



CIEE in Alicante, Spain

Course name:	Spain Through Its Popular Culture
Course number:	SOCI 3001 ALSP
Programs offering course:	Alicante Liberal Arts/ Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2019

Course Description

The aim of this course is to gain a better knowledge of Spain through Spanish popular culture, very well known by its native people, but sometimes difficult to understand by foreign students. The course explores present Spain by studying different aspects of the popular culture such as music, cinema, literature, comics, television, commercials, press, and entertainment. There is a triple approach: descriptive, analytic, and comparative with the U.S. All topics are illustrated with appropriate audiovisual materials.

Learning Objectives

The aim of this course is to better understand the country where students will be living & studying: not only visible elements but also the so called invisible culture.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

The course will be conducted in Spanish. The course will follow a communicative teaching approach by which participation and sharing will become integral elements of the learning process. Students will be immersed in a socio-cultural overview of Spain through various aspects of popular culture such as music, cinema, literature, comic, television, advertising, press, forms of leisure, etc. Students will be taught in a descriptive, analytical and comparative way with the US. These various aspects will be illustrated with audiovisual elements and group dynamics.

Assessment and Final Grade

1.	Midterm	20%
2.	Final exam	25%
3.	Final paper	25%
4.	Oral Presentation	20%
5.	Class participation	10%



Course Requirements

Midterm

This exam will be based on the content covered until the Midterm day. It will consist of four parts: short-answer questions, multiple-choice questions, text/picture followed by a few comprehension and analytical questions, and a short essay about one of the topics covered in class. Students are expected to construct a coherent reflection that integrates their knowledge of the topic referred to.

Final Exam

This exam will be based on the content covered during the second half of the semester. It will consist of four parts: short-answer questions, multiple-choice questions, text/picture followed by a few comprehension and analytical questions, and a short essay about one of the topics covered in class. Students are expected to construct a coherent reflection that integrates their knowledge of the topic referred to.

Final paper

The final paper will be chosen by the student and it will be based on one of the topics seen in class along the semester. It will have an extension of 1500 words. Students can include pictures and other material that they consider necessary.

- **Format requirements:**

Length: 1500 words

Double spaced.

Font: Arial

Size: 12

Margins: Left: 3 cm / Right: 3 cm. Upper: 2.5 cm / Lower: 2.5 cm

Pictures: Pictures as examples, graphs, diagrams, etc. may be included in the document or in the appendix at the end.

MLA citation format.

This paper must be turned in by email and as a hard copy (Word document).

Oral presentation

Each student will do an oral presentation about one Spanish musical style. They will choose an artist/band from Spain that represents that style of music and will present it to the rest of the class on their assigned date. It will last 12 minutes. The assessment will follow these criteria:

1. Clarity of exposition
2. Adequacy of information and content
3. Resources used
4. Originality

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 Syllabus introduction.

1.2 Unit 1: Introduction

What do we know about Spain and its popular culture? Symbols of identity and peculiarities.

Reading: Isa de los Santos (pp. 12-18)

Week 2

1.1 Unit 2: Spanish Identity

First approach to Spanish popular culture with its topics and taboos.

Oral Presentation

1.2 Reading: Linera Paredes (full article)

Week 3

1.1 Unit 3.1: Society: Youth in Spain

The youth of Spain as a unique group. Main characteristics and analysis.

1.2 Oral Presentation

Reading: Benedicto, J. (pp. 38-43)



Week 4

- 1.1 Unit 3.2: Society: Immigration
Economic situation and immigration.
- 1.2 Oral Presentation
Reading: Quesada Marco (pp. 48-54)

Week 5

- 1.1 Unit 3.3: Society: Spanish Women
Current situation of women. Violence in Spain.
Review
- 1.2 Oral Presentation
Reading: Quesada Marco (pp. 56-60)

Week 6 Midterm

Week 7

- 1.1 Unit 4.1: Spanish Schedules
Leisure time, hobbies and festivities in Spain: schedules and the use of time.
- 1.2 Oral Presentation
Reading: Sánchez, Raúl (full article)

Week 8

- 1.1 Unit 4.2: Spanish daily activities
Daily life. Routines and rituals. Traditions and customs. Social relations.
- 1.2 Unit 5: Spanish music
Popular Spanish music. Main bands, artists and styles.
Oral Presentation
Reading: Pujol, Rubén (full article)

Week 9

- 1.1 Unit 6: Popular Spanish festivals
Festivities calendar in Spain. Holidays in Spain.
- 1.2 Unit 7: Football and Spanish favorite sports
Sports and hobbies in Spain. Leisure time.
Oral Presentation
Reading: Quesada Marco (pp. 62-66)

Week 10

- 1.1 Unit 8: Food
Meals and cultural activities.
- 1.2 Oral Presentation



Reading: Isa de los Santos (pp. 30-35)

Week 11

- 1.1 Unit 9: Spanish Media
Main Spanish newspapers, magazines, radio stations and TV programs.
- 1.2 Oral Presentation
Reading: Isa de los Santos (pp. 41-47)

Week 12

- 1.1 Unit 10: Spanish fashion
Fashion in Spain. Clothes and styles
- 1.2 Final Paper due
Reading: Isa de los Santos (pp. 58-62)

Week 13 Final Exam

Readings

Benedicto, J. *Informe de Juventud en España*. INJUVE. Madrid: 2016

Isa de los Santos, David. *España, ayer y hoy*. Edinumen, Madrid: 2012

Línera Paredes, R. "Con la picaresca en el ADN". 10 julio 2013

elpais.com/sociedad/2013/07/10/actualidad/1373481989_421222.html

Pujol, Rubén. "Trap, el rap de los ninis". 9 de junio de 2017

www.lavanguardia.com/cultura/20170609/423292428103/trap-rap-ninis.html

Quesada Marco, Sebastián. *España siglo XXI. Curso monográfico sobre la España contemporánea*.

Edelsa. Madrid: 2005

Sánchez, Raúl. "Este es el tiempo que mujeres y hombres dedican a trabajar y a cuidar". 17 de octubre

de 2017 [https://www.eldiario.es/nidos/brecha-domesticas-mujeres-dedican-](https://www.eldiario.es/nidos/brecha-domesticas-mujeres-dedican-hombres_0_691181621.html)

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