

REL/HIS 377 Christianity, Islam and Judaism in the Spanish Context

Course Description

This class focuses on the role of the three main monotheistic religions in Spanish history, from Antiquity to Modern-Day Spain. Discussion will focus on the role of Catholicism and other religions in a Democratic Spain, in interaction with the growing population of Muslim immigrants, Jewish communities, and the establishment of Churches of various denominations around the country. Excursions to important historical sites in Seville will be an integral part of the *in situ* learning objectives of the course.

Prerequisites

None

Course Goals and Methodology

Students will come prepared to class, after working with the assigned pages from the readings, primary sources, key questions and other material supplied by the instructor. The course will alternate classroom sessions with excursions to different sites related to the material covered, in Seville and out of town.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the cultural and historical meaning of religion and religions within the Spanish historical context.
2. Recognize the historical evolution and influence of religion in today's world.

Required Texts

Selection of readings available online.

Course Requirements and Grading

Oral participation is very important, and each student is expected to contribute enthusiastically and to be courteous while in class. The participation grade will take into account the initiative and creativity during the different activities scheduled during the course, but also any outside activity that the student may participate in.

There are two exams and a final examination. Students will also write two historical document commentaries. Specific information on this assignment and the visit will be given in due course.

The final grade is broken down as follows:

Class Participation	10%
Commentary 1	15%
Commentary 2	15%
Exams	60% (30% each)

All assignments will be graded using the Spanish grade scale, please see the UPO student handbook for further detail.

Course Schedule

1. Introduction to the course: Religion and Religions in Spanish History.
2. Paganism, Monotheism and Heresy in Roman Hispania.
3. Visigothic Hispania (Phillips & Phillips, 21-45; Constable, 12-24). Tour: Archaeological Museum
4. al-Andalus I. Arabization and Islamization
5. al-Andalus II. The Caliphate of Córdoba
6. Al-Andalus III. Faith and Reason: Aristotle, Averroës & St Thomas of Aquinas
Midterm Exam – March 9; Commentary 1 due (printed and stapled, beginning of class)
7. Medieval Christian Iberia I. Political divisions and religious unity. (Menocal, 130-146. Constable, 175-179; 269-275).
8. Medieval Christian Iberia II. Reconquest and Ideology
9. The Catholic Monarchs.
10. The Expulsion and Diaspora of Sephardic Jews and Moriscos.
11. Enlightenment and Liberalism. The Constitution of 1876: Limited Religious Freedom and the Return of the Jews (Callahan, 49-63).
12. The 'Religious Question' during the II Republic and the Spanish Civil War. From National Catholicism to the Non-Confessional State: Francoism and the Transition to Democracy (Nash, 289-300).
13. Religion(s) and religiosity in Spain today
Midterm Exam – TBD; Commentary 2 due (by email)

This syllabus is subject to change.

Bibliography

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- Barton, S. A History of Spain. Palgrave Macmillan, 2004.
- Constable, O. R. (ed.). Medieval Iberia. Readings from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Sources. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997.
- Cowans, J. (ed.). Early Modern Spain. A Documentary History. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003.
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Fletcher, R. *Moorish Spain*. University of California Press, 2006.

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Jayyusi, S. K. (ed.). *The legacy of Muslim Spain*. Brill, 1992.

Kedourie, E. (ed.). *Spain and the Jews. The Sephardi Experience, 1492 and After*. Thames & Hudson, 1992.

Madariaga, M. R. "The intervention of Moroccan troops in the Spanish Civil War: A Reconsideration." *European History Quarterly*, 22(1992): 67-97.

Menocal, M. R. *The Ornament of the World. How Muslims, Jews, and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain*. Little, Brown and Co., 2002.

Phillips, W. D. and Phillips, C. R. *A Concise History of Spain*. Cambridge UP, 2010.

Pike, Ruth. *Aristocrats and Traders: Sevillian Society in the Sixteenth Century*. Cornell UP, 1972.

Rodríguez-Salgado, M. "Christians, Civilised and Spanish: Multiple identities in Sixteenth Century Spain." *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* 8(1998): 233-251.