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 Students will also write two historical document commentaries.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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commentary 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commentary 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>60% (30% each)</td>
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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.
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)*
8. Medieval Christian Iberia II. Reconquest and Ideology
10. The Expulsion and Diaspora of Sephardic Jews and Moriscos.
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**