30%