



Boston University in Madrid

SEMINAR: “ADVANCED TOPICS ON CONTEMPORARY SPAIN”

January 19th – February 18th

Boston University Honors Program – Spring 2009

Coordinator: Prof. Amalia Pérez-Juez, Ph.D.

The course on Contemporary Spain includes classes at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and the International Institute, a section on contemporary Spanish film, and visits to exhibitions and other activities related to economic, social and cultural life in the city of Madrid. **All of the activities are mandatory**, including those that do not appear on the syllabus and will be announced at a later date. In general, classes will be at the Universidad Autónoma, in the Humanities Library (Sala Pequeña). On occasion, classes will be held at the International Institute; the section on film will always be at the International Institute. Please pay attention to the class schedule and hours; the schedule varies depending on the professor and activity.

Every field trip or film screening will be followed by a discussion or short essay (the assignment will be announced in class) so you will need to pay attention to all of the announcements made in class. For any further questions regarding the course, evaluations, lectures and activities, please feel free to contact me at amaliapj@bu.edu

1. Panoramic history of the last 40 years in Spain

Monday, January 19: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Amalia Pérez-Juez

Assigned reading: *The New Spaniards*. John Hooper (2006). pp. 1-69

Historia de España. Bajo y Gil (2000). pp. 179-202

5:30 pm. Film at the Institute: [La lengua de las mariposas](#). Room 307. Please write a brief commentary on the film.

2. The Spanish Political System and Political Parties

Tuesday, January 20: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Elena García Guitián

Assigned reading: P. Oñate: “El sistema político español”, en I. Delgado, P. Chavarri, eds: *Sistemas de Organización Política Contemporánea*, UNED, Madrid, 2002, pp. 255/283. (Mimeo)

3. General Review: Spanish Politics

Wednesday, January 21: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Antonio Avalos

Assigned reading: *Historia de España*. Fernando García de Cortázar (2002)
Pp. 249-80

Tour of the UAM after class

5:30 pm. Film at the Institute. [Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown](#). Room 307.
Please write a brief commentary on the film.

4. This is a VERY full day of classes and activities, please pay attention to the hours and addresses.

Thursday, January 22 12.00 a 14.00

10.00 Trip to the stock exchange of Madrid (before class we will meet at the stock exchange for a guided tour). Be on time! Plaza de la Lealtad. Metro Banco de España.

11:30 Visit to the Islamic Cultural Center and Mosque. Calle Salvador de Madariaga 4, Metro: Barrio de la Concepción o Parque de las Avenidas.

1:15 pm. Lunch at the Islamic Cultural Center

5. Nationalism and Autonomous Regions.

Friday, January 23: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Elena García Guitián

Assigned reading: E. García: "Autonomía y federalismo en España", en R. del Águila, ed.: *Manual de Ciencia Política*, Trotta, Madrid, 2005.

6. Secular Culture and the Catholic Church.

Monday, January 26: 10.00-12.00 – Instituto Internacional. Aula 404 (The Autonoma is closed today)

Professor: Antonio Avalos

Assigned reading: "El país en el que hoy vivimos: una sociedad libre, un país plural, un Estado democrático" en *La democracia en España*, págs. 31-51

We will be meeting for a second time at the Instituto from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

General Review of the Spanish Economy

Monday, January 26: 18:00 –20.00 – Instituto Internacional. Room 307

Professor: Silvia Velasco

7. Topics on Contemporary Spanish Society

Tuesday, January 27 10.00-11.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Amalia Pérez-Juez

Review of previously discussed themes and presentation on upcoming class topics.

The Islamic World

Tuesday January 27: 11.00-13.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Antonio Avalos

Assigned reading: “Afrontando seriamente el pluralismo religioso y cultural: el renacimiento mundial de la religión y la transformación de la sociedad internacional”, en Revista Académica de Relaciones Internacionales, nº 7, Nov 2007.

3:30 pm. Meeting at the Office of International Programs at the Autonomia.

8. ¿Islam vs the West?

Wednesday, January 28: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Antonio Ávalos

Assigned reading: “Reconsiderar la secularización: una perspectiva comparada mundial” en Revista Académica de Relaciones Internacionales, nº 7, Nov 2007.

5:30 pm. Film at the Institute: [Los lunes al sol](#). Room 307. Please write a brief commentary on the film.

9. The European Community

Thursday, January 29: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Antonio Ávalos

Assigned reading: *Doce lecciones sobre Europa*. Pascal Fontaine (2007)

10. Trip to Toledo

Friday, January 30

11. The Contemporary Spanish Population - Minorities

Monday February 2: 16.00-18.00 – International Institute

Professor: Aida Bueno

Assigned reading: *Euráfrica. Lo que no se dice sobre la inmigración. Lo que se podría decir sobre Europa.* Mario Marazziti y Andrea Riccardi

5:30 pm. Film at the Institute: [Flores de otro mundo](#). Room 307. Commentary on the film.

12. Immigration I

Visit to an NGO that connects people to various charities that work with elderly patients, children with developmental disabilities, immigrants etc. 11.00 a.m. Calle de las Artistas, 2. Metro: Cuatro Caminos. The purpose of this visit is to understand the role of an NGO in Spain and its development over the past 10 years.

Tuesday, February 3: 16.00-18.00 – International Institute. Aulo 308

Professor: Aida Bueno

Assigned reading: *¿Qué hacemos con los inmigrantes?* José María Calleja

13. Immigration II

Wednesday, February 4: 16.00-18.00 – International Institute

Professor: Aída Bueno

Important: The assigned reading for Professor Teruel's class must be finished by tonight for class tomorrow morning..

14. Spanish Literature: Short stories

Thursday, February 5: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: José Teruel

Assigned reading: Carme Riera: "Te entrego, amor, la mar como una ofrenda" (*Palabra de mujer*)

Bernardo Atxaga: "Esteban Werfell" (*Obabakoak*)

15. Spanish Literature: Poetry

Friday, February 6: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: José Teruel

Assigned reading: Anthology

16. Spanish Literature: The Novel

Monday, February 9: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: José Teruel

Assigned reading: Carmen Martín Gaité, *El cuarto de atrás*, capítulos I – III

5:30 pm. Film at the Institute. Room 307. [Take my eyes](#). Brief commentary on the film.

17. Review of Seminar and Analysis of Contemporary Themes

Tuesday, February 10: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: Amalia Pérez-Juez

Assigned reading: Review various newspaper articles from the last two weeks. Please come prepared with articles that pertain to the theme or subject that you have been previously assigned in class.

18. Spanish Literature: The Novel cont.

Wednesday, February 11: 10.00-12.00 – Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Professor: José Teruel

Assigned reading : Carmen Martín Gaité, *El cuarto de atrás*, capítulos IV - VII

19. Spanish Literature: The Novel cont.

Thursday, February 12

Professor: José Teruel

Assigned reading: Juan José Millás, *El desorden de tu nombre*

The professor will handout a rubric for the final essay

Final Essay: Absolutely NO late submissions. Essay due Monday, March 2nd, please send essays to amaliapj@bu.edu

Trip to Sevilla

February 13-14

GRADING AND EVALUATIONS

The grading of this course is conceived in the form of a seminar. The professor will explain different themes included in the program, but a very important part of the seminar is the personal work of each student, reading of all of the materials, class participation, attending all of the activities and turning in the assignments on time. Reading of the daily press will also play a part in the evaluation of the student.

The majority of classes will be in the UAM, but some will take place at the International Institute. Please pay attention to the announcements that will be made in class and during the activities. This seminar requires a very flexible schedule and some of the activities may be different than originally listed on the program; also, new activities may be announced.

The grading of each student is entirely dependent on the profesor responsible for the class; evaluations will be based on the following criteria.

- 1) Class participation
- 2) Presentation of recent newspaper articles as explained in the first paragraph of the syllabus.
- 3) The completion of essays corresponding to the various themes discussed in class
- 4) Written commentaries on the articles, visits, and activities.

The final grade will be based on the various grades of the different professors and the participation of the student. Missing class or an activity will result in the lowering of the final grade.

TUTORIALS

Every Tuesday and Thursday, the students can come to the office of Prof. Amalia Pérez-Juez (212 del Módulo III de la Facultad de Educación) for tutoring. The rest of the week, she will be available by e-mail.

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