

## **Course GA-01 CULTURE AND SOCIETY IN PRESENT-DAY SPAIN**

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### **45 CONTACT HOURS/3 SEMESTER CREDITS**

### **THIS CLASS MEETS: MON/WED 7-9PM**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The aim of this Course is to analyze and interpret Spain's cultural pluralism, together with the social organization upon which that same pluralism rests.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Sessions will be based on theoretical classes while, as part of the Course's development, discussion groups will be encouraged so as to ensure the exploration of key themes within the syllabus. Bibliography will be provided for each of the seminar sections. Likewise, each student will be given a pack of monographs from which an example may be selected as a subject for the preparation of an individual commentary.

#### **SYLLABUS**

##### 1. INTRODUCTION

- The Examination of Certain Key Concepts from an Anthropological Perspective: Culture, Society, Social Classes, Enculturation, Socialization, Ethnic Identity, Nation, State, Ethnocentrism.

##### 2. SPAIN'S POLITICAL-ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

- The Historical Process at work within Spain's Emergence as a State.
- Geographical and Historical Factors Affecting Cultural Pluralism.
- The Present-Day Political-Administrative Model: State, Autonomous Communities, Municipal Boroughs, Spain and the European Union.

##### 3. SPAIN'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- The Ecological 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. DUAL SPAIN: THE RURAL AND THE URBAN.

- The Historical Configuration of Present-Day Differentiation within Spain.
  - Scattered Population and Centred Population.
  - Agricultural Towns and the Medium-Sized Towns.
  - 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 Position: Rites of Passage.
  - Gender Identity and Social Roles.
  - Spain's Youth.
  - Relations between the Sexes: 'Machismo' and Feminism. Gender Roles.
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**

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