



CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course name:	Three Cultures in Spain: Jews, Christians and Muslims
Course number:	RELI 3001 ALSP
Programs offering course:	Alicante Liberal Arts, Alicante Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2019

Course Description

This course studies the racial, cultural and religious relations between Christians, Jews, and Muslims up to the unification of Spain. Class lectures are complemented with visits to cultural and historical sites around the ancient town of Alicante and its province.

Since the Middle Ages, Geographic and Historical proximity and closeness between the Three Cultures (Jews, Christians and Muslims) have developed contacts and interchanges treating to interpret their rivalry and today their dinamizing role both in Spain and all over the Western Europe. The main goal of this course is the learning and understanding of current Spain as a modern nation and the Spanish culture by learning the Arab World and Islam, European western Christianity and Jewish past from a cultural point of view. Present times versus Tradition, geopolitics and Euro Mediterranean relations and also the role played by Spain as a joining bridge within these three major religions, cultural and politics communities in Modern Society.

Learning Objectives

Students will learn to distinguish religious, political, geographical and cultural concepts referred to these three cultures: Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Students will be able to debate and discuss history, politics, religion, economy and society relations within Muslim-Jewish-Christian in Spain, Europe and the Western world. Special attention will be given to Spain and its geostrategic importance as unifying element between these three cultures in history and today, in Europe and in the Mediterranean.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

In this course the professor will introduce and comment some lectures and basic concepts of the topic and will provide the students with different material (handouts, articles, videos, slides, etc.) to discuss in class. There are two main components to the course: the study and analysis of the contents of the course (in class), and lectures and discussions (debates in class), DVDs and videos on the subject treated.



Assessment and Final Grade

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	30%
Final Paper	20%
Oral Presentation	15%
Active participation and assignments	10%

Course Requirements

Apart from exams & papers, students must follow the following guidelines into account in order to get a good grade in the subject:

- Punctuality and attendance to class and to scheduled mandatory visits.
- Attention, interest, motivation and participation during the course.
- Meeting deadlines and guidelines for tests, assignments, presentations, etc.
- Appropriate preparation and presentation of PPTs and daily assignments.

Final Paper

Students select a topic proposed by the instructor. Taking into account that this percentage is important towards the final grade, students should strive to achieve the best possible one and meet the corresponding deadlines for each part. Compliance with the number of words and given instructions is essential (3.000 words, Times New Roman or similar, 12, 1.5 spaced). Students' critical reflection on the subject and a proper use of bibliography will be highly valued. Those papers not meeting any of the given instructions, as well as those who have been copied directly from an Internet site, will receive a grade of F. The work will be assigned two weeks before the final exam. This date is set in stone and will not be modified under any circumstance.

Oral Presentation

Students will have to prepare a PPT on any of the authors – artistic movements included in the class content.

Assignments and curricular activities

Each week, students will be responsible for completing a homework assignment and participating in the scheduled activities.

Class Participation

Active participation and attendance are essential and will be a fundamental part of the final grade.



CIEE ACADEMIC POLICIES

Papers and assignments submission

According to CIEE Alicante academic norms all assignments, paper, readings, etc. must be turned in on the due date. Late submissions of coursework/assignments during the course of the term of study are not accepted.

If an exception is granted by the Academic Director, the new deadline for the assignment will be set for the next earliest possible date for the student for reasonably submit the assignment.

Course Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify (via e-mail with a copy to the Resident Director or Program Coordinator) their instructor beforehand if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class during their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the professor and the RD or PC and provide appropriate documentation.

For CIEE courses, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent (student will be reminded of the policy). Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or events, etc. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused.

An absence in a CIEE course will be only considered excused if:

- 1) A doctor's note is provided. The UA medical center does not generally provide class absence notes. In the case a doctor's absence note is extremely necessary, students will need to go to the Vithas International Hospital to be examined.
- 2) A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
- 3) Evidence is provided of a family emergency

Persistent absenteeism (students exceeding 10% of the total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policy in more than one class) will lead to a written warning from the RD, notification to the home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reductions in class grade(s).

- 1) Since each CIEE Alicante course is 45 hours, 10% of the total course hours are 4.5 hours.
- 2) Students who miss more than 4.5 hours of class without justification will see their final grade reduced by -5%. For instance, students achieving a grade of 89.00 out of 100 points and missing more than 4.5 hours of class will see their grade reduced from 89.00 (B+) to 84.00 (B).

Students with unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course. Written warnings and home school notifications will happen well before the absenteeism causes the student to fail the course so that the student has an opportunity for corrective actions.

Likewise, if any CIEE group organized activity/informational session (e.g. Intercultural development sessions) is scheduled during class hours, attendance to this activity or session is also mandatory for all



students enrolled in courses that meet during that block of time. Not attending these CIEE group organized activities/sessions during regular class hours will result in an absence.

Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment may result in failing the course or being expelled from the program. Students are expected to adhere to the US American and norms.

Important principles:

- 1) Final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from other person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an “open book” basis).
- 2) The same written paper may not be submitted in more than one course.
- 3) Any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with the course

Add/Drop

The add/drop period last for 1 week after the start of the courses. After the end of the add/drop period, the student’s registration is considered final, and no course(s) may be changed or deleted from the student’s CIEE Academic Record.

Withdrawal from a course

Students are required to register in 5 courses during their studies at CIEE Alicante. Each CIEE course is worth 3 credits (45 contact hours) and each Universidad de Alicante course is worth 4 credits (60h - unless the course has more than 60h of instruction). If exceptional circumstances warrant, the student may request permission from the Center Director to withdraw from a course. However, a student participating in a semester program is not allowed to drop below 12 US semester credits.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

- 1.1 Class Presentation. Syllabus, papers, setting the atmosphere.
Writing: What do you want to get out of this class? Objectives
- 1.2 Unit 1: Culture.
Activity: Debate bullfighting
Reading: Hijab on the classroom. From *El País* newspaper.

Week 2

- 2.1 Unit 2: Religion: Symbols and myths.
Reading: Rome covers its statues. From *El País* newspaper.
Activity: find a myth.
- 2.2 Unit 3: Three Religions.
Activity: maps about the content of the class.
Reading: The Calendar in every religion.



Week 3

- 3.1 Unit 4: Jewish.
- 3.2 Unit 5: Christians. The Christian world.
Activity: video about the Christian world.

Week 4

- 4.1 Unit 6: The Arab world.
Activity: Multiple choice game.
- 4.2 The Muslim world.
Activity: video about the Muslim world.
Topics oral presentations.

Week 5

- 5.1 Review.
- 5.1 Midterm.

Week 6

- 6.1 Unit 7: Visigothic Kingdom.
- 6.2 Unit 8: Al-Ándalus.
Video: Arabic words in Spanish.
Reading: Una acequia en cada huerto.

Week 7

- 7.1 Daily life in Al-Ándalus.
Reading: La Mezquita de Córdoba.
- 7.2 Oral Presentations (I).

Week 8

- 8.1 Oral Presentations (II).
- 8.2 Unit 9: Spanish Christians.
Group activity about how Christian kingdoms were formed.
Topics final paper.

Week 9

- 9.1 Daily life in Christian Spain.
Activity: The Middle Ages were...
- 9.2 Unit 10: The Catholic Kings.
Reading: ¿Reconquista o conquista?
The Spanish Inquisition.

Week 10

- 10.1 Granada – 1492.
Reading: The Jews in Spain, Hinojosa.
- 10.2 The breakdown of the coexistence.



The Black Death.

Week 11

- 11.1 The expulsion of the Jews.
Reading: The expulsion of the Jews.
- 11.2 The 20th century. Religious minorities in Spain.
Reading: Nacionalcatolicismo.

Week 12

- 12.1 The 3 cultures today (I).
Final Paper.
- 12.2 The 3 cultures today (II).
Video: The other believers.
Activity about the video.

Week 13

- 13.1 Final Paper.
- 13.2 Review

Week 14

- 14.1 Final Exam

Readings

- Averroes (Ibn Rushd). On the Harmony of Religion and Philosophy. London: International - Commission for the Translation of Great Works, 1926.
- Constable, Olivia Remie (ed.) Medieval Iberia. Readings from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Sources. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997.
- Ibn Hazm de Córdoba. El collar de la paloma. Madrid: Alianza Editorial, 1970.
- Ibn Quzman de Córdoba. Poesías. Madrid: Editora Nacional, 1980.
- Juan Manuel, Infante de Castilla Don. El Conde Lucanor. Madrid: Castalia, 1971.
- Maimonides (Mosés ben Maimón). A Maimonides Reader. New York: Behrman House, 1972.
- Nagrela, Samuel Ibn. Jewish Prince in Moslem Spain: Selected Poems of Samuel Ibn Nagrela. The University of Alamba Press, 1973.
- The Book of Women. Book IV of The Code of Maimonides. Yale University Press, 1972.
- Millás Vallicrosa, J.M. Literature hebraicoespañola. Barcelona: Labor, 1968.
- The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse. New York: Penguin Books, 1981.
- Ruiz, Juan, Arcipreste de Hita. Libro de Buen Amor. Madrid: Castalia, 1980.