



SUFFOLK
UNIVERSITY
MADRID CAMPUS

GVT 367 M1 – POLITICS OF SPAIN

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Jason Xidias

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Course Information:

Catalog Description: This course is designed to provide students with a basic grounding in political processes in contemporary Spain. Political developments are presented in their socio-economic context, with special emphasis on the Spanish transition from a dictatorship to a democracy. Attention is also given to the issue of Basque and Catalan nationalism, as well as the process of European integration.

Instructor's Additional Course Description: This course will seek to foster an understanding of the current issues faced by Spain, along with the causes and roots in cultural and historical contexts. The tensions between Spain's nation-building process and sub-state nationalisms are key factors in defining today's situation. The European Union also significantly affects political processes and legislation in Spain. In this class, we shall examine Spain in the broad context of forces affecting its sovereignty, development, and cohesion.

Prerequisites: GVT 281 or instructor's consent.

Credit Hours: 4.

This course follows the US Federal Government's Credit Hour definition: "An amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutional established equivalence that reasonably approximates no less than:

- (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
- (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours."

For full up-to-date statement:

https://cihe.neasc.org/sites/cihe.neasc.org/files/downloads/POLICIES/Pp111_Policy_On_Credits-And-Degrees.pdf

To complete this course, students will need to dedicate, at a minimum, the following amount of time to the listed activities:

Assignments/Activities	Engagement Estimate	Engagement Hours
Course Readings	459 pages x 8 minutes per page	61
Review Power Points	21 PP x 60 minutes per PP	21
Midterm Exam	13 hours preparation	13
Final Paper Research & Writing	30 hours preparation	36
Final Exam	16 hours preparation	16
Class Attendance	3 hours x 14 weeks	42
TOTAL		189 HOURS

Textbook/Course Materials:

- Chislett, William. *Spain, what everyone needs to know*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Magone, José. *Contemporary Spanish Politics*. London: Routledge, 2018.

Course Goals & Learning Objectives:

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ASSESSMENTS
Upon successful completion of this course, students will know/understand	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to	How the student will be assessed on these learning objectives:
The main socio-political & economic events from dictatorship to democracy	Elaborate objective arguments on Spanish politics through discussion & debate	Class discussions, essay, oral presentation, and exams.
How to think critically & independently about Spanish politics & its actors	Explain historical divisions in Spanish society & offer a convincing account of the transition to democracy	Research project and oral presentation
Peculiarities of a country marked by late industrialization & democratization	Distinguish reliable sources of information & data	Class discussions, essay, oral presentation, and exams.
Understand the essential socio-political dynamics in the country	Identify key actors, events and forces that define today's democratic system	Class discussions, essay, oral presentation, and exams.
The roots of the Spanish democratic system in its historical context	Analyze media and readings in order to develop critical skills	Class discussions, essay, oral presentation, and exams.

Assignments/Exams/Papers/Projects:

Students will be evaluated in the following areas:

- Exams: midterm and final.
- Research outline and paper.
- Oral presentation of research paper.
- Class participation.

Selected assignments in this course may be used by our accreditation team for institutional assessment purposes and will be handled confidentially.

Your research paper consists of two parts:

Part 1: Formulate a research question that relates to the content of the course. Write a one-page outline that explains your preliminary thesis and essay structure. Also, include a list of four academic sources (that is, books and/or journal articles) that you have read on the subject to date.

Part 2: Building on your outline, write a 7-9-page essay on your topic that includes at least eight academic sources (that is, books and/or journal articles). You may complement these with reputable media articles, reports, etc.

Your research paper outline and your oral presentation will be graded in accordance with the Oral Presentation Rubric (on Blackboard); your essay will be graded in accordance with the Research Paper Rubric (on blackboard). Please send the former and latter in Word format to: jxidias@suffolk.es. These should be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font and be 1.5-spaced. Your footnotes/endnotes and bibliography should be in MLA, APA, or Chicago Manual of Style. The style guides for these formats are available online. Please label your files: outline/essay_ first and last name.

Grading/Evaluation:

Class participation: 10%

Midterm exam: 20%

Research paper outline: 5%

Research paper: 25%

Oral presentation of paper: 10%

Final exam: 30%

Late assignments will be graded 10% down for each day delayed.

Course and Classroom Policies:

- We shall seek to make this class open, respectful and engaged. Please come prepared to participate in each class session, and help create an environment of respect for all religions, ideologies, ethnic groups and gender identities. Courtesy towards each other is expected.
- No food or drink (except water) should be brought into class.
- Please refrain from using cell phones.
- It is expected that students will remain in the classroom throughout the class meeting (except for emergencies).
- Please be on time to class; those arriving once teaching has begun will have it counted as half an absence (except for emergencies).

Participation/Attendance Policy:

The SUMC Student Handbook states the following:

Once a student is registered for a course, attendance at every meeting of every class is expected, including those held in the first week of the semester. A maximum of two unjustified absences is permitted. Each additional absence will cause the final course grade to be lowered by one-third of a letter grade, i.e., from A to A-; A- to B+; B+ to B, etc.

Excessive absences in a course will have a negative effect on the final grade. When a student is absent, the quality of his or her work in a course will deteriorate since material missed in class sessions can rarely be made up satisfactorily, even though the student remains responsible for that work.

Please note that even when a student has a justified reason for missing class, such as illness, the negative academic impact on learning will be the same as if the absence were for spurious reasons.

In this course, any absence due to illness should be justified by a note from the student's physician or other health professional confirming the day(s) on which the student was unable to attend class. A written excuse from a student's host parent or residence supervisor is also acceptable.

In the event that a class meeting is unexpectedly cancelled, students will be expected to continue with readings or other assignments as originally scheduled. Any assignments due or class activities (e.g., a quiz, exam or presentation) planned for such a cancelled class are due at the next class meeting unless other instructions are communicated.

Disability Statement:

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in my classroom.

If formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at the main Campus in Boston so that I am notified of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. Check the ODS web site at www.suffolk.edu/disability for information on accommodations.

Student Resources:

SUMC provides a range of student services, both academic and personal. To learn more about course-related tutorials and academic workshops, refer to the SUMC Student Handbook, section 2 “Academic Policies and Services”. Section 5, “Living in Madrid”, contains information on the medical and mental health resources, including an English-speaking therapist, available to you.

Midterm Review:

At midterm, you will be given a grade based on your performance to date. Midterm grades of C- or below will be reported to the Madrid Campus Academic Standing Committee, with an explanation of what I believe has contributed to that grade: excessive absences, poor time management or study skills, lack of effort, difficulty with the course material, etc. The Academic Standing Committee or I may contact you to suggest strategies for addressing these difficulties. I strongly encourage you to visit me during my office hours so we may discuss how you can be successful in this class.

Academic Misconduct:

www.suffolk.edu/about/mission-history/policies-procedures/academic-misconduct-policy

Suffolk University expects all students to be responsible individuals with high standards of conduct. Students are expected to practice ethical behavior in all learning environments and scenarios, including classrooms and laboratories, internships and practica, and study groups and academic teams. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, use of unauthorized electronic devices, self-plagiarism, fabrication or falsification of data, and other types of academic misconduct are treated as serious offenses that initiate a formal process of inquiry, one that may lead to disciplinary sanctions.

Student work will be thoroughly examined for academic integrity and may be scanned using plagiarism detection software. A faculty member suspecting academic misconduct will contact the student using the Suffolk email address to schedule a meeting and will make all effort to do so within five business days of detecting the incident. During the meeting, the faculty member will present the documentation that led to suspected academic misconduct. Resolution of the incident will be according to the procedures outlined in the SUMC Student Handbook.

Academic Grievances Policy:

www.suffolk.edu/student-life/student-services/student-handbook/university-policies-for-student-cas-sbs/grievances-academics

Course Schedule:

The schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better student learning.

WEEK	General Topic of lesson	Readings or Other Assignments Due
1	Introduction & Course Overview The Spanish Civil War, 1936-9	Preston, Paul. <i>The Spanish Civil War: Reaction, Revolution, and Revenge</i> . London and New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2006 (Introduction) Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (pp. 8-10) Chislett, William. <i>Spain: What Everyone Needs to Know</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013 (pp. 28-36)
2	Spanish Civil War Tour	Documentary: "Spanish Civil War: Prelude to Tragedy": https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x15ng8v
3	The Franco Dictatorship, 1939-1975	Chislett, William. <i>Spain: What Everyone Needs to Know</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013 (Chapter 2) Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (pp. 10-12)
4	From Dictatorship to Democracy	Powell, Charles. "The Long Road to Europe: Spain and the European Community, 1957-1986." <i>Royal Elcano Institute</i> (2015) (24 pp.) Chislett, William. <i>Spain: What Everyone Needs to Know</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013 (Chapter 3)
5	Contemporary Spanish Political Culture	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (Chapter 2) Research paper outline due digitally by the close of Oct 3
6	Midterm Review & Exam	Study for Midterm Exam
7	Spanish Political Institutions	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (Chapter 3)
8	Political Parties and Elections	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (pp. 120-146).
9	The Dynamics of Regional Politics	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (pp. 183-212).

WEEK	General Topic of lesson	Readings or Other Assignments Due
10	Spain & the European Union	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (Chapter 7).
11	Spanish Politics Today	Magone, José. <i>Contemporary Spanish Politics</i> . London: Routledge, 2018 (Chapter 10).
12	Oral Presentations	Final paper due digitally by the close of Nov 23
13	Final Review	Study for final exam
14	Final Exam: 2:00-4:00	Study for final exam