In this course, we will explore interactions between Muslims, Christians, and Jews in medieval Europe’s most religiously diverse region—from the establishment of an Islamic al-Andalus in 711 CE through the final Christian "reconquest" of the peninsula and expulsion of the Jews in 1492 and expulsion of the Moriscos (Muslims forcibly converted to Christianity) in 1609. Themes include religion and communal identities, the complexities of cultural engagement in pluralistic environments, and toleration and its limits. You can expect to gain an understanding of current scholarship in the field, to develop familiarity with primary sources and methods for interpreting them, and to engage both of these things in the construction of a substantive research paper (for undergraduates) or scholarly review essay (for graduate students).

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class. If you know that you will miss class because you are sick or are away from school for an emergency, please try to let me know ahead of time, if possible, via phone or e-mail. More than two unexcused absences during the semester may result in a lower overall grade in addition to an unsatisfactory class participation grade. Graded work for the seminar will include class participation (30%); 2 short analytical papers (20% each), and a final research paper (30%). Students will also be expected to prepare and lead discussion on one week's reading, which will factor into the class participation grade along with attendance, the quality of your engagement with the material each week, and your general involvement in the seminar. Please note that students must complete all written work in order to receive a passing grade for the class.

Note: University policy is that students have the right to be excused from class for the observance of religious holidays. However, it is your responsibility to notify faculty ahead of time and to arrange to make up any work you might miss. If you plan to miss class for this reason, you...
Expectations of Integrity: All students should familiarize themselves with the Boston University Academic Conduct Code or College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Academic Conduct Code as appropriate and adhere to it.

Students with Disabilities: Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Disability Services as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. If you suspect that you may have an undiagnosed disability that is interfering with your success in your coursework, please come see me and I will help direct you to the appropriate resources at BU.

Required Books:


Copies of required books will be held on 24 hour reserve in Mugar Library. Note: if you choose to use the library's copy of Ornament of the World, please order from Course Reserves by call number DP 102.M46 2002.

Other Readings:
A number of readings are available on the Blackboard Learn site or through links embedded into this syllabus. Please bring all readings to class each week. You may either print out electronic readings or bring a laptop or other device to class.

Assignments:

Discussion Leading: There will be a sign up sheet for discussion leading. Take a look and choose a week that works for you in terms of topic, schedule, or both. By 11:59 PM Sunday night of the week you are scheduled, you should post a brief entry to the Blackboard Learn Blog highlighting some of your thoughts on the document(s), book, or article on which you'll be leading discussion, including several questions for classmates to ponder. In class, you will give a presentation of no more than 10 minutes and will be given the opportunity to manage discussion. Feel free to contribute graphics, timelines, etc.

Short Analytical Papers: There will be two 5-7 page analytical papers on specific topics. See the assignment page on Blackboard, due dates below.

Final Paper: Students will write a final research paper on a topic of their own choosing. Undergraduate papers should be 12-15 pages long, graduate papers should be 15-20 pages long. Guidelines may be found on the Blackboard assignment page.

Schedule:

Sep 6 What is at Stake: Contemporary Politics and the Idea of Religious Pluralism in Medieval Spain

Sep 13 Christian Visigothic Spain and Its Jewish Minority

Additional Graduate Reading: Rachel L. Stocking, "Review article: Continuity, Culture and the State in Late Antique and Early Medieval Iberia," Early Medieval Europe 15:3 (2007) 34 [Blackboard].

Sep 20 Muslim Arrival and the Establishment of al-Andalus

Additional Graduate Reading: Jessica Coope, The Martyrs of Córdoba, entire

Sep 27 The Umayyad Caliphate
Oct 4 No class. Make up date TBD. Conquest, (Re)conquest, and Frontiers

First paper due: Tuesday, October 4, 11:59 PM

Oct 11 Monday Schedule: Tuesday classes do not meet, but we will try to hold class 11-1 as a makeup for Oct. 4

Oct 18 Song of the Cid
Burton Raffel, trans., *The Song of the Cid*

Oct 25 Religious Devotion and Mysticism

Additional Graduate Reading: Lobel, *A Sufi-Jewish Dialogue*, entire

Nov 1 Letters and Religious Identity

Nov 8 Urban Space and Religious Identity (Barcelona, Toledo, Granada)

Second Paper Due November 8, 11:59 PM

Nov 15 Conversions

Nov 21: Annotated Bibliographies Due by 11:59 PM

Nov 22 Food and Religious Identity

Additional Graduate Reading: Freidenreich, *Foreigners and Their Food*, entire

Nov 29 Inquisition and Expulsion; Converted Jews and Muslims in early modern Spain

Additional Graduate Reading: Mary Elizabeth Perry, *The Handless Maiden*, entire

Dec 6 Envisioning a Pluralistic Ideal: The Construction of "Convivencia"
Maria Rosa Menocal, *Ornament of the World*


Thursday, Dec 13: Final Papers Due. Submit to Learn site by 11:59 PM