

Course GS-02 CONTEMPORARY SPAIN: ECONOMY, SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT (45 contact hours)

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Lectures and student-centered learning will cover the following topics.

TOPIC 1: INTRODUCING SPAIN

- 1.1 - Geographical location. An extremely diverse country
- 1.2 - Mountain ranges. Landscapes and environmental diversity
- 1.3 - Climate and water resources. Water management and climate risks
- 1.4 - The coast. Environmental values and impacts.
- 1.5- Practical activities

Students presentations topic 1

Exam I

TOPIC 2. HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

- 2.1 - Brief history of Spain
- 2.2 - The Spanish State. Administrative organization
- 2.3 - Cultural and linguistic diversity
- 2.4.- Spanish political parties
- 2.5 - Contemporary Political Issues
- 2.6 - European Union: history and principles
- 2.8 -The European Union: main institutions and policies
- 2.9 - Practical activities

Students presentations topic 2

Exam II

TOPIC 3. ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

- 4.1 - Population distribution and dynamics
- 4.2 - Contemporary Social Issues. Migration and population aging
- 4.3 - Education and health system

4.4 - Main economic activities: tertiary sector and prevailing service work

4.5 - Contemporary Socio-economic Issues

4.6 - Current problems: urbanization and tourism gentrification

4.7 - Practical activities

Students presentations topic 3

Exam III (final)

Lectures will be given from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at the University of Sevilla in accordance with the attached program itinerary. Various cultural activities will also be included in the program as indicated.

Students working in small groups will prepare 15-minute PowerPoint presentations about relevant issues related to the topics of the syllabus. A list of possible topics will be provided, but students can also propose alternative topics. The subject of the presentation should be described with reference to The United States (EEUU) and Spain ending with relevant conclusions based on a comparison between the two countries.

The presentations will be evaluated by the instructor, and the contents will also be part of the materials to be studied for the corresponding exams. Therefore, in advance of each presentation the group should hand in a brief essay about the contents to the instructor. The days for the presentations will normally be during the regular class times. Guides and materials to support the group projects will be provided.

There will be three exams during the course corresponding to different topics as specified in the syllabus. Each of the exams will cover the class materials, the practical activities and the student presentation contents for the corresponding topics.

Grading: There will be four components to your grade in this course: exams, group project, practical activities, and attendance/participation. Here is the breakdown:

Percentage

Exam I 20%

Exam II 20%

Exam III 20%

Group Project 20%

Practical Activities 15%

Attendance/Participation 5%

Total 100%

Final Course Grade Standards (Note: We will NO be using a plus/minus grade system):

90-100% = A

80-89.9% = B

70-79.9% = C

60-69.9% = D

0-59.9% = F

Bibliography and Learning Resources

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CONSTELA, X. and MIRAMONTES, A. (2006): "A note related to the model of urbanization in Galicia: does it exist?" in *Urban changes in different scales: systems and structures*, International Geographical Union, Commission on Monitoring cities of tomorrow. Annual Meeting 2006, Santiago de Compostela, Universidade, Servizo de Publicacións e Intercambio Científico. Pag. 93-105.

EUROPEAN UNION (2010): *Investing in Europe's future. Fifth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion*. Available on:

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION (2007): *Key facts and figures about Europe and the Europeans*, http://europa.eu/abc/keyfigures/index_en.htm

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GREEN WORLD RESEARCH (2001). *Examples of European agri-environment schemes and livestock systems and their influence on Spanish cultural landscapes*, Wageningen: Alterra.

MACINNES, J., PÉREZ DÍAZ, J. (2009), "The reproductive revolution" *The Sociological Review* 57 (2): 262-284.

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SOMOZA, J. (2006): "Cultural tourism and new urban centralities. Examples from Spain", in *Urban changes in different scales: systems and structures*, International Geographical

Union, Commission on Monitoring cities of tomorrow. Annual Meeting 2006, Santiago de Compostela, Universidade, Servizo de Publicacións e Intercambio Científico. Pag. 421-434.

UNITED NATIONS (2010): *World Population Ageing 2009*, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, New York.

VALDUNCIEL, J. and VICENTE. J. (2006): "New territories and new landscapes. The morphology of micrometropolitan spaces in North East Catalonia", in *Urban changes in different scales: systems and structures*, International Geographical Union, Commission on Monitoring cities of tomorrow. Annual Meeting 2006, Santiago de Compostela, Universidade, Servizo de Publicacións e Intercambio Científico. Pag. 309-320.

WEBSITES

- Instituto Nacional de Estadística:
<http://www.ine.es>
- European Union website:
http://europa.eu/index_en.htm
- European Environmental Agency
<http://www.eea.europa.eu/>
- Instituto de Estadística y Cartografía de Andalucía:
<http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/institutodeestadisticaycartografia/index.html>
- Centro virtual Cervantes. Paisajes de España
<http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/paisajes/>
- Mapa interactivo de España:
<http://w3.cnice.mec.es/eos/MaterialesEducativos/mem2002/mapa/>
- Recursos didácticos de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles:
http://age.ieg.csic.es/recur_didacticos/index.htm
- GAPMINDER, world statistics:
<http://www.gapminder.org/>
- Blog of prof. Vinçen Navarro (Professor of Political and Social Sciences at the Pompeu Fabra University and Professor of Health and Social Policy at the Johns Hopkins University).
<http://www.vnavarro.org/>
- Online map quizzes: <http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/euroquiz.html>;
<http://www.oup.co.uk/oxed/secondary/geography/atlases/quiz/europequiz/>