

SPAN 4110 – CULTURE & CIVILIZATION OF SPAIN

Course: SPA 4110
Section: 001
Semester: SPRING 2020
Meeting days: MWF
Time: 11:15 -12:10 PM
Room: Oakley Hall 219

Instructor: Manuel J. Villalba
Preferred method to contact instructor: e-mail
Office: Oakley 225
Office hours: MWF, 12:10- 1:10 PM
Phone: 931-372-3771
E-mail: mvillalba@tntech.edu

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This course exposes students to the diversity of contemporary Spain. It will provide a comprehensive view of the country through its history, geography, visual arts, politics, sociology, and music, as well as its people, language, traditions, and daily customs. Mastery of the Spanish language is required, but also this course targets the acquisition of sophisticated conversation, reading and writing skills.

Prerequisite: SPAN 3010

STUDENT LEARNING OBJETIVES

Upon completion of this course, students will

- Be introduced to the study of contemporary Spanish culture
Cultures: Relating Cultural Products to Perspectives (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)
Comparisons: Cultural Comparisons (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)
- Develop a wide and deep understanding of the main points of Spanish culture
Cultures: Relating Cultural Practice to Perspectives (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)
- Be provided with critical tools to analyze cultural artifacts
Connections: Acquiring Information and Diverse Perspectives (Critical Thinking, Solve Problems, Access Evaluate Diverse Perspectives)
- Develop critical thinking
Connections: Making Connections (Critical Thinking, Solve Problems, Access Evaluate Diverse Perspectives)
- Master reading skills in Spanish
Communication: Interpersonal, Interpretative & Presentational (View/Reading)
- Improve the articulation of ideas in written Spanish in a deep and sophisticated way
Communication: Interpersonal, Interpretative & Presentational (Write)
Comparisons: Language Comparisons (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)

MATERIALS

Required text:

- Pereira-Muro, Carmen. *Culturas de España*. 2nd ed., Cengage, 2015.

Recommended texts:

- Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2009. Print.
- *Diccionario Panhispánico de Dudas*. Madrid: Real Academia Española: Asociación de Academias de la Lengua Española & Santillana, 2005. Print. (Also on-line: <http://www.rae.es/rae.html>)
- *Diccionario de la Lengua Española*. Madrid: Real Academia Española: Asociación de Academias de la Lengua Española & Espasa Calpe, 2001. Print. (Also on-line: <http://www.rae.es/rae.html>)
- *The Oxford Spanish Dictionary (Spanish-English/English-Spanish)*, eds. Beatriz Galimberti Jarman – Roy Russell. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.
- *WordReference.com (English-Spanish Dictionary)* On-line source: <http://www.wordreference.com/es/translation.asp>

iLearn:

Our section has a shell on iLearn that will be updated regularly with announcements, handouts for students to print out and other useful information. Students will be responsible for checking this site at least once in between class sessions.

Movies:

Ratings: **Not rated**. Most of these movies have not been rated by the MPAA.

Warning: Explicit language is used by many characters in these movies. In addition, in most of the movies there are explicit nudity and extremely realistic violence displayed onscreen. Some ideas on religion and sexuality discussed in these movies can be found disturbing or offensive by some people. If you believe this may be a problem for you, please inform the professor in advance to discuss if this course is actually suitable for you.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams (35%) (Midterm exam: 17.5% & final exam: 17.5%)

A midterm exam and a final exam are required for this course. Both exams will test, first, the familiarity with the readings and movies analyzed in class; second, the knowledge of the critical concepts and arguments discussed in the readings and, finally the sophistication of the critical argumentation around an analytical filmic and/or cultural question.

Final research paper (20%)

This is a task that requires to: a) choose a topic in relation to the cultural artifacts discussed in class, b) write a 6-7 pages research paper that exhibits excellent analysis in clear and understandable Spanish, c) format the paper following the MLA handbook guidelines. The paper must:

1. State original and clear thesis and arguments.
2. Analyze some of the cultural artifacts discussed in class.
3. Provide information about the theoretical point of view used in the analysis.
4. Discuss a minimum of three secondary sources, included in the MLA database.

All the skills acquired and academic conventions learned in the required composition class are expected to be applied in this project development.

Abstract (5%)

Students will need to write an abstract of their final research paper. Abstracts should:

1. Clearly state the central research question and/or purpose of the project.
2. Provide brief, relevant scholarly or research context (no actual citations required) that demonstrate its attempt to make a unique contribution to the area of inquiry.
3. Provide a brief description of the research methodology.
4. State conclusions or expected results and the context in which they will be discussed.
5. Include text only (no images or graphics)
6. Be well-written and well-organized.
7. References are allowed within abstracts, but not required.
8. Use plain text format for your abstract.
9. Abstracts are usually 200-300 words long with no paragraph breaks. MAXIMUM LENGTH = 300 WORDS!

Presentation (5%)

All students will present in Spanish a topic related to the content of the class. Each presentation will be 9-10 minutes. The instructions and the grading criteria will be explained by the instructor during the course and posted on iLearn. The content of the presentations and the following discussions will be part of the exams.

Blog (15%)

Each student will write a weekly blog about the movies and/or the readings (12 entries total). In each entry, the student must write about his/her opinion about a proposed topic, keeping in mind that s/he must demonstrate familiarity with the texts. The students must remember that this content is public. The blog tools can be found on iLearn. The minimum length of each entry will be 400 words and the presentation of the blog will count toward the overall grade. The deadline of every entry will be Monday at 11:59 pm. No late materials will be considered. In addition, every student will have to write one comment in three blog entries of other fellow students every time that a blog entry is assigned. (12 entries

X 3 comments = 36 comments total). The grade of the comment entries will be part of the participation grade. If any student considers that s/he does not want to make public his/her work for the class, s/he must explain his/her concerns to the instructor, and s/he will be assigned an alternative way to submit this assignment in a traditional private way.

Quizzes (10%)

Every week we will have a short quiz on the assigned movies and readings. In these quizzes, the students will have to demonstrate they have watched the movies and fully read and understood the content of the texts.

Participation (10%)

Active, scholarly participation is mandatory in this class. All students are expected to participate in every class meeting by responding to questions from the instructor and fellow students as well as by commenting on the readings and assignments due in each particular session. No outstanding grade can be obtained in this class without constant, proactive, responsible, and scholarly participation. Points will be taken off the students' participation grades each time that the instructor notices a lack of preparation in the student or when s/he should fail to bring to class the materials required.

Two participation grades will be given to students during the semester. These grades evaluate how well students come to class prepared to engage in class and group discussion, as well as activities. In addition, the attendance will be reflected in the final grade (See "Attendance").

Attendance

Attendance in this class is mandatory. The TTU Academic Development Program Faculty recognizes the necessity of regular classroom/workshop/lab engagement [attendance] as a basic cornerstone of the learning process. Attendance is required and expected by the instructor.

The student is allowed three (3) unexcused absences. After the third absence, one point will be deducted from the student's final grade for each subsequent UNEXCUSED absence. Also, remember that arriving to class 10 minutes after the scheduled beginning of the session counts as an absence. Similarly, three tardies of less than 10 minutes will also be counted as an absence. Lack of preparation for the class can be recorded as an absence. Regular attendance is a definite part of the total performance required for the satisfactory completion of this course, and an unsatisfactory attendance record may adversely affect the final grade.

University attendance policy [TTU Undergraduate Catalog] does not recognize excused absences or excused tardiness. Likewise, TTU policy does not recognize excused absences or excused tardiness. Academic Development Program policy requires two (2) hours of ADP-directed work in the ADP Learning Center for each class hour missed for each absence the student wishes to have waived.

It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY, not the instructor's, to ask about work missed due to absence or tardiness. Coursework not turned in on time due to unexcused absences or tardiness will be refused by

the instructor. Remember: Non-attendance, poor attendance, or withdrawal may seriously affect scholarship/financial aid.

Excused absences

An excused absence is one that occurs due to illness, injury, or death in the student's immediate family. No excuses will be accepted one week after the circumstance occurred. The student must verify these circumstances with official documentation to be submitted to the Office of Student Affairs as soon as they return to class. The Office of Student Affairs will contact the professor for the absence to be excused. The professor under no circumstance will take any documentation directly from the student.

Please note: If you are participating in any university-sponsored event in which you must be absent from class, an official letter from a TTU faculty or staff member must list these dates and be presented to the Office of Student Affairs at the beginning of the semester. Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused or unexcused) per university policy.

FINAL GRADE

- Exams: 35% (midterm exam: 17.5% & final exam: 17.5%)
- Final research paper (20%)
- Abstract (5%)
- Presentation (5%)
- Blog (15%)
- Reading Quizzes (10%)
- Participation (10%)
- Attendance: inverse grade

§ Grade scale: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; E = 0-59.

CALENDAR

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Clase 1: Miércoles, 22 de enero	Presentación del instructor e introducción al curso “¿Qué es España?” <i>Culturas de España</i> 1-22 1. “What is Culture? What is Cultural Theory?”	
Clase 2: Viernes, 24 de enero	“La formación de Hispania”. <i>Culturas de España</i> 25-44	
Clase 3: Lunes, 27 de enero	“La España medieval” I. <i>Culturas de España</i> 45-62 Prueba 1	Redactar: Blog (entrada 1)
Clase 4: Miércoles, 29 de enero	“La España medieval” II. <i>Culturas de España</i> 62-79 Presentación 1	
Clase 5: Viernes, 31 de enero	Javier Fesser. (2018) <i>Campeones</i>	
Clase 6: Lunes, 3 de febrero	“Hacia la unidad de España y la formación de un imperio”. <i>Culturas de España</i> 80-101 Prueba 2	Redactar: Blog (entrada 2)
Clase 7: Miércoles, 5 de febrero	“El imperio español”. <i>Culturas de España</i> 102-26 Presentación 2	
Clase 8: Viernes, 7 de febrero	Asghar Farhadi. (2018) <i>Todos lo saben</i> Amazon Prime Video	

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Clase 9: Lunes, 10 de febrero	2. "Structuralism and the Semiotic Analysis of Culture" Prueba 3	Redactar: Blog (entrada 3)
Clase 10: Miércoles, 12 de febrero	"El siglo XVII". <i>Culturas de España</i> 127-53 Presentación 3	
Clase 11: Viernes, 14 de febrero	Cesc Gay. (2015) <i>Truman</i> Amazon Prime Video	
Clase 12: Lunes, 17 de febrero	3. "The Poststructural Turn" Prueba 4	Redactar: Blog (entrada 4)
Clase 13: Miércoles, 19 de febrero	"El siglo XVIII". <i>Culturas de España</i> 154-77 Presentación 4	
Clase 14: Viernes, 21 de febrero	Alberto Rodríguez. (2014) <i>La isla mínima</i> . Amazon Prime Video	
Clase 15: Lunes, 24 de febrero	4. "Culture, Structure, and Agency: Three Attempts at Synthesis" Prueba 5	Redactar: Blog (entrada 5)
Clase 16: Miércoles, 26 de febrero	"El siglo XIX". <i>Culturas de España</i> 178-206 Presentación 5	
Clase 17: Viernes, 28 de febrero	Mar Targarona. (2018) <i>El fotógrafo de Mauthausen</i> Netflix	

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Clase 18: Lunes, 2 de marzo	5. "British Cultural Studies" Prueba 6	Redactar: Blog (entrada 6)
Clase 19: Miércoles, 4 de marzo	"Del siglo XX al siglo XXI" I. <i>Culturas de España</i> 209 -29 Presentación 6	
Clase 20: Viernes, 6 de marzo	Justin Webster. (2017) <i>El fin de ETA</i> Netflix	
Clase 21: Lunes, 9 de marzo	6. "The Production and Reception of Culture" Prueba 7	Redactar: Blog (entrada 7)
Clase 22: Miércoles, 11 de marzo	"Del siglo XX al siglo XXI" II. <i>Culturas de España</i> 230 -52 Presentación 7	
Clase 23: Viernes, 13 de marzo	Examen I	Participación 1
Lunes, 16 de marzo	Spring Break	
Miércoles, 18 de marzo	Spring Break	
Viernes, 20 de marzo	Spring Break	

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Clase 24: Lunes, 23 de marzo	7. "Culture as a Text: Narrative and Hermeneutics" Prueba 8	Redactar: Blog (entrada 8)
Clase 25: Miércoles, 25 de marzo	"El estado de las autonomías y las nacionalidades históricas" I. <i>Culturas de España</i> 253-71 Presentación 8	
Clase 26: Viernes, 27 de marzo	Álvaro Longoria & Gerardo Olivares. (2018) <i>Dos Cataluñas</i> Netflix	
Clase 27: Lunes, 30 de marzo	8. "Psychoanalytic Approaches to Culture and Self" Prueba 9	Redactar: Blog (entrada 9)
Clase 28: Miércoles, 1 de abril	"El estado de las autonomías y las nacionalidades históricas" II. <i>Culturas de España</i> 272-90 Presentación 9	
Clase 29: Viernes, 3 de abril	Joaquín Mazón. (2016) <i>Cuerpo de élite</i> Netflix	
Clase 30: Lunes, 6 de abril	9. "The Cultural Analysis of Postmodernism and Postmodernity" Prueba 10	Redactar: Blog (entrada 10)
Clase 31: Miércoles, 8 de abril	"La economía de la España contemporánea". <i>Culturas de España</i> 291-315 Presentación 10	
Clase 32: Viernes, 10 de abril	Julio Medem. (2018) <i>El árbol de la sangre</i> Netflix	

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Clase 33: Lunes, 13 de abril	10. "Postmodern and Poststructural Critical Theory" Prueba 11	Redactar: Blog (entrada 11)
Clase 34: Miércoles, 15 de abril	"La sociedad española contemporánea" I. <i>Culturas de España</i> 316-28 Presentación 11	
Clase 35: Viernes, 17 de abril	Aitor Arregi & Jon Garaño. (2017) <i>Handia</i> Netflix	
Clase 36: Lunes, 20 de abril	11. "Cultural Theories of Race and Gender" Prueba 12	Redactar: Blog (entrada 12)
Clase 37: Miércoles, 22 de abril	"La sociedad española contemporánea" II. <i>Culturas de España</i> 329-51 Presentación 12	
Clase 38: Viernes, 24 de abril	Salvador Calvo. (2016) <i>1898. Los últimos de Filipinas</i> Netflix	
Clase 39: Lunes, 27 de abril	12. "The Body in Cultural Theory" Prueba 13	
Clase 40: Miércoles, 29 de abril	"La cultura contemporánea". <i>Culturas de España</i> 352-81 Presentación 13	
Clase 41: Viernes, 1 de mayo	Conclusiones del curso	Participación 2

Fecha	Tema(s) a discutir en clase	Tarea para la próxima clase
Jueves, 7 de mayo	Exam II 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Oakley Hall 219	

DIRECTIVES

Students are responsible for the information in this syllabus throughout the semester. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus and class assignments.

PREPARING FOR CLASS

You are expected to have each day studied the assigned grammar before coming to class. Studying and doing the homework before each class will help you contribute to any class activity. You should always take notes as you study. Do not worry if you do not understand everything, and do not be afraid to ask questions. Conversation between the students and the instructor and, more importantly, among students is the essence of this class. Learning within this framework requires much more than mere attendance; it requires that each student actively participate in the class. It is critical to your success in this course that you not only study the materials but that you also actively reflect on them by taking notes, doing additional research, or approaching your classmates with questions outside the class.

CIVILITY

Cellular phones, headphones, blackberries, laptops and any other such devices are strictly prohibited in this class. Students using electronic devices will be considered absent for the day. Let your instructor know if you are expecting an emergency call. Eating and drinking in this class is discouraged since communication among students is an essential element of the learning experience. All students are expected to pay attention to the instructor and to their classmates at all times and engage in each activity as expected of them. While in class, you will be expected to behave appropriately. Students who engage in inappropriate or disruptive behavior will be dismissed from the class. Inappropriate behavior includes sleeping or blatant lack of attention (gazing out the window, texting, working on assignments for a different class), private or unrelated conversations, disrespectful comments and disregard for directions as provided by the instructor or as expected from a college student. While in class, you should pay attention and participate actively in discussion when appropriate.

STUDENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the

first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).

UNIVERSITY PLAGIARISM POLICY

Tennessee Tech University Student Handbook – Plagiarism (Academic Regulations)

When you use (for example, quote or even summarize or paraphrase) someone else's media, words, data, ideas, or other works, you must cite your source. You should be especially careful to avoid plagiarizing Internet sources (for example, e-mail, chat rooms, Web sites, or discussion groups). It does not matter whether you borrow material from print sources, from the Internet, from on-line databases, or from interviews. Failure to cite your source is plagiarism. Students who plagiarize may receive an "F" or a "0" for the assignment, or an "F" for the course.

<http://www.tntech.edu/ttustudenthandbook/academic-regulations/>

STUDENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).