CIEE Barcelona, Spain

Course name: Past and Present in Barcelona
Course number: HIST 3003 BASP (SPAN)
Programs offering course: Barcelona Business and Culture, Barcelona Economics and Culture, Barcelona Global Architecture and Design, Barcelona Liberal Arts
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Term: 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

4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent).
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

The final grade will be based upon the following criteria:

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 must submit 2 assignments before the midterm exam and 2 assignments before the final exam.

Oral presentation
Students will be required to give an oral presentation using PowerPoint (15 minutes) on a topic related to the course contents. The professor will provide a list of topics and topics will be selected by students right after the add/drop period.

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 Presentation of the course / Quiz: What do you know about Barcelona?

1.2 City origins and foundation. Laie, Barkeno, Barcino
   Pre-class reading: From Bàrcino to Barcelona. Chapters:
   1 - Before Barcino-
   2 -Colonial Julia Augusta Flaventia Paterna Barcino-
   [http://www.bcn.cat/historia/pag/capitols_es.htm](http://www.bcn.cat/historia/pag/capitols_es.htm)

**Week 2**

2.1 ON-SITE CLASS: Barcino -MUBHA-
   Pre-class reading: -depends upon museum availability-

2.2 Medieval Barcelona: maritime capital
   Oral presentation: Multiculturalism: Islamic Barcelona and Jewish Barcelona.
   Oral presentation: Women in the Middle Ages
   Oral presentation: Barcelona and the sea. Yesterday and today.
Oral presentation: The Gothic neighborhood in the history of cinema.

Week 3

3.1 ON-SITE CLASS: "Falselona", the "gotificación" of the ancient city.

3.2 The Catalan revolts in modern times: "La guerra dels Segadors" and " La guerra de sucesión ".
Oral presentation: “La revolta dels segadors” y el himno de Cataluña.
Oral presentation: “La Guerra de Succesión” en la cultura hoy 1714-2014”.

Week 4

4.1 Barcelona grows: urban morphology and neighborhood history. Past and present.
Oral presentation: The Born and the Rivera
Oral presentation: La Barceloneta.
Oral presentation: El Raval.

4.2 ON-SITE: The Born Cultural Center.

Week 5

5.1 Barcelona is modernized (I). The industrialization of Barcelona: agents, products and spaces
Oral presentation: industrial neighborhoods.
Oral presentation: anarchists and burgesses.

5.2 ON-SITE CLASS: Las Ramblas and El Raval. Yesterday and today.

Week 6

6.1 Barcelona is modernized (II). Down the walls! Plan Cerdà and the new urban image
Pre-class reading: Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities # 13: Barcelona's unloved planner invents science of 'urbanization', The Guardian https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/apr/01/story-cities-13-eixample-
**barcelona-ildefons-cerda-planner-urbanisation**

Oral presentation: Alternatives to Cerdà
Oral presentation: Cerdà and the superblocks

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6.2  
**ON-SITE CLASS: Museu Història de Catalunya**  
DEADLINE 2nd ESSAY / ASSIGNMENT

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**Week 7**

7.1  
Midterm review at class + Short field trip: proeixample project & Cerdà

7.2  
MIDTERM EXAM

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**Week 8**

8.1  
Barcelona is modernized (III). Universal exhibitions, redevelopment and international projection. 1888-1929.  
Oral presentation: Montjuïc, past and present.  
Oral presentation: Parc de la Ciutadella, past and present.

8.2  
**ON-SITE CLASS: Ciutadella Park & Catalan Parliament**  
Pre-class task: History of the Parliament of Catalonia.  

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**Week 9**

9.1  
The second republic: prelude to war.  
Pre-class activity: search and creation of a diagram about the parties of the 2nd Republic.  
Oral presentation: women in the 2nd republic.  
Oral presentation: the Catalan situation in the 2nd republic.  
Oral presentation: Pla Macià & Casa Bloc. The modern Barcelona.

9.2  
A city at war 1936-1939  
Pre-class reading: From Bàrcino to Barcelona. Chapter 40: Barcelona under the bombs.  
Oral presentation: the role of women in the civil war through the posters  
Oral presentation: the role of Itàlia and Germany.  
Oral presentation: the role of the Soviet Union and the International Brigades.  
DEADLINE 3rd ESSAY / ASSIGNMENT

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**Week 10**

10.1  
**ON-SITE CLASS: anti-bomb shelters de Gràcia.**  
Pre-class task: visit this website  
read all the information and visit the tourist place before our fieldtrip to Gràcia.

10.2  
Refugees and repression.  
Pre-class activity: visit the virtual exhibition post-war Barcelona and complete the
questionnaire.
Oral presentation: the republican exile
Oral presentation: Barcelona and the refugees today
Oral presentation: Catalan repression under the Franco regime (franquismo)
Oral presentation: resistance during the franquismo

**Week 11**

**11.1** In transition. Is it a transition?
Pre-class short documentary: "40 years on, Franco's ghost still haunts Spain",
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zNEe9ITd_c
Oral presentation: "the valley of the fallen". Yesterday and today.
Oral presentation: "llibertat, amnesty and statut d'autonomy". Barcelona 1977

**11.2** The Olympic Games and their inheritances. Barcelona 1992
Pre-class activity: scavengers hunt on the Barcelona Olympics:
Pre-class documentary: Bye, bye Barcelona
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdXcFChRpml
Oral presentation: The Olympic Games in numbers
Oral presentation: "Barcelona posa't guapa" marketing campaign

**Week 12**

**12.1** The Cultural Olympics. Forum of Cultures 2004
Pre-class documentary: Megalopolis. Titanic structures. The forum of cultures.
Barcelona. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWFxPNs6lw&t=693s
Oral presentation: x-ray of tourism in Barcelona
Oral presentation: importance and impact of cruises in Barcelona

DEADLINE 4th ESSAY/ASSIGNMENT

**Week 13**

**13.1** Clousure: “Tourists go home!” / “Tourists go home?” Debate
Reading: Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. Metropolitan Barcelona
http://www.barcelona-metropolitan.com/features/a-sense-of-place-the-barcelona-brand/

**13.2** Final Exam
**Course Materials**

**Compulsory readings (provided by the professor):**

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


Bausells, Marta (2016), Story of cities #13: Barcelona's unloved planner invents science of 'urbanisation', *The Guardian*  


[https://agustincocolagant.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/WPCC-163504-Co%CC%81colaAgusti%CC%81n-AlojamientoTuri%CC%81sticoDesplazamiento.pdf](https://agustincocolagant.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/WPCC-163504-Co%CC%81colaAgusti%CC%81n-AlojamientoTuri%CC%81sticoDesplazamiento.pdf)


Jones, Esther (2016), The Barcelona Brand. *Metropolitan Barcelona*  

**Online resources with mandatory readings**

*Barcelona en posguerra* -exposición virtual- Ayuntamiento de Barcelona:  

De Bàrcino a Barcelona. Capítulos:  
1 - Antes de Barcino-  
2 - Colonial Julia Augusta Flaventia Paterna Barcino-.  
40- Barcelona bajo las bombas.  
[http://www.bcn.cat/historia/pag/capitols_es.htm](http://www.bcn.cat/historia/pag/capitols_es.htm)

Historia barrios de Barcelona. Ajuntament:
https://www.barcelona.cat/es/conocebcn/pics

Historia del parlamento de Cataluña:

Indianas. Los orígenes de la industrialización.
http://www.bcn.cat/museuhistoriaciutat/docs/programa_CAST.pdf

*Mandatory online documentaries*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWFxPNs6lw&t=693s

Bye, bye Barcelona.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDXcFChRpmI

“40 years on, Franco’s ghost still haunts Spain”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zNEe9ITd_c