

SPA 255YO Introduction to the Hispanic World

Instructor: Dr. Natalie Couste (n.couste@utoronto.ca)

Objectives:

This course has two main objectives: To explore the diverse cultures and the interrelationship between Latin America and Spain over five centuries (1492 to present). We will study the institutions, beliefs, and symbols that have shaped these cultures. We will also study how Seville served as the cultural axis between the New World and Europe for centuries. The streets, monuments, museums of the city reflect the path to that past but also projects into the future. Precisely for that reason, once a week we will meet outside of the classroom and the city will be our laboratory. Our visits to key Sevillian sites will complement the material covered in the text. All readings and discussions are in English. No knowledge of Spanish is required.

Prerequisite:

None. This is a Humanities course; BR=1.

Field trips:

In addition to field study trips detailed bellow this course will include mandatory field trips to the region's famous cultural sites including visits to Cordoba and a three-day trip to Granada.

Required Text:

Fuentes, Carlos. The Buried Mirror. Reflections on Spain and the New World. Mariner: New York, 1999. (Or any edition)

Week 1

Class Day 1: Orientations

Class Day 2: Tapas in Andalucía & Sevilla

Class Day 3: The Virgin, the Bull and Flamenco.

Readings: -"Sun and Shadow".

Watch in class: "When the Moors Ruled in Europe", documentary.

Class Day 4: Understanding 1492.

Readings: "1492 The Crucial Year". **DUE DATE FIRST RESPONSE**

Week 2

Class Day 5: FIELD STUDY: Torre del Oro, Torre de la Plata and Casa de la Contratación (XV Century Financial District).

Class Day 6: Seville: Port of Entry. The Clash of Tradition and New Ideas in XVI Century Spain.

PROPOSAL/IDEA FOR THE PROJECT: DUE DATE.

Class Day 7: The Conflict of the Gods.

Readings: - Textbook pages 93-100 and 110-114

- "The Son of the Malinche" by Octavio Paz. On-line:

[http://www.e-](http://www.e-bookspdf.org/view/aHR0cDovL3d3dy5sYWwhjLmVkdS9jbGFzc2VzL3NvY2lhbHNjaWVWuY2UvaGlzdG9yeS92YWxhZGV6LzE5L3NvbnNvZm1hbGluY2hlLnBkZg==/T2N0YXZpbyBQYXosIFRoZSBTb25zIE9mIExhIE1hbGluY2hl)

[bookspdf.org/view/aHR0cDovL3d3dy5sYWwhjLmVkdS9jbGFzc2VzL3NvY2lhbHNjaWVWuY2UvaGlzdG9yeS92YWxhZGV6LzE5L3NvbnNvZm1hbGluY2hlLnBkZg==/T2N0YXZpbyBQYXosIFRoZSBTb25zIE9mIExhIE1hbGluY2hl](http://www.e-bookspdf.org/view/aHR0cDovL3d3dy5sYWwhjLmVkdS9jbGFzc2VzL3NvY2lhbHNjaWVWuY2UvaGlzdG9yeS92YWxhZGV6LzE5L3NvbnNvZm1hbGluY2hlLnBkZg==/T2N0YXZpbyBQYXosIFRoZSBTb25zIE9mIExhIE1hbGluY2hl)

Class Day 8: Field Study: Barrio de Santa Cruz y Alcázar.

Readings: - "The Legend of Susonna."

Week 3

Class Day 9: First Encounter: Native Peoples described by the Europeans.

Readings: - "Under the sign of Utopia" pgs 124-134.

-On-line: - "The Letter of Columbus to Luis Sant Angel
Announcing His Discovery". On-line

<http://www.ushistory.org/documents/columbus.htm>

Class Day 10: The olive oil route.

Readings: - The history of olive oil in Spain.

- Visit to an Almazara

Class Day 11: **DUE DATE PROJECT AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Class Day 12: FIELD STUDY: Catedral de Sevilla.

Finish **oral presentations**.

Week 4

Class Day 13. Children of La Mancha.

Readings: "The Age of Goya".

Class Day 15: History of wineries in Andalucía.

- Tour to a winery.

Class Day 16: Spain

Reading: - "Contemporary Spain".

Class Day 17: Field Study. Antiquario and Setas **SECOND RESPONSE DUE DATE**

Week 5

Class Day 18: Spain.

Reading: The news in Spain

Class Day 19: FIELD STUDY: Pabellon of Navegation

Class Day 20: Review for the final exam.

Class Day 21: IN-CLASS **FINAL EXAM**

Course Mandatory Field Study (Seville):

Field Study: *Torre del Oro*. Today the Golden Tower is home to a naval museum which has a collection related to the city's rich maritime history and its connection with the New World. The name - Tower of Gold - probably stems from the gilded azulejos (ceramic tiles) that originally decorated the tower. Another explanation given for the name was the gold that was unloaded here during the time that Seville had the monopoly over the trade with the New World.

Field Study: *Antiquarium Museum Seville*. It is an archaeological museum that includes artifacts as well as excavated ruins of Roman houses (from the time of Emperor Tiberius), mosaics and a Muslim house from the 12th century. The Antiquarium includes interactive exhibits that chronicle life in Andalusia over the time.

Field Study: Pabellón de la Navegación. It's a new, modern, interactive museum all about Seville's role as the hub of Spain's overseas maritime and colonial empire between 1492 and the mid 1700s. In order to visit Pabellón de la Navegación we will go to the Isla de la Cartuja, past a former monastery where Columbus lived for a time and was buried for a time, and there we will visit the Museum and finish our trip at Pabellón de la Navegación.

Program Mandatory Visits:

Reales Alcázares de Sevilla

Olive Oil Factory Basilippo

Cathedral of Seville

Mandatory Visits Outside of Seville:

Córdoba and Granada

Assignments and Exam:

15% **Class attendance** and active class participation.

(20%) **Project.** Select a text, a work of art, a monument, a painting, a street name, or a holiday that commemorates a person or event in Spanish culture or in the history of Spain's overseas empire. Write an essay or, alternatively, create an illustrated webpage or blogpost that discusses the original person or event being commemorated, and the reasons for the later decision to "remember" that event or person in a public fashion. 800-1000 words of text to accompany your images.

Proposal for the project: 250 words Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

(15%) **Oral presentation** project: 5-7 min. oral presentation about your project.

(20%) **Text/Field Study Responses.** Choose 1 text discussed in class and 1 field visit and write a response (10% each). (200-250 WORDS)

(30%) **Final Exam.** In-class.

Late work will not be accepted. Extensions will be granted only with documentary evidence of illness or other emergencies.

Grading Scheme (same as University of Toronto Grading Scheme)

| Numerical Scale of Mark | Letter Grade |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 90-100 | A+ |
| 85-89 | A |
| 80-84 | A- |
| 77-79 | B+ |
| 73-76 | B |
| 70-72 | B- |
| 67-69 | C+ |
| 63-66 | C |
| 60-62 | C- |
| 57-59 | D+ |
| 53-56 | D |
| 50-52 | D- |
| 0-49 | F |

On Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. You must put others' words in quotation marks and cite your source(s). You must give citations when using others' ideas, even if those ideas are paraphrased in your own words. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences.