

Religion and society in Spain

Course syllabus

Course Title:	Religion and society in Spain
ECTS Credits:	6
Class type:	Lecture
Semester and Year:	Fall 2017
Dates of course:	September 7-December 20
Class schedule:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:45-12:15
Faculty:	Guillermo Reher
Office Location:	14.2.01
Email:	greher@hum.uc3m.es
Office hours:	Tues. and Thurs. 10:15-10:45 & 3-4 pm (by appointment)

Catalog Description:

When the course is completed, the students will be able to:

- ✓ Students will acquire precise knowledge regarding three important religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam).
- ✓ Students will understand the specific processes which affected the history of Spain from the Middle Ages to the present.
- ✓ Students will dominate the dialectic involved in the use of cultural heritage as a mechanism to construct the narrative of the past.

Teaching/Learning Strategies:

This course involves lectures involving theory regarding the characteristics and history of the three religions included, and their inter-relation in Spain from the Middle Ages to the present. The practical part will include visits to significant places for the minority religions in today's Madrid, so that they may better understand the nature of current religious coexistence.

Recommended Readings:

- Díaz, Carlos (1998) *Manual de historia de las religiones*. Desclée de Brouwer.
- Melquíades, Andrés (2016) *Cristianismo y cultura en España: dos milenios de vida*. Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca.
- Montes Romero-Camacho, Isabel (2001) *Los judíos en la Edad Media española*. Arco-Libros.
- Vernet Ginés, Juan (1999) *Al-Andalus: el Islam en España*. Lunweg.

Compulsory Readings:

- Berthelot, Martine (2009) "El judaísmo en la España actual", *RES. Revista Española de Sociología* 12: 67-86.
- Dietz, Gunther (2008) "La educación religiosa en España: ¿Contribución al diálogo intercultural o factor de conflicto entre religiones?", *Estudios sobre las culturas contemporáneas* 28: 11-46.
- Manzano Moreno, Eduardo (2013) "Qurtuba: algunas reflexiones críticas sobre el Califato de Córdoba y el mito de la convivencia", *Awraq: Estudios sobre el mundo árabe e islámico contemporáneo* 7: 225-246.

- Montañés, Antonio (2015) "Interacciones entre cultura(s) y religión en minorías socio-religiosas. El caso de los musulmanes y evangélicos-pentecostales en España", *Papeles del CEIC. International Journal on Collective Identity Research* 2015.3: papel 142.
- Sánchez Herrero, José (2013) "¿Nació el Islam en España?", *Hispania sacra* 65, Extra 1: 7-28.
- Tolentino, Adrián (2015) "La influencia de la época medieval sobre el judaísmo actual", *Cuadernos Judáicos* 32: 249-272.

Evaluation Methods:

Evaluation is based on three aspects: participation, paper and exam. All work must be handed in or, in the case of the exams, written, when and how it is required in order to be graded. Total points for the final grade will be distributed thus:

Exam (40%)

The exam will serve to assess the degree of understanding of the course, including all in-class presentations. Students will be expected to contribute information learned in class, provide examples and otherwise display their knowledge of the course content.

Paper and presentation 30%)

Students have to select a topic for their paper which must include, in some way, religion in Spain. They will write a research paper on the topic chosen that may shed light on the interaction between religion, society and culture, either in the past or the present. The paper topic must be selected and notified to the professor on the day specified in the timeline.

As a research paper, academic sources must be used (research articles and book chapters, documentaries, photography, databases, etc.), as well as other pertinent sources such as newspapers, blogs or social networks. All the sources must be referenced at the end and in the text.

Research papers must establish an argument or assess a perspective but, in order to be exceptional, they must include a student's own interpretation, based on the data extracted from trustworthy sources.

Papers must be at least 4000 words, including an introduction, and argumentation and a conclusion. They will be submitted electronically on the day established in the timeline. Tardy submissions will not be graded.

The paper will be presented in class through presentations that will last maximum 20-30 minutes.

Participation (25%)

Participation grade will be based on the following factors, and is applicable in all sessions, whether they are in-class or during excursions:

Positive	Negative
Assignments are turned in in a timely manner	Behavior that is disrespectful or harmful to the class
Assignments reflect adequate effort and content quality	Not participating or doing so in a non-academic manner
Voluntary participation in class activities and discussion	Leaving the class without permission
Display of knowledge improvement	Using digital materials in a non-

and dedication	academic manner
	Tardiness

Evaluation Summary:

Exam	40%
Paper and presentation	30%
Participation	30%
Total	100 %

Attendance Policy:

Class attendance is expected of all students up to and including the last day of scheduled classes in the semester. Any excused absences must be referred to and accepted by the UC3M International School. Unexcused absences have an automatic effect on the course grade:

Unexcused absences	Final grade penalty
1	3%
2	5%
3	Failing grade
4+	Expulsion from the course

Electronic devices:

Using a Smartphone during class is forbidden unless expressly allowed by the teacher. Students should put their phones on silence and keep them out of sight. Laptops or Tablets may be used if solely for note-taking purposes. If these requirements are not complied with, the student will be asked to leave the class and marked as absent.

Assignment submissions

The group project must be submitted electronically on the day specified in the program. Work submitted at any other place or time or in any other form will not be accepted.

Late submissions

Late work will not be accepted.

Smartphones and laptops:

These devices will be only allowed during designated research times, when the teacher specifies their use. Otherwise, their use is forbidden in class. If caught, the student will have to leave class, and that class will be considered an absence.

Topical Outline and Timeline:

Sessi on n°	Date	Topic	Assignment (to be done by or during that class)
1	Sept. 7	Judaism: Historical formation context	
2	Sept. 12	Judaism: Symbolism and ritual	<i>Select paper topic</i>
3	Sept. 14	Judaism: Medieval history	<i>Tolentino, 2015</i>
4	Sept. 19	Judaism: Art and heritage	
5	Sept. 21	Christianity: Historical formation context	
6	Sept. 26	Christianity: Symbolism and ritual	
7	Sept. 28	Christianity: Medieval history	
8	Oct. 3	Christianity: Art and heritage	
9	Oct. 5	Islam: Historical formation context	
10	Oct. 10	Islam: Symbolism and ritual	

11	Oct. 17	Islam: Medieval history	
12	Oct. 19	Islam: Art and heritage	
13	Oct. 24	The creation of <i>Hispania</i>	
14	Oct. 26	The Caliphate of Cordoba	<i>Sánchez Herrero, 2013</i>
15	Oct. 31	The end of the Reconquest	
16	Nov. 2	The 3 cultures: coexistence in the Middle Ages	<i>Manzano Moreno, 2013</i>
17	Nov. 7	The 3 cultures: a historiographical construction	
18	Nov. 9	Catholic Spain in the Modern Age	
19	Nov. 14	National-Catholicism of the 20 th century	
20	Nov. 16	Islam as cultural heritage Visit to the Arab House in Madrid (18:00, Príncipe de Vergara Metro)	
21	Nov. 21	Judaism in current Spain Visit to the Sefarad-Israel Center in Madrid (18:00, Ópera Metro)	<i>Berthelot, 2009</i>
22	Nov. 23	Islam as an immigrant's religion Visit to the Islamic Cultural Center in Madrid (18:00, Parque de las Avenidas Metro)	<i>Montañés, 2015</i>
23	Nov. 28	Paper presentations	<i>Paper submission</i>
24	Nov. 30	Paper presentations	
25	Dec. 5	Paper presentations	
26	Dec. 12	Paper presentations	
27	Dec. 13-20	Exam	

This syllabus is subject to change!