



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course name:	Islamic Culture and Art in Muslim Spain
Course number:	SOCI3001CSCS
Programs offering course:	Liberal Arts, Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society and Communications, New Media and Journalism – Spanish Programs
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3 semester hours / 4.5 quarter hours
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2019

Course Description

Throughout its duration, this course proposes a "journey" through the Arab-Islamic world with special attention to its cultural and artistic details, beginning in the Middle East in the Middle Ages and arriving in Muslim Spain (al-Andalus). This acquisition of course content works parallel and collaboratively with the process of Spanish language learning both in its grammatical structures and in the consolidation and expansion of both generalized and specialized vocabulary.

Learning Objectives

The essential objectives of this course are:

- Provide students with the basic concepts regarding general Islamic and Arab culture in order to continue the study of the characteristics of al-Andalus.
- Study the fundamental characteristics of Islamic art and in particular, the art of al-Andalus.
- Provide the essential sources of information on the topics mentioned, so that students can expand their knowledge. To do this, the course will include systematic bibliographical presentations, comments and discussions.
- Visit and study examples of Andalusian art which can be found in the city of Seville, apart from the emblematic examples of Cordoba, Carmona and Granada.

Course Prerequisites

- The student must have - although not an exclusive requirement - and intermediate level of Spanish language in order to follow the content studied throughout the course.
- The ability to synthesize information and think critically.
- The ability to work alone and in a group.
- The ability to apply skills in oral and written expression in the gradual and continuous process of linguistic learning and content described above.
- 4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent). Students need to have a GPA of at least 2.5.

Methods of Instruction

- The theoretical classes, based on the themes described in this syllabus, will be taught in theoretical-practical presentations by the teacher with the support of books, texts and articles. Students should read and comment on these sources of information as each subject is taught, so that the participation of the students in class constitutes a natural and habitual dynamic. All lessons



will be accompanied by photographic and audiovisual materials (documentaries and films). The classes will be complemented with activities that will be carried out outside the classroom including visits to the most significant artistic-architectural examples of Islamic art in Seville.

- Selected works will be presented from those offered in the bibliography to elicit debate and students' critical thinking.

- The course has a booklet for each subject that will serve as a guide to the student, as it integrates bibliography, texts and articles - among them the required readings - as well as numerous illustrations that will support the different topics.

Assessment and Final Grade

The course syllabus should also state that final grades listed in Canvas may not reflect final grades assigned by your sending institution.

- 1- Two exams: Midterm and Final (25%+25%).
- 2- Class Participation (20%)
- 3- Classwork (8%)
- 4- Writing and Presentations (22%)

Detailed explanation of grading:

- 1- Exams. There will be two exams (25% + 25%): one midterm and one final exam. In both, the students will have to answer theoretical questions corresponding to the subjects studied for each examination. Students will have to demonstrate their acquired knowledge of the course material taught.

Students will also have to identify and describe images discussed in class: entire buildings, sections and details of buildings, construction materials, cultural materials and objects, stages and styles of construction and artistry.

In the same way, the student will have to identify and describe some of the blueprints analyzed in class: building to which it belongs, building codes, sections, construction stage, etc.

The subject included in the partial exam will not be part of the final exam, although its content will be incorporated as an essential material for the correct understanding of the subjects studied in the second part of the course.

Grading criteria:

- * accuracy and adequacy in the response, this is the demonstration of the knowledge necessary for the correct explanation of the question asked.
- * written expression - grammar and fluency in writing.
- * relation of the subject of question with what has been studied in class.

- 2- Student participation (20%), that is, the extent to which he / she demonstrates being up to date with the contents studied, as well as active involvement and follow-up of the subject.

Grading criteria:

- * the attitude, interest and contributions of the student in the classes.
- * participation in activities carried out outside the classroom as they are considered complementary to what is taught in class.
- * participation, readings and voluntary presentations.



* attendance on the excursions to Córdoba, Granada and Carmona organized by CIEE during the semester.

3- Classwork (8%):

Each student will complete:

- A map of the world in the Middle Ages which includes the empires and countries significant in the time, main cities, rivers and seas. The complexity of the map created, the selection of designated spaces, the accuracy and neatness will be evaluated. Also, the punctuality in handing in the assignment will be taken into consideration.
- Bibliographic presentation:
Each student will be given a specialized book on topics related to different aspects of the Andalusian culture (art, history, economics, sociology, gastronomy, geography ...). After a few days of research, they will have to make a small presentation of that book in class.

4- Writing and Presentations

Throughout the course, the student will have to make three syntheses among the compulsory readings of the program. The extension of these should be three pages using the number 12 font size and double spaced. The teacher will indicate in advance the readings to be synthesized and give instructions on how to do it.

In these writings, the following will be valued:

- *the ability to synthesize
- * the expression in Spanish
- * grammatical accuracy
- * critical thinking
- * the presentation
- * punctuality in delivery

To obtain an optimal result it is advisable to go to the Language Resource Center during the course.

Attendance Policy

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind. If a student misses class twice without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 5 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 6 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence. Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

* Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Program Manager if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.



Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic honesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.

Linguistic Resource Center

In this subject, revision in the Writing Center of all the essays written by the students throughout the course is considered mandatory.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

1. Introduction. Course explanation: content; methodology, evaluation. Cultural bases of Islam
Projection of images: geography of the first Islam; spaces, buildings, luxury art and material culture.

2- Islam, cultural and religious phenomenon.

FOCUS: THE QURAN

Reading: selection of verses from the Quran, hadiths and texts alluding to the theme.

-Commentaries on the books: M. Gaudefroy-Demombynes, *Mahoma*, Madrid, Akal, latest edition; C. Horrie and P. Chippindale, *What is Islam?* Madrid, Alliance, latest edition.

Week 2

-Continuation of the previous topic.

3- Historical-geographical notions: the medieval Arab world.

3.1- Umayyads and Abbasids in the East.

3.2- Geographic expansion of the Arab world during the Middle Ages. Maps and itineraries. Arrival to al-Andalus.

FOCUS: THE MEDITERRANEAN

- Creating a map: The medieval Arab world.

-Screening of a historical-cultural documentary on topics 2 and 3.

Week 3

4- The city (medina), center of political, socio-cultural and artistic development.

4.1- Within the walls: urban design; mosque; alcazaba; alcazar; souk; alhondigas; alcaicería; baths; madrasa; households.

4.2- Outside the walls: macabre, slums, musalla, musara, almunias.

FOCUS: . ISLAMIC FORTRESS OF SEVILLE

-Tour of inside and outside the walls of Seville (Jardines del Valle, Puerta de Córdoba, Muralla de la Macarena)

-Projection of images: Study and comments.

Week 4

- Continuation of the previous topic.

o The mosque as a social and religious center of the Islamic city. La mezquita de Córdoba.

-Presentation of the work: C. Mazzoli-Guintard, *Cities of al-Andalus: Spain and Portugal in the Muslim period (VIII-XV centuries)*, Granada, Almed, 2000.

Reading: J.C. Rodríguez Estévez, "The mosque. An architectural model for the Muslim community"

- **Synthesis of readings** (1). Length: 3 pages (12pt font, in notes 11, line spacing 1,5).

Week 5

5- *Houses and Gardens.*

5-1.- *The house: housing and furniture; the family; eating.*

5.2 -. *The garden: typology and distribution. Oriental models and Andalusian gardens.*

FOCUS: THE GARDEN IN CRUISE OF SEVILLE.

Theoretical explanation. Projection of images: study and comments.

Readings: R. Arié, "Aspects of everyday life: family, housing and furniture, food", in *Muslim Spain (VIII-XV centuries)*, t. III of the *History of Spain* by M. Tuñón de Lara, Barcelona, Labor, 1983; JC. Rodríguez Estévez, "The mirror and the snake. An Approach to the Islamic Garden", F. Roldán Castro (ed.),

Visit the Buhaira gardens and Aqueduct of Seville

Week 6

- Continuation of the previous topic.
- Review of the first part of the course
- **Midterm Exam**

Week 7

6- Abstraction and figuration in Arab-Islamic art. Decorative languages.

FOCUS: IMAGE OF THE FLUTIST (Convent of Las Claras in Murcia)

- Theoretical explanation; Image projection: study and analysis.

Readings: J. Albarracín Navarro, "La pintura figurativa árabe islámica", *Historia y Cultura del Islam español*, Granada, CSIC, 1988, 115-127; A. Carmona González, "Las religiones monoteístas y la polémica de las imágenes en el culto", *El Legado de la escultura. Murcia, 1243-1811*, Murcia, Ayuntamiento, 18-20;

- Presentation of the work: JM Puerta Vílchez (ed.), *Libertad e innovación. Caligrafía árabe contemporánea*, Madrid, Turner-Casa Árabe, 2010.

- **Synthesis of the readings** (2). 3-4 pages in length. (12pt font, in notes 11, 1.5 spacing)

- **Visit to Barrio de Santa Cruz**

Week 8

7- *Emirate and caliphate: historical issues.*

7.1- *Caliphate art: Qurtuba (Córdoba). The mosque, the baths, the palatine city of Medina Azahara. The decor and the art of luxury.*

FOCUS: CAPITEL DE TRÉPANO O AVISPERO DE MEDINA AZAHARA.

-Explanation and study: Historico-political stages. Explanation and study of the basic aesthetics of the most important examples. Image analysis.

Week 9

8- *The kingdoms of taifas, the Almoravids and Almohades: historical issues.*

8.1- *Art of the taifas and Almoravid art.*

8.2- *The Almohad Art: Ishbiliya (Seville) capital of the Almohad empire in al-Andalus.*

Walls, mosque and minaret (Giralda), Torre del Oro, baths. The decoration. Historical roots.

FOCUS: : LA GIRALDA Y LA TORRE DEL ORO

Explanation and study: Historico-political stages studied. Explanation and study of the basic aesthetics of the most important examples. Image analysis. Special attention to the Almohad stage for the city of Seville's leading role that in this era.

Week 10

Tour of the Sevilla Almohade: Torre del Oro; Abu Hafs Palace; Tower of the Silver; Coracha; Cathedral - before mosque, Giralda; walls of the Alcazar:

-Reading: G. Borrás, *El Islam: de Córdoba al mudéjar*, Madrid, Sílex 2014; M. Valor (coord.), *El último siglo de la Sevilla Islámica, 1147-1248*, Sevilla, Universidad, 1995.

-Gastronomy in Al-Andalus. Andalusian breakfast (in class)

- **Synthesis of the readings (3)**. 3-4 pages in length. (12pt font, in notes 11, 1.5 spacing)

Week 11

9- *The Nasrid Kingdom of Granada: Historical Issues.*

9.1- Nasrid art: civil and religious architecture in Granada. Walls, main mosque, madrasa, maristan, alcaicería and baths. The Alhambra. Decorative poetry.

9.2 The key characteristics of Mudejarism, al-Andalus heritage

Tour of the Gothic-Mudejar churches of Seville.

Visit to the Mudéjar Center.

Students' Bibliographic presentation

FOCUS: EL MOCÁRABE NAZARÍ.

-Study of historical-political events that characterize this era; study of the key aesthetic characteristics; significant artistic and architectural examples.

-Projection, image study and analysis.

-Book Introduction-: JM Puerta Vílchez, *Leer la Alhambra. Guía visual del monumento a través de sus inscripciones*, Granada, Edilux, 2010.

Week 12

-Projection of a historical-artistic documentary about the studied era. Comments and discussion.

-Music in al-Andalus. Listening exercise.

-**Review of topics and questions**

-**Final exam**

Activities Outside the Classroom

(Susceptible to be extended and / or partially modified)

- Tour through the walls of Seville
- Visit to the Gardens of Buhaira
- Visit to the aqueduct of Seville
- Visit the Barrio de Santa Cruz
- Visit Torre del Oro and Giralda
- Tour of the Mudejar Churches
- Visit to the Mudejar Center

Course Materials

Readings

Reference Work

VV.AA. *Encyclopedia of Islam*, Leiden-Brill, última edición.

DE QUINTA GARROBO, Ángel. *Lecciones de Cultura y Civilización Española*. Ed Diada. Sevilla 2012.

MAÍLLO SALGADO, Felipe, *Vocabulario de historia árabe e islámica*, Madrid, Akal, última edición.

NEWBY, G.D., *Breve enciclopedia del Islam*, Madrid, Alianza, 2004.

Islam

ANDRAE, Tor, *Mahoma*, Madrid, Alianza, última edición.

GAUDEFROY-DEMOMBYNES, Maurice, *Mahoma*, Madrid, Akal, 1990.

HORRIE, Chris, y CHIPPINDALE, Peter, *¿Qué es el Islam?*, Madrid, Alianza, 1994.

MOLINA LÓPEZ, Emilio, «Leyes y dictámenes: el estatus femenino en el derecho islámico», F. Roldán (ed.), *La mujer musulmana en la historia*, Huelva, Universidad, 2007, 119-140.

ROLDÁN CASTRO, Fátima (ed.), *Voces del Islam*, Huelva, Universidad, 2010.

ROLDÁN CASTRO, Fátima (ed.), *El mundo árabe como inspiración*, Sevilla, Universidad, 2012.

ROLDÁN CASTRO, Fátima (ed.), *El cielo en el Islam*, Sevilla, Universidad, 2014.

ROLDÁN CASTRO, Fátima (ed.), *Culturas de al-Andalus*, Sevilla Universidad, 2015.

ROLDÁN CASTRO, Fátima (ed.), *La imagen y la palabra en el Islam*, Sevilla, Universidad, 2016.

RODRÍGUEZ ESTÉVEZ, Juan Clemente, "La mezquita. Un modelo arquitectónico para la comunidad musulmana", F. Roldán (ed.), *Espiritualidad y convivencia en al-Andalus*, Huelva, Universidad, 2006, 127-150.

STIERLIN, Henri, *El Islam. Desde Bagdad hasta Córdoba. Las edificaciones de los siglos VII al XIII*, Madrid, Taschen, 2009.

Islamic Art

BLAIR S., BLOOM, J., *Rivers of Paradise. Water in Islamic Art and Culture*, 2010.

BURCKHARD, Titus, *El arte del Islam. Lenguaje y significado*, Barcelona, Sophia Perennis, 1999.

ETTINGHAUSEN, Richard y GRABAR, Oleg, *Arte y arquitectura del Islam. 650-1250*, Madrid, Cátedra, 1996.

GRABAR, Oleg, *La formación del arte islámico*, Madrid, Cátedra, 2000.

HAGEDORN, Annette, *Arte Islámico*, Madrid, Taschen 2009.

PUERTA VÍLCHEZ, J.M., *La aventura del cálamo*, Granada, Edilux, 2007.

PUERTA VÍLCHEZ, José Miguel (ed.), *Libertad e innovación. Caligrafía árabe contemporánea*,

Madrid, Turner-Casa Árabe, 2010.

PUERTA VÍLCHEZ J.M., *La poética del agua en el Islam*, Pontevedra, Trea, 2011.

Al-Andalus. Art and Culture.

AKMIR, A., "La percepción del otro y las vías de la tolerancia en al-Andalus", F. Roldán (ed.), *Espiritualidad y convivencia en al-Andalus*, Huelva, Universidad, 2006, 13-24.

ARIE, R., *España musulmana (siglos VIII-XV)*, Barcelona, Labor, última edición.

BORRÁS GUALIS, G., *Arte andalusí*, Madrid, Sílex, 2014.

CHEJNE, Anwar G., *Historia de España musulmana*, Madrid, Cátedra, última edición.

FERNÁNDEZ LACOMBA, Juan, "Arte y seducción de al-Andalus", *Paisaje y Naturaleza en al-Andalus*, Granada, El Legado Andalusí, 2004,

LÓPEZ GUZMÁN, Rafael, *Arquitectura mudéjar*, Madrid, Cátedra, 2000.

MAZZOLI-GUINTARD, Christine, *Ciudades de al-Andalus: España y Portugal en la época musulmana (siglos VIII-XV)*, Granada, Ed. Almed, 2001.

MAZZOLI-GUINTARD, Christine, "Espacios de convivencia en las ciudades de al-Andalus", F. Roldán (ed.), *Espiritualidad y convivencia en al-Andalus*, Huelva, Universidad, 2006, 73-90.

RODRÍGUEZ ESTÉVEZ, Juan Clemente, *El alminar de Isbiliya. La Giralda en sus orígenes (1184-1198)*, Sevilla, Ayuntamiento, 1998.

RODRÍGUEZ ESTÉVEZ, Juan Clemente, "Alminares almohades", *Al-Andalus y el Norte de África: Relaciones e Influencias*, Sevilla, Fundación El Monte, 2004, 189-222.

RODRÍGUEZ ESTÉVEZ, Juan Clemente, "La herencia del Islam en la arquitectura española", *El Mundo Árabe como inspiración*, Sevilla, Secretariado Publicaciones, 2012.

TORRES BALBÁS, Leopoldo, *Ciudades hispano-musulmanas*, Madrid, IHAC, 1985.

PAVÓN, Basilio, *Ciudades hispanomusulmanas*, Madrid, Mafpre, 1992.

PUERTA VÍLCHEZ, José Miguel, *Leer la Alhambra*, Granada, Patronato de la Alhambra, 2010.

VALLVÉ, J., *Abderramán III: Califa de España y Occidente (912-961)*, Barcelona, Ariel, 2003.

VALOR M., (coord.), *El último siglo de la Sevilla Islámica: 1147-1248*, Sevilla, Universidad, 1995.

VV.AA., *Al-Andalus. Las artes islámicas en España*, Madrid, Metropolitan Museum of Art/Ed. El Viso, 1992.

VV.AA., *La arquitectura del Islam Occidental*, Barcelona, El Legado Andalusí, 1995.

VIGUERA MOLÍNS, M^a Jesús (coord.), *El reino nazarí de Granada (1232-1492). Sociedad. Vida y cultura*, Tomo VIII/4 de la *Historia de España* dirigida por R. Menéndez Pidal, Madrid, Espasa, 2000.

VIGUERA MOLÍNS, M^a Jesús, "La fascinación de al-Andalus en el siglo XIX", F. Roldán, (ed.), *La herencia de al-Andalus*, Sevilla, Fundación El Monte, 2007, 207-248.

WATT, M., *Historia de la España islámica*, Madrid, Alianza Ed., (última edición).