



## **CIEE Barcelona, Spain**

<b>Course name:</b>	Past and Present in Barcelona (in English)
<b>Course number:</b>	HIST 3002 BASP (ENG)
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Barcelona Business and Culture, Barcelona Economics and Culture, Barcelona Global Architecture and Design, Barcelona Language and Culture
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>U.S. Semester Credits:</b>	3
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	45
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2019

### **Course Description**

Barcelona is an attractive European and Mediterranean city known by its rich history and art heritage and by its welcoming attitude towards visitors. This course is an interdisciplinary approach to the history of the city from its foundation up to the present day. Course content includes history, politics and urban planning. Urban development of Barcelona is analyzed using historical maps, videos, documentaries, and academic and literary texts. Students will study how Barcelona's urban growth has often been linked to the organization of great international events, as the Universal Expositions of 1888 and 1929 and the Olympic Games of 1992, that have gradually changed the morphology of the city and turned Barcelona into a global city. By means also of several on site classes, this course will scrutinize how current political and socio-economic phenomena -like massive tourism, gentrification, the real state bubble, immigration, the heritage of Franco's fascist dictatorship and the tense power relations between Catalonia and Spain- collectively shape the present-day reality of the city.

### **Learning Objectives**

At the end of this course the students:

- Will be able to recognize the main historical facts that have had an impact in the city of Barcelona (Roman Period, Medieval Barcelona, Barcelona and the Spanish War of Succession, the Industrial Revolution, the Second Spanish Republic and the Spanish Civil War, Franco's Dictatorship, Spanish Transition to Democracy, pre/post-Olympic Barcelona)
- Will be able to analyze, criticize and explain how those crucial historical events have run parallel to Barcelona's urban expansion
- Will be able to generate written texts and to implement oral presentations about Barcelona's main political and socio-economic challenges

### **Course Prerequisites**

There are not prerequisites for this course.



## **Methods of Instruction**

The course is structured in both lectures and on-site classes. Lectures will be conducted by the professor using Power Point. Students are expected to participate in class debates, paper discussions and critical analysis of the compulsory readings. Recent newspaper articles will be commented during the debates.

On-site classes are field trips to museums or historical walking tours to places relevant to the course content. Field trips are essential parts of the course and all students are required to attend and write brief commentaries about them.

## **Assessment and Final Grade**

Grading will be based on the following:

1.	Midterm exam:	20%
2.	Final exam:	25%
3.	Assignments:	20%
4.	Oral presentation:	15%
5.	Class participation:	20%

## **Course Requirements**

### **Midterm exam**

Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions about the contents of the first part of the course.

### **Final exam**

Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions about the contents of the entire course.

### **Assignments**

Students will be required to write 4 assignments (2/3 pages, double spaced typing). The assignments' aim is to reflect upon the topic addressed of the on-site classes. Students will be asked to answer an essay question linked to the contents of the fieldtrip.

### **Oral presentation**

Students will be required to give an oral presentation using PowerPoint (15 minutes) on a free topic related to the course contents (to be agreed with the professor).

### **Class participation**

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly



demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

### **CIEE Barcelona Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and prepared for the day's class activities. CIEE does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences, whether due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transport delay and/or other impediments. You are considered responsible of managing your own absences. Please keep in mind that exams, paper submission dates, presentations and any other course work deadlines cannot be changed.

No academic penalty will be applied if students miss up to 3 class sessions. If students miss up to 5 class sessions, students' final course grade will drop 5 points out of 100 on the CIEE grade scale for each additional absence beyond 3 (for example a 95 will become a 90 if they reach the 4th absence, and an 85 if they reach the 5th absence). **Students will automatically fail the course if they miss more than 20% of total class hours (i.e. if they exceed 5 absences).**

For students who miss up to 20% of the total course hours due to extenuating circumstances, the Academic Director may allow for exceptions to the local attendance policy based on documentation such as proof of bereavement, religious observances, hospitalization etc.

Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to the class will be considered absent for a day.

### **Weekly Schedule**

#### **Week 1**

- 1.1 Introduction to the course. / Quiz "What do you know about Barcelona?"
- 1.2 "From 3 thousand to 1.6 Million inhabitants". The origins of Barcelona. From the Roman city to the Global City.  
Overview of the changing geography, demography and administrative divisions of Barcelona.

#### **Week 2**

- 2.1 "Barcelona and Spanish Politics". Power struggle between Catalonia and Spain.  
Towards and independent Catalonia?  
Reading: Catalonia profile – Timeline. BBC News  
[http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-20345073?intlink\\_from\\_url=http://www.bbc.com/news/topics/c0rep987p7rt/catalonia&link\\_location=live-reporting-story](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-20345073?intlink_from_url=http://www.bbc.com/news/topics/c0rep987p7rt/catalonia&link_location=live-reporting-story)
- 2.2 A walk around Roman Barcelona and Medieval Barcelona  
ON SITE CLASS  
Reading: Agustí, David (2014), The development of the feudal city. In: A brief history of Barcelona. Pp. 31-54 Comanegra

### Week 3

- 3.1 The Spanish War Succession and the siege of Barcelona  
 Reading: Alcoberro, Agustí (2010) "The War of the Spanish Succession in the Catalan-Speaking Lands", *Catalan Historical Review*: 69-86.  
[http://revistes.iec.cat/index.php/CHR/article/viewFile/37024/pdf\\_49](http://revistes.iec.cat/index.php/CHR/article/viewFile/37024/pdf_49)  
 Written assignment 1
- 3.2 The end of the Spanish War of Succession (September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1714)  
 Visit to El Born.  
 ON SITE CLASS

### Week 4

- 4.1 Beyond the city walls. Barcelona's Urban growth. The "Pla Cerdà" and the Eixample.  
 Lecture and Walk.  
 Reading: Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities #13: Barcelona's unloved planner invents science of 'urbanisation', *The Guardian*  
<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/apr/01/story-cities-13-eixample-barcelona-ildefons-cerda-planner-urbanisation>
- 4.2 Barcelona and the Second Spanish Republic (1931-1939)

### Week 5

- 5.1 The city and the Spanish Civil War. The city as a target. The bombardments of the fascist aviation and the city's passive defense (1936-1939)
- 5.2 The Abraham Lincoln Brigade (The role of the International Brigades and American volunteers in the Spanish Civil War)  
 Written assignment 2

### Week 6

- 6.1 Franco's Ghost. Franco's legacy in present day Barcelona  
 Reading: Hancox, Dan (2016), The ghosts Spain tries to ignore. *The New York Times*  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/08/opinion/the-ghosts-spain-tries-to-ignore.html>
- 6.2 Review

### Week 7

- 7.1 Midterm exam
- 7.2 "Farselona" and the Gothic Quarter. The artificial "gothification" of Barcelona  
 Reading: Cocola-Gant, A (2014) El Barrio Gótico de Barcelona. Planificación del pasado e imagen de marca. Barcelona: Madroño (1st edition 2011). (pages 100 to 166)

[https://agustincocolagant.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Barri\\_gotic.pdf](https://agustincocolagant.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Barri_gotic.pdf)

Written assignment 3

### Week 8

- 8.1 The Global Projection of Barcelona. From the “Barcelona model” to the “Barcelona brand”  
 Reading: Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. *Metropolitan Barcelona*  
<http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/>
- 8.2 Past and Present Immigration flows in Barcelona. Gentrifying Barcelona (1) El Raval - ON SITE CLASS

### Week 9

- 9.1 Migrants and refugees in Barcelona
- 9.2 How the Universal Expositions of 1888 and 1929 transformed Barcelona. 1992: Barcelona’s “Olympic” urban transformation.  
 Reading: Leafe, Michael (2017), Olympic Gold. *Barcelona Metropolitan*  
<http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/sport/olympic-gold/>

### Week 10

- 10.1 “Your selfies are rising our rents! Tourists go home!” Barcelona and the controversy about the touristic explosion  
 Reading: Roca Cristina (2017), Barcelona could die of success': Why a Spanish city is cracking down on tourism. *CBC News*  
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/barcelona-tourism-1.4043864>
- 10.2 Gentrifying Barcelona (2). Exploring the 22@ district and the superblocks model. ON-SITE CLASS  
 Reading: Bausells, Marta (2016), Superblocks to the rescue: Barcelona’s plan to give streets back to residents. *The Guardian*  
[https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share\\_btn\\_fb](https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share_btn_fb)  
 Written assignment 4

### Week 11

- 11.1 Oral Presentations
- 11.2 Oral Presentations

### Week 12

- 12.1 Oral Presentations
- 12.2 Oral Presentations



### Week 13

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| 13.1 | Review     |
| 13.2 | Final exam |

### Course Materials

#### **Readings**

Compulsory readings (provided by the professor):

Students will be provided with current newspaper articles (Barcelona-Metropolitan, The Guardian, The Economist, El País English edition, etc.), which will be used to discuss and reflect upon issues addressed in class.

Agustí, David (2014), The development of the feudal city. In: **A brief history of Barcelona**. Pp. 31-54  
Comanegra

Alcoberro, Agustí (2010) "The War of the Spanish Succession in the Catalan-Speaking Lands", Catalan Historical Review: 69-86.  
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Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities #13: Barcelona's unloved planner invents science of 'urbanisation', *The Guardian*  
<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/apr/01/story-cities-13-example-barcelona-ildefons-cerda-planner-urbanisation>

Bausells, Marta (2016), Superblocks to the rescue: Barcelona's plan to give streets back to residents. *The Guardian*  
[https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share\\_btn\\_fb](https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/17/superblocks-rescue-barcelona-spain-plan-give-streets-back-residents?CMP=share_btn_fb)

Cócola Gant, Agustín (2013) The invention of the Barcelona Gothic Quarter, *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 9:1, 18-34,  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1743873X.2013.815760?scroll=top&needAccess=true#metrics-content>

Hancox, Dan (2016), The ghosts Spain tries to ignore. *The New York Times*  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/08/opinion/the-ghosts-spain-tries-to-ignore.html>

Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. *Metropolitan Barcelona*  
<http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/>



Leafe, Michael (2017), Olympic Gold. *Barcelona Metropolitan*  
<http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/sport/olympic-gold/>

Roca Cristina (2017), Barcelona could die of success': Why a Spanish city is cracking down on tourism.  
*CBC News*  
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/barcelona-tourism-1.4043864>