



CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course name:	Spanish Cinema
Course number:	CINE 3001 ALSP (ENG)
Programs offering course:	Alicante Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

Students are asked to analyze and comment on some of the contemporary Spanish film industries most renowned and representative films. In conjunction with class discussions, students acquire further knowledge of the history of Spain and the changes that Spanish society has experienced recently, contrasting it with classic stereotypes. Topics such as machismo, eroticism, gender roles, religion, terrorism, and violence are discussed in depth, while learning about new movements in contemporary Spanish cinema. The aim of this course is not only to teach students how to analyze a film, but to show them how cinema can be enjoyable and didactic at the same time. Cinema as a means of communication, not only of the author, but also of the society in which it is made, is the focus of this class.

Learning Objectives

1. Learning about the history of contemporary Spain through Spanish cinema.
2. Being able to analyze Spanish social issues featured in films.
3. Knowing the different stylistic trends of Spanish cinema.
4. Knowing the history of Spanish Cinema as a relevant culture industry.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

1. Lectures on history and social issues in Spain during the 20th Century.
2. Discussions on different topics present in the films.
3. Discussions on readings proposed in the syllabus.

Assessment and Final Grade



Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam.....	30%
Oral Presentations	20%
Final Paper	20%
Class participation	10%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will cover the first four lessons of the course (weeks 1-4). The content of the exam will include all course materials.

On the first exercise, students will be asked to answer 3 out to 6 questions in relation to these lessons. Length: each question should be answered using 1 side of a sheet of paper as minimum. Grading: 6 points (2 points each question).

On the second exercise, students will be asked to answer in relation to an image from a movie analyzed in class. This question should be answered using 1 side of a sheet of paper.

Grading: 2 points.

On the third exercise, students will be asked to answer a multiple-choice test of 20 questions and round the correct answer.

Grading: 2 points.

Final Exam

The final exam will cover the last four lessons (week 5 – 11). The content of the exam will include all course materials.

On the first exercise, students will be asked to answer 4 out to 8 questions in relation to these lessons. Length: each question should be answered using 1 side of a sheet of paper (total: 2 sided sheets).

Grading: 1.5 points each question (5 points in total)

On the second exercise, students will be asked to answer in relation to an image from a movie analyzed in class. This question should be answered using 1 side of a sheet of paper.

Grading: 2.5 points.

On the third exercise, students will be asked to answer a multiple choice test of 25 questions and round the correct answer.

Grading: 2.5 points.

Class Assignments

Oral Presentations on films seen in class.

Class activities around the key words of the unit.

Questionnaires on the given readings.

Quizzes about the class units.



Final Paper (Different submits)

The final paper will include all sections. Grading: 50% of the final grade of the paper. Length: 4,000 words + list of films + bibliography.

Final Paper Outline

The outline will fulfill sections a, b and g and the titles of the sections c and d. Grading: 20 % of the final grade of the paper.

- The final paper will be focused on a specific given topic related to one or more of the following aspects: Spanish cinema (censorship and propaganda, film genres ...etc.), Spanish history and burning social issues represented in Spanish cinema.
- The paper will contain:
 - a. Title and subtitle of the paper.
 - b. An abstract (150 words) stating the aim of the paper.
 - c. A list of films required (with credits: studio, director, producer, year, photographer, music, and cast – only the most representatives-).
 - d. An Introduction (850 words). It will be used to contextualize and define your topic.
 - e. A Body (2,500 words): analysis of films in relation to your topic.
 - f. Conclusion (500 words).
 - g. References
- Length: 4,000 words + list of films.

Final Paper Rough Draft

Students will develop the content of the introduction and epigraphs of sections d and e. Length: 2,000 words. Grading: 30% of the final grade of the paper.

Final Paper Oral Presentation

Students will be asked to do an oral presentation in PowerPoint explaining the content of their final papers the same day the Final Paper will be submitted. The oral presentations will last 15 minutes each. Grading will include: design (25 points), content (25 points), coherence (25 points), and performance (25 points).

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 Unit 1 Session I: General Introduction.
Explanation of the Syllabus.
- 2.2 Unit 1 Session II: General introduction to Spanish Cinema and Final Paper Topic
Assignment: Cinema as a cultural identity to express, to denounce, to survive.
History and Film: Indivisible union.

Different approaches, topics and trends in the contemporary history of Spain for the Final Paper assignment the students will be writing throughout the course.

Week 2

- 2.1 Unit 2 Session I: Remembering the Spanish Civil War: Contextualization Class
Description: History of Spanish Republic and Civil War, the international political debate and the role of women in both sides of the conflict.

Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.

Reading materials at home.

- 2.2. Unit 2 Session II: Remembering the Spanish Civil War: Film Analysis Class
Activity: Film sequences analysis of *Land and freedom* (Ken Loach, 1995)
Basic cinematic language and strategies
Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 3

- 3.1 Unit 3 Session I: Popular Cinema and Production during the Civil War: Contextualization Class.

Description: Situation of Spanish popular cinema industry during the Civil War, the myth of Carmen and the construction of Spanishness.

Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.

Reading materials at home,
- 3.2 Unit 3 Session II: Popular Cinema and Production during the Civil War: Film Analysis Class.

Film Sequences Analysis of *La niña de tus ojos* (Fernando Trueba, 1998).

Basic cinematic language and strategies

Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 4

- 4.1 Unit 4 Session I: Isolation, Autarchy, Suppression and Repression in Postwar Spain (1939-1951): Contextualization Class.

Description: The hard years of social repression and economic shortage of immediate post-war under the General Franco's dictatorship. The extremely complicated task of creating a new National-catholic identity in a devastated and isolated country.

Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.

Reading materials at home.
- 4.2 Unit 4 Session II: Isolation, Autarchy, Suppression and Repression in Postwar Spain (1939-1951): Film Analysis Class.

Film Sequences Analysis of *Los girasoles ciegos* (José Luis Cuerda, 2008).

Basic cinematic language and strategies

Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 5

- 5.1 Unit 5 Session I: *El Desarrollismo* and “the Spanish Miracle: Contextualization Class.

Description: Society and economy in Spain during the fifties and sixties.
Challenging culture values: Spanish migration and the touristic boom.

- 5.2 Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.
Reading materials at home.

Week 6

- 6.1 Unit 5 Session II: *El Desarrollismo* and “the Spanish Miracle: Film Analysis Class.
Film Sequences Analysis of *Un franco catorce pesetas* (Carlos Iglesias, 2006).
- 6.2 Basic cinematic language and strategies

Week 7

- 7.1 Mini test in class on the readings.
- 7.2 General overview: units 2, 3 and 4

Week 8

Midterm Exam

Week 9

- 9.1 Unit 6 Session I: The Basque Conflict and the End of Francoism.
Contextualization Class.
- 9.2 Description: Nationalisms and political crisis at the end of the Franco regime.
The ETA case.

Week 10

- 10.1 Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.
Reading materials at home.
Unit 6 Session II: The Basque Conflict and the End of Francoism: Film Analysis Class
Film Sequences Analysis of *Operación Ogro* (Gillo Pontecorvo, 1979).
- 10.2 Basic cinematic language and strategies
Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 11

- 11.1 Unit 7 Session I: New Spanish Cinema in the Democratic Period. Contextualization Class.
Description: The “Democratic Transition”. Youth, class, gender and culture: The “Movida madrileña” and the construction of a new hegemony.
Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.
Reading materials at home.
- 11.2 Unit 7 Session II: New Spanish Cinema in Democratic Times: Film Analysis Class
Film Sequences Analysis of *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (Pedro Almodóvar, 1988).
Basic cinematic language and strategies
Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 12

- 12.1 Unit 8 Session I: The New Spanish Social Drama: The Industrial Restructuring. Contextualization Class.
Description: Industrial restructuring and the forced entering in the globalized world: The fall of the traditional infrastructures and the social response to massive layoffs.
Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.
Reading materials at home.
- 12.2 Unit 8 Session II: The New Spanish Social Drama: The Industrial Restructuring. Film Analysis Class.
Film Sequences Analysis of *Operación Ogro* (Gillo Pontecorvo, 1979).
Basic cinematic language and strategies
Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 13

- 13.1 Unit 9 Session I: The New Spanish Social Drama II: Euthanasia. Class Contextualization.
Description: Ethical issues and culture. The confrontation between secular society and the Catholic Church: A euthanasia case based on the life of Ramón Sampedro.
Activity: Key words and activities around the basic concepts of the unit.
Reading materials at home.

13.2 Unit 9 Session II: The New Spanish Social Drama II: Euthanasia. Film Analysis Class.

Film Sequences Analysis of *Mar adentro* (Alejandro Amenábar, 2004).

Basic cinematic language and strategies

Mini test in class on the readings.

Week 14 Oral Presentations of the final paper

Week 15 Final Exam

Course Materials

Readings. Required for midterm and final exams

Álvarez Junco, José. "History, Politics and Culture, 1875-1936". In David T. Gies (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999, pp. 67-85.

Boyd, Carolyn P. "History, Politics and Culture, 1936-1975". In David T. Gies (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999, pp. 86-103.

Davies, Ann (2012): "Singing of a Dubious Desire: Imperio Argentina and Penélope Cruz as Nazi Germany's Exotic Other". In R. Stone and L. Shaw (eds.), *Screening Songs in Hispanic and Lusophone Cinema*. Manchester: Manchester UP, pp. 17-29.

Vernon, Kathleen M. "Culture and Cinema to 1975". In David T. Gies (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion To Modern Spanish Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999, pp. 248-266.

Required just for final exam.

Besas, Peter. "Prolegomenon". *Behind the Spanish Lens. Spanish Cinema under Fascism and Democracy*. Denver: Arden Press, 1985, pp. XV-XIX.

Juliá, Santos. "History, Politics and Culture, 1975-1996". In David T. Gies (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999, pp. 104-122.

Evans, Peter W. "Culture and Cinema, 1975-1996". In David T. Gies (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion To Modern Spanish Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999, pp. 267-277.