

CAS SP 300 HISTORY OF SPANISH ART

Summer 2014

General overview:

This course is intended to give an overview of the periods, styles and artistic movements in Spain, starting with the prehistoric artistic manifestations and ending with an introduction to works from the contemporary period. Students will analyze historical context, traditional artistic expressions (painting, sculpture and architecture) and will be introduced to other more current artistic forms, such as installation or video art. At the same time, students will learn to interpret the most relevant works and prepare a critique to be presented during field trips.

Methodology

The lectures will give the student an intellectual framework to understand each period of Spanish Art and provide the students with sufficient tools to do the individual work. Lectures are intended to elaborate on the required readings and field trips; however, they constitute only one element of the course. Participation and presentations are an essential component of the final grade.

Requirements:

Students will have to complete the assigned readings before the day of the lecture. Lectures will not summarize the assigned reading but rather explore them in further depth and build upon related topics. Supplementary readings are intended for students who want to deepen their understanding of Spanish art and will serve as a basic bibliography for written projects. Students are required to attend all classes, field trips and other visits. . If a student cannot attend one of these visits, he/she must do it on his/her own and submit an essay about the visit. Visits are scheduled on the syllabus or announced in class. In case of questionable student behavior in class or during a visit, and in any case of plagiarism, the class will adhere to the norms established by BU, which can be found here:

<http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code/>

Grading policy:

Class Participation, Attendance, Readings	15%
Mid-term Exam	30%
Critique	15%
Final Exam	40%

Calendar:

WEEK 1:

Class 1: Course Presentation. Works of art will be assigned to each student for the critique. Review of artistic terms. First steps: pre-historic art, Iberian art, Roman and Paleo-Christian art. Visigothic art.

Readings: -MOFFIT, J. F. "Christianity and Islam in the Formation of Spanish Art" *The Arts in Spain*. London: Thames & Hudson, 1999, pp. 28, 38y 39.

-BOZAL, V. "La invasión musulmana" *Historia del arte en España*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973, pp. 58, 59 y 60

Class 2: Hispanic-Muslim Art. Historical context and characteristics. Islam. The Caliphate of Córdoba and the Mosques. Nazari Empire of Granada and the city of the Alhambra.

Readings: -GOMBRICH, E. H. "The Church militant" *The Story of the Art*. Oxford: Phaidon, 1994, pp. 126-136.

-BORRAS, G. y FATAS, G. *Diccionario de términos de arte y elementos de arqueología, heráldica y numismática*. Madrid. Alianza editorial, 2004, Láminas 2-13.

Class 3: Roman Spain and its historical context. Roman architecture: types, building techniques and symbolic dimensions. Roman art and architecture in Spain..

Readings:-GOMBRICH, E. H. "The Church triumphant" *The Story of Art*. Oxford: Phaidon, 1994, pp.137-147

Class 4: Spanish Gothic: historical context. Gothic architecture: types and techniques. The Cathedral and its physical and symbolic dimensions. The impact of the architectural style in the 13th century. The rise of the Gothic style in the Crown of Aragon. Architecture under the Catholic monarchs. Spanish Gothic painting

Readings: -BOZAL, V. "El Renacimiento en España" *Historia del arte en España I*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973, pp. 162, 163, 164, 168-173.

WEEK 2:

Class 1: Renaissance: concept and historical reality. Renaissance in Spain: features. Architecture: from the plateresque to classicism.

Class 2: The Renaissance Cathedral: most significant examples. Sculpture: the influence of the *Quattrocento*. The Valladolid school.

Class 3: *Quattrocento* in Spanish Renaissance painting. The Flemish survival and the influence of the Italian masters of the 16th century in Spanish Art.

Class 4: Early Renaissance and Mannerism: Herrera and el Escorial. The court painters. Spanish mannerist painting.

(additional readings will be assigned at the beginning of the week)

WEEK 3:

Class 1: El Greco. (This class coincides with the celebration of the death of the painter. The class will visit any exhibition/activity on El Greco in Madrid and Toledo).

The Spanish Baroque: general characteristics.

Readings: -BOZAL, V."El Barroco. La pintura" *Historia del arte en España I*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973, pp.223-226 y 236-244.

CLASSES 2,3 AND 4: (These three classes will be held in a single session at the Museo del Prado. Romanesque painting (Chapel), the Gothic painting, Spanish Renaissance

and Mannerist painting will be treated during this session. Students will give presentations on their assigned works of art)

WEEK 4:

Class 1: MID-TERM EXAM

Class 2: Early Baroque Architecture. Castilian Baroque and Andalusian Baroque. Palatial architecture.

Class 3: Visit to the Royal Palace (or Baroque architecture in Madrid).

Class 4: The sculptures in courts. Castilian and Andalusian school sculpture: violent realism and classical realism. Characteristics of Spanish Baroque painting. Tenebrism: Ribera. The Andalusian school: Zurbarán.

WEEK 5:

Class 1: Visit to Museo del Prado: Velázquez. Stages and Themes. (Student presentations at the museum)

Readings:-MOFFIT, J. F. "A terrifying artist: Francisco de Goya" *The Arts in Spain*. London: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

Class 2: Visit to Museo del Prado: Neoclassicism. Villanueva. Romanticism. Goya and other painters from the 19th Century. Gaudí and modernism. (Student presentations at the museum)

Readings: -BOZAL, V. "El concepto de vanguardia" *Historia del arte en España II*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973, pp. 118-121.

Class 3: Visit to Museo Reina Sofía (MNCARS): Dalí and surrealism. (Student presentations)

Readings: -BOZAL, V. "Pablo Ruiz Picasso" *Historia del arte en España II*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973, pp. 95-103

Class 4: Visit to Museo Reina Sofía (MNCARS): Picasso: Cubism and the civil war. (Student presentations)

Readings: -MOFFIT, J. F. "Falling into Postmodernism" *The Arts in Spain*. London: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

WEEK 6:

Class 1: Art of the post-war period. Art of the transition. Latest art forms and Spanish architecture. Architecture of museums, recent expansions and the new Spanish exhibition spaces.

Classes 2 and 3: (One single class: visit to the spaces of the Museo Reina Sofia destined to the latest artistic expressions, the Caixa Forum and the art galleries of the Calle Doctor Fourquet) (Student presentations)

Class 4: FINAL EXAM

Required readings:

BOZAL, V. *Historia del arte en España I y II*. Madrid: Istmo, 1973.

MOFFIT, J. F. *The arts in Spain*. London: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

GOMBRICH, E. H. *The Story of the Art*. Oxford: Phaidon, 1994.

BORRAS, G. y FATAS, G. *Diccionario de términos de arte y elementos de arqueología, heráldica y numismática*. Madrid. Alianza editorial, 2004.

Recommended reading:

D'ALLEVA, A. *How to Write Art History*. London: Laurence King Publishing Ltd., 2006.