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SPAN 360 - MADRID COSMOPOLITAN CITY (4 credits)

Course Objectives

This course is designed to provide students with a basic knowledge of the city of Madrid in terms of its historical, cultural, and social development. Contemporary aspects of the city such as its rise to prominence amongst the capitals of Europe, its active cultural and night life and the phenomenon of recent immigration patterns will also be discussed. This course will also have a literary component: students will read several short stories and a short novel which major theme is the city of Madrid. The required readings, oral presentations and writing will greatly improved students ability to communicate in Spanish. Students who enroll in this course should have completed SPAN 202 or higher.

Course Format

Besides the observation of everyday life and the following of the news and the media, the students will be required to investigate different historical and sociological topics using the textbook and other library resources. Field trips and cultural visits will also be an essential part of this class. It is important to note that because of the nature of this course the syllabus is very flexible and there will be some day to day planning.

This is a discussion based class so it is very important the students prepare the assignments and do the readings beforehand to ensure their participation. Assistance to every class and required activities is mandatory. It is necessary to complete the readings and required activities before class to ensure active participation in class discussions for that it is an important part of their grade. Students will be required to write commentaries of the literary texts discussed in class and out-of-the-classroom cultural activities recommended by the professor. These commentaries must be at least one page long double-spaced and analyzed the work or activity in question from an original point of view. Also, students must choose a short novel about Madrid for an oral presentation. The final project should combine bibliographical and field research (interviews, visits to associations, cultural centers or NGOs). The paper should have a minimum of 12 pages and the topic should be approved by the professor (note the proposal deadline). The last day of classes students will present their final projects conclusions to the class.

Evaluation

Active class participation	20%
Oral presentations	20%
Class assignments (literary commentaries and cultural activities)	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final project (12+ pages)	20%

Textbook

Carlos González Esteban, *Madrid: Sinopsis de su evolución urbana*. Ed. La Librería, 2001.
Fotocopies of literary texts about Madrid.

Attendance

Suffolk University Madrid Campus allows only two unjustified absences. After two absences without the required justification the final grade will be lowered.

Class Rules

1. Nobody is permitted to enter the classroom 15 minutes after the scheduled class time.
2. Leaving the classroom is not allowed unless an imperative need arises, in which case you should ask for the professor's permission before leaving.
3. Eating or drinking (except water) in the classroom is not allowed.
4. Students are permitted the use of laptops to take notes in class. However, if a student uses it for a different purpose, he or she will not be allowed to bring it again.
5. Cell phones should be disconnected.

Recommended Websites for consultation

www.munimadrid.es

www.urbanismo.munimadrid.es

www.descubremadrid.munimadrid.es

www.madrid.org

www.esmadrid.com

www.webmadrid.com

www.hispanica.net

www.madripedia.es

Recommended Texts (All on Reserve in the Library)

AA.VV., *Cuentos y novelas de Madrid*. FNAC, 2006.

AA. VV., *Guía de Arquitectura de Madrid*. 3 tomos. Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Madrid, 2003.

Antonio Fernández García, *Historia de Madrid*. Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 1994.

Carmen Fernández Herraiz, et al. *Urbanismo y arquitectura en el Madrid actual*. Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid, 1999.

María Isabel Gea, *Los nombres de las calles de Madrid*, La Librería, 2003.

Hugh Thomas, *Antología de Madrid*. Gañir Editorial, 2004.