



SPANISH CULTURES FROM AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

COURSE: SPANISH CULTURES FROM AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

TEACHER:

TEACHING HOURS: 45h

ONLINE WORK AND SELF STUDY: 15h

- Exercises, class projects and homework

CREDITS: 6 ECTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The course adopts a **participatory and interactive approach**, where discussion of topics arises from the texts and audiovisual materials provided. Student interaction with the teacher is a **key element** in both the development and assessment of the course. Daily tasks—such as readings, surveys with Spanish speakers, and analysis of Spanish media—complement classroom activities and contribute to the final grade alongside the final exam.

During the **last week of the course**, students will deliver an **oral presentation**, either individually or in pairs, on a specific aspect of a topic from the program that has not been covered in depth in class. Presentations must include **support materials** (slides, images, videos, handouts, etc.) to facilitate understanding for classmates.

TEXTBOOKS

All course materials will be **provided by the teacher**.

ASSESSMENT

Component	Weight
In-class work, readings, and participation	20%
Final project and presentation	30%
Final exam	50%

Date of final exam: Scheduled on the **last day of class** during normal class hours.

OBSERVATIONS

1. The final grade is based on the sum of all assessment components; it is **not solely determined by the final exam**.
2. A minimum **average grade of 5/10** is required to pass the course.
3. Students will take **only one final exam**, with no retake or alternative dates. Exam dates in the syllabus are **fixed** and cannot be altered for personal reasons.
4. Attendance of at least **80% of total course hours** is required. Missing more than **4 classes (8 hours) without justification** will prevent access to the final exam and the official course certificate.

OBJECTIVES / STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course is designed for **foreign students** who have not yet achieved the Spanish proficiency necessary to follow a culture course in Spanish. The course has two primary objectives:

1. **Develop intercultural awareness and skills**, including strategies and tools for intercultural mediation.
2. **Introduce students to contemporary Spanish reality**, emphasizing comprehension over rote memorization. Students will gain insight into Spain's linguistic, cultural, historical, and social diversity, supported by a panoramic view of Spanish media and arts in the 20th and 21st centuries. This approach helps students understand the complex socio-political and cultural landscape of modern Spain.

COURSE CONTENT / OUTLINE

1. What is Intercultural Awareness?

- 1.1. Turning the strange into familiar and vice versa
- 1.2. Understanding the cultural substrate
- 1.3. Cultural dialects
- 1.4. Gilles' concept of "accommodation" in intercultural communication
- 1.5. Intercultural communication and mediation: strategies for students and teachers as mediators

2. Landscapes: Culture or Cultures?

- 2.1. Geography: The Bull-Hide shape, relief, coasts, rivers, climate, and landscapes
- 2.2. Population: Origins, the Spanish language, linguistic diversity
- 2.3. Autonomous communities and the structure of Spain
- 2.4. Historical origins and formation of the Spanish state

3. Politics

- 3.1. Political life and organization in Spain
- 3.2. Legislative and executive powers; national administration; decentralization
- 3.3. Spain in the world: European Union and international organizations

4. Society

- 4.1. Evolution of Spanish society and demographic structure
- 4.2. Social relationships and family structures
- 4.3. Women in contemporary Spain
- 4.4. Education: systems, universities, and EU integration
- 4.5. Employment, professional life, unemployment, and migration

- 4.6. Daily schedules and routines
- 4.7. Religion
- 4.8. Media

5. Economy

- 5.1. Contemporary economic overview: agriculture, industry, foreign trade
- 5.2. Modernization: transport, technology, energy
- 5.3. “Made in Spain” products
- 5.4. Tourism
- 5.5. Spanish fashion
- 5.6. Gastronomy

SOCIAL MEDIA & COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Discover our program of complementary cultural and linguistic activities on our website: www.csidiomas.ua.es. Stay connected and participate through our social media channels for additional resources, news, and opportunities to practice Spanish.



All masculine references to students in this document should be understood as referring to both male and female students.