



CIEE in Alicante, Spain

Course name:	Spanish Cinema
Course number:	FILM 3002 ALSU
Programs offering course:	Alicante, Summer Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Summer 2019

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

Final Exam	30%
Oral Presentations	30%
Final Paper (3.000 words)	30%
Class participation.....	10%

Course Requirements

Instructions for the final paper

- The final paper will be focused on a specific 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, or a comparative study between an American and a Spanish movie.
- 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 (1,500 words): analysis of films in relation to your topic.
 - f. Conclusion (500 words).
 - g. References
- Length: 3,000 words + list of films + references.

Final Paper Outline

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

Final Paper

The final paper will include all sections (see above, instructions for the final paper). Grading: 50% of the final grade of the paper. Length: 3,000 words + list of films + bibliography



Oral Presentation

Students will be asked to do an oral presentation in PowerPoint explaining the content of their final papers. The oral presentations will last 15 minutes each. Grading will include: design (2.5 points), content (2.5 points), coherence (2.5 points), and performance (2.5 points).

Final Exam

The final exam will cover all units given along the course. The content of the exam will include all course materials. Students will be asked to answer 4 out to 8 questions in relation to these lessons (5 points) and a multiple choice test (3 points). To conclude, students must comment in brief a film frame dealing with one of the movies seen in class (2 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. If a student fails to submit the work on time:

- 1) If any student submits the assignment one day late, the grade will be lowered by -10%.
- 2) If it is 2 days late, the grade will be lowered by -20%.
- 3) If it is 3 or more days late, it will imply a grade of zero (0%) in the assignment.

It is the student responsibility to check with the professor any work submitted by email (unless the student receives a message confirming the assignment's delivery, we will assume the assignment was never sent and/or received).

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 only be 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) may 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% (9 hours) 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 lasts 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.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

General Introduction.

Explanation of the Syllabus and a general introduction of Spanish Cinema.

Unit 1: Remembering the Spanish Civil War: *Tierra y libertad* (Ken Loach, 1994).

Description: History of Spanish Republic and Civil War, the international political debate and the role of women in both sides of the conflict.

Unit 2: Popular Cinema and Production during the Civil War: *La niña de tus ojos* (Fernando Trueba, 1998).

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

Film viewing at home: *Casablanca* (Michael Curtiz, 1942). <http://putlocker.is/watch-casablanca-online-free-putlocker.html>

Unit 3: Isolation, Autarchy, Suppression and Repression in Postwar Spain (1939-1951): *Los girasoles ciegos* (José Luis Cuerda, 2008).

Description: Social, political and economic context of Spain in the first decade after the Spanish Civil War. Exile, censorship and the Maquis' political and military resistance.

Week 2

Unit 3: Isolation, Autarchy, Suppression and Repression in Postwar Spain (1939-1951): *Los girasoles ciegos* (José Luis Cuerda, 2008).

Unit 4: *El Desarrollismo* and "the Spanish Miracle": *1 franco catorce pesetas* (Carlos Iglesias, 2006).

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

Unit 5: The Basque Conflict and the End of Francoism: *Operación Ogro* (Gillo Pontecorvo, 1979).

Description: Nationalisms and political crisis at the end of the Franco regime. The ETA case.

Oral presentations of the final paper outline.

Unit 6: New Spanish Cinema in the Democratic Period: *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (Pedro Almodóvar, 1988).



Description: The “Democratic Transition”. Youth, class, gender and culture: The “Movida madrileña” and the construction of a new political and cultural hegemony.

Week 3 **Unit 6:** New Spanish Cinema in the Democratic Period: *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (Pedro Almodóvar, 1988).

Unit 7: The New Spanish Social Cinema: *Mar adentro* (Alejandro Amenábar, 2005).

Description: Ethical issues and culture. The confrontation between secular society and the Catholic Church: A euthanasia case based on the life of Ramón Sampedro.

Unit 8: The New Spanish Cinema on the Global Screen: *Blancanieves* (Pablo Berger, 2012).

Description: Spanish Film, globalization and identity. Bullfighting in perspective. Some new Spanish films have been widely distributed along Europe and America in the last decades. Is the globalization doing away with the national identity of Spanish cinema?

Course Materials

Readings

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.

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.

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.