

THE ANDALUSIAN LEGACY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The term Al-Andalus refers to the territory of the Iberian Peninsula that was under Muslim domain between 711-1492. This long tenure of nearly 800 years has confirmed a legacy that now forms a significant part of the hallmarks of Spanish culture. In this sense, the course is organized to include several subjects on the study of Muslim monuments such as the origin of Mudejar and Mozarabic art. One of these topics is the transformation of cities, houses and gardens; the best example is the Alhambra in Granada. Another topic is the development of agriculture and the arrival of new foods that are the origin of modern Spanish cuisine. We will also focus on the linguistic influence, music, festivities and traditions that make Spain such a unique country.

Note: Students will be required to read texts both in Spanish and in English.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the course is student-centered and competency-based. This means that the students will be told what they will be taught, how they will be taught, what they must learn, what types of activities will be carried out, what resources will be used and how their learning will be assessed. The course will aim to develop the following competences:

Competence 1.	To identify the Muslim legacy in the Spanish art.
Competence 2.	To know the origin of certain practices and customs related to Muslim culture (housing, food, festivities, etc.)
Competence 3.	To analyze the most relevant characteristics of the different Muslim groups who lived in the Iberian Peninsula.
Competence 4.	To present and defend knowledge both orally and in writing.
Competence 5.	To recognize the different artistic styles through representative works of art.

METHODOLOGY

This course will be taught using a theoretical-practical approach. The Professor will mostly rely on information from other texts, which will be complemented with two out-of-class activities: a visit to a Mudejar style monument and an optional trip to Andalusia. In addition, the Professor will use power point presentations and biographical documentaries to help the students understand the most important characteristics of the Andalusian legacy. The students will complete review exercises by answering specific questions on the styles, techniques, influences, chronology and names of different works of art.

At the end of the course the students will have to submit a written (research) project on one of the topics of the course. The paper must be presented orally in class. The student will have the opportunity to demonstrate his/her ability of synthesis developed throughout the course.

Finally, the course will have two exams, a midterm exam and a final exam, so that the Professor can evaluate the acquisition of all the competences of the course.

The methodology will actually focus both on practicing the theoretical contents and on developing the specific skills and attitudes of the students so that they can eventually develop the competences indicated previously.

PREPARING FOR CLASS

Students must prepare and complete the tasks before each class as indicated in the schedule so that the class runs smoothly. Homework is very important because it will allow the students to anticipate the class. Students will basically have to read the information provided by the Professor and complete the comprehension exercises. This task is fundamental as it will enhance their ability to follow the pace of the class, by helping them to understand what they learned. In fact, this method will be used to help students get used to a specific terminology, some authors and some of their most representative works before actually going to class.

EVALUATION

The evaluation procedures that will be used will attempt to combine different elements in order to make sure that all the students can develop their skills. Ongoing student work will be the main criterion of the evaluation. Consequently, the overall assessment will be based on students' participation in the theoretical and practical sessions; exercises, projects and written tests; the preparation of oral presentations and participation in the activities of the course. The percentage of the grade that will be assigned to each of the evaluation criteria will be distributed as follows:

Class participation: It must be active; that is to say, the student should not only ask questions but also make comments and participate actively in the exercises proposed in class, both **in group and individually**. In addition, the students must read the texts assigned by the Professor and complete the exercises related to the text. Competences 1, 2, 3, 4 y 6 will be developed. This aspect is worth **5%** of the final grade.

Written project: The objective of this task is to analyze an example of the Muslim legacy and compare it with its influences on Spanish culture or art. The final paper should be double-

spaced in Times New Roman 12, have an extension of 3 to 5 pages. It must use MLA format. In case of plagiarism the student will fail the course (grade 0). The students must present the project orally in class on the days set in the schedule. Competences 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be developed. The following elements will be assessed:

- **Characteristics:** The student must identify many significant characteristics that distinguish the original work from the influences it may have had on others.
- **Cultural influence:** The student will have to give several examples that belong to the Muslim legacy and of its influence and transformation in the final adaptation in the Spanish culture, traditions or art.
- **Specific language:** The student must express his/her knowledge using a specific language that he/she will have acquired through the readings and explanations given by the Professor.

This aspect is worth **10%** of the final grade.

Note. If the paper is not submitted on the indicated date the student will be graded one point less for each day of delay.

Additional visits (Complementary activities): There will be scheduled visits to different museums and cultural centers both during the onsite sessions and in the out –of class-activities, which are included in the syllabus as taught classes. Two of these visits will be to the city of Toledo (optional) and to the University of Alcalá (compulsory. **5%**). There will also be a visit to Andalusia (optional). The cost of the trips is not included in the registration fee so each student must decide whether he/she would like to participate in these activities. All the competences will be assessed.

* Dates of cultural activities may be altered. The centers that are to be visited according to the schedule reserve their right to change the date according to their needs or considering unforeseen administrative eventualities.

First exam (midterm): In the middle of the course. The exam will consist of two parts: a practical part in which the student will have to answer questions related to the analysis of several works of art and a theoretical part with essay questions. This aspect is worth **35%** of the final grade

Second exam (final): There will be a final exam at the end of the course. It will be cumulative and consists of two parts. The theoretical part will include essay questions for a particular topic or comprehension questions. The second part will include questions based on analyzing certain art pieces of the Muslim culture. The Professor will assess all the competences of the course. For any attempt of copying or plagiarism in the exam, the student will fail the course (grade 0) and he/she will not have the right to any kind of remedial exams. This aspect is worth **35%** of the final grade.

Oral presentations: There will be two oral presentations. The first one must be related to the topics studied before the midterm exam. Students will have to choose a topic and prepare an oral presentation based on it. In the second oral presentation the students must show the knowledge they acquired through the final written project and their oral expression skills. All the competences will be assessed as well as the following aspects:

- **Content and development:** The student must prepare a well-structured presentation. It should introduce the main topic. The main information and ideas must be developed in a coherent and interrelated way. The paper should end with a logical conclusion based on the research that has been carried out.
- **Specific language:** The student must present his / her work using part of the specific terminology worked on in class in order to explain the content of his/her research on the topic.
- **Body language:** The student must show mastery of the subject matter and maintain the attention of the class. Thus, visual contact, intonation and body language are important. The student must demonstrate he/she has an effective way of maintaining the attention of the class. In order to help the student develop this skill it would be interesting that the class participates in the presentation through compression exercises or questions related to the topic.
- **Audiovisual aids:** It is very important that the students use audiovisual aids to deliver their oral presentation. Power Point, flashcards, videos, images, newspaper clippings, etc. are recommended. It is also very important that the students do not directly read the information. They can use notes but never read their presentation word for word.

This aspect is worth **10%** of the final grade. (5% for each)

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is MANDATORY. If the student is absent for more than the allowed limit (**two absences in the spring program**), the final grade will reflect a decrease of **10 points** for each non-attendance that has not been excused by a doctor's certificate or by your Program Director. It is the individual responsibility of the student to make up any missed content about the subject taught in class the day the student was absent.

CLASS SCHEDULE	
TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
Overview of the course Topic 1 Origin of al-Andalus. The Emirate of al-Andalus and the Caliphate of Cordoba	Read texts provided by the Professor and reading comprehension exercises https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWhyJj1AkUU
Topic 2 The Great Mosque <i>Mezquita Aljama</i> from Córdoba I	Read texts provided by the Professor and reading comprehension exercises https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kg-6TYWFRhA
Topic 3 The Great Mosque <i>Mezquita Aljama</i> from Córdoba II, <i>Medina Azahara</i> and <i>Cristo de la Luz</i> in Toledo	Read texts provided by the Professor and reading comprehension exercises https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDXCSEygUdo https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kf4wPBvT3_0
Topic 4 The Taifa Kingdoms: <i>Aljafería</i> from Zaragoza	Read texts provided by the Professor from <i>Manual del Arte Español</i> . Silex 2003 and reading comprehension exercises
The Taifa Kingdoms: <i>Giralda</i> from Sevilla.	Read texts provided by the Professor from <i>Manual del Arte Español</i> . Silex 2003 and reading comprehension exercises
Topic 5 The Nasrid (Palaces): The Alhambra of Granada.	Read texts provided by the Professor from <i>Manual del Arte Español</i> . Silex 2003 and reading comprehension exercises
Visit to the city of Toledo	
Topic 6 The end of the Spanish <i>Reconquista</i>	Read texts provided by the Professor from <i>Manual del Arte Español</i> . Silex 2003 and reading comprehension exercises
Topic 7 Mozarab vs. Mudejar populations	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 8 Oral presentations	Read texts provided by the Professor
Review for the exam	Read texts provided by the Professor
Midterm exam	Read texts provided by the Professor

Topic 9 The Mudéjar style: In Spain. The synagogues from Toledo and Córdoba	Read texts provided by the Professor
The Mudéjar style: from Islam to the New World	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 10 11:30 AM The Mudéjar style in Alcalá: Visit <i>Paraninfo</i> (Assembly hall at the University of Alcalá) and <i>Capilla de San Ildefonso</i> (San Ildefonso Chapel) (compulsory)	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 11 The city. Castles and Fortresses: urbanism in medieval Spain	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 12 Agriculture and hydraulic technology in al-Andalus	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 13 The Spanish-Arab garden. An earthly paradise	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 14 Culinary culture in al-Andalus	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 15 Practical activity. The Andalusian food.	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 16 Clothing. The use of plants for the dyeing of fabrics	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 17 Popular festivities and celebrations	Read texts provided by the Professor
Topic 18 Daily life. The coexistence between Arabs, Jews and Christians.	Read texts provided by the Professor
The linguistic interference between Arabic and peninsular Romance languages	Read texts provided by the Professor
Oral presentations	
General review	
Final Exam	

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change. The final syllabus will be given to students on the first day of class.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Salma Khadra Jayyusi, *The Legacy of Muslim Spain*. Second edition. E.J. Brill Leiden-New York-Köln 1994

Abrantes, Ricardo, Fernández Araceli y Manzarbeitia Santiago. *Arte Español para Extranjeros*. Hondarribia (Guipuzcua): Editorial Nerea, S.A., 1999.

Bendala, Manuel, Bango G. Isidro, Borrás Gonzalo. *Manual del Arte Español*. Madrid: Silex Ediciones. S.L. 2003

Al-Andalus: culturas de convivencia (Texto: Juan Vernet y Leonor Martínez Martín), publicado por Lundweg ISBN: 84-7782-850-4,

Sefarad: culturas de convivencia (Texto: José Luis Lacave), ISBN: 84-7782-865-2.

La España musulmana, from the monographies series:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=vUR8zil3prgC&printsec=frontcover&dq=la+espa%C3%B1a+musulmana+monograf%C3%ADas&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAGoVChMlvjTWLTZyAIVCXk-Ch0ERgPW#v=onepage&q=la%20espa%C3%B1a%20musulmana%20monograf%C3%ADas&f=false>

YouTube:

"Legado Andalusí" is a series of documentaries made in 2002 by Ático Siete, Canal Sur, 2M (Public TV of Morocco), El Legado Andalusí Foundation and Consejería de Cultura de la Junta de Andalucía. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNrM3h6Yff0>

http://es.slideshare.net/katyp9800/expansin-del-islam-15118851?next_slideshow=1

<http://es.slideshare.net/jelko/artehispanomusulman-15127530>

Links to the library of the University of Alcalá

http://uah.summon.serialssolutions.com/search?keep_r=true&s.fvf%5B%5D=ContentType%2CNewspaper+Article%2Ct&s.q=juan+vernet&utf8=%E2%9C%93#!/search?ho=t&fvf=ContentType,Newspaper%20Article,t&l=es-ES&q=AuthorCombined:%22Vernet%20Gine%CC%81s,%20Juan%22

WE WILL ONLY SPEAK IN SPANISH

In class we are going to speak only in Spanish. The use of English in the classroom would prevent the total immersion of the student in the process of learning Spanish. Moreover, it is important to emphasize that in order to understand and enjoy the class we will ask for an additional effort of terminological adaptation with the sole aim of helping the student get used to the specific jargon of the professional field. For a better understanding of the class a medium-high level of Spanish is recommended.