

# SPAN-2420: INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH CULTURE, CIVILIZATION, AND LITERATURE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: SPAN-2420 : Introduction to Spanish Culture, Civilization, and Literature**

**Board of Trustees:**

May 2019

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2019

**Subject Code**

SPAN - Spanish

**Course Number:**

2420

**Title:**

Introduction to Spanish Culture, Civilization, and Literature

**Catalog Description:**

Introduction to Spain's culture, civilization, and literature. Overview of Spain's formation, and interrelationship between its prehistorical and historical foundation, political, economic, social, cultural, artistic, and literary components. Selected cultural, and artistic elements, as well as various literary writers, exemplifying literary periods through examples of their work, are highlighted.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

**Lab Hour(s):**

0

**Other Hour(s):**

0

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

SPAN-2020 Intermediate Spanish II Language and Cultures II, or concurrent enrollment with departmental approval; or three years of high school Spanish with departmental approval.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Demonstrate general knowledge of Spain's geographical, historical, political, economic, social, cultural, artistic and literary elements.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

Written Communication: Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify Spain's geographical location, geographical regions, natural borders, geophysical characteristics, climates, geopolitical regions, and economic natural resources.
2. Know and comprehend Spain's historical formation since prehistoric times, and its interrelationship with other world cultures.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of how historical, political, economic, social, cultural, linguistic and religious factors led to the formation of Spain as a nation, and an empire, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.
4. Explain the impact of historical, political, economic, social, cultural, and artistic events from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century in modern Spain.
5. Recognize cultural, artistic, and literary movements.
6. Distinguish literary genres, structures, and characteristics.
7. Show understanding of cultural, artistic and literary pieces within their historical, political, social, and literary context.
8. Read, understand, summarize, analyze, interpret and discuss specific literary pieces by Spain's writers, and their relevance in Spain's and world cultures.
9. Research specific historical, political, cultural, social, artistic, and literary aspects, in order to present them in written and oral formats in Spanish, demonstrating understanding of Spain's and Spaniards' civilization, culture, and literature.
10. Know and understand Spain's historical, political, cultural, social, artistic, and literary influence in other countries and cultures.
11. Augment vocabulary.
12. Increase interpretive reading strategies.
13. Apply research skills in Spanish.
14. Apply prior developed writing skills, expanding them by utilizing further strategies.
15. Apply and further develop interpersonal communication skills at an intermediate advanced level.
16. Use oral presentation strategies.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Discuss different aspects of Spain's history, culture, society, art and literature using appropriate textual evidence to support his/her ideas and interpretation of those elements.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

Written Communication: Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify Spain's geographical location, geographical regions, natural borders, geophysical characteristics, climates, geopolitical regions, and economic natural resources.
2. Know and comprehend Spain's historical formation since prehistoric times, and its interrelationship with other world cultures.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of how historical, political, economic, social, cultural, linguistic and religious factors led to the formation of Spain as a nation, and an empire, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.
4. Explain the impact of historical, political, economic, social, cultural, and artistic events from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century in modern Spain.
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14. Apply prior developed writing skills, expanding them by utilizing further strategies.
15. Apply and further develop interpersonal communication skills at an intermediate advanced level.
16. Use oral presentation strategies.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Describe, summarize, paraphrase, explain, provide examples, analyze, and interpret a historical, political, economic, social, cultural, artistic or literary aspect in Spanish using appropriate authoritative sources.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

**Critical/Creative Thinking:** Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

**Oral Communication:** Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

**Cultural Sensitivity:** Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

**Information Literacy:** Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

**Written Communication:** Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify Spain's geographical location, geographical regions, natural borders, geophysical characteristics, climates, geopolitical regions, and economic natural resources.
2. Know and comprehend Spain's historical formation since prehistoric times, and its interrelationship with other world cultures.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of how historical, political, economic, social, cultural, linguistic and religious factors led to the formation of Spain as a nation, and an empire, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.
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11. Augment vocabulary.
12. Increase interpretive reading strategies.
13. Apply research skills in Spanish.
14. Apply prior developed writing skills, expanding them by utilizing further strategies.
15. Apply and further develop interpersonal communication skills at an intermediate advanced level.
16. Use oral presentation strategies.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Research various topics targeting history, cultural, social, artistic and literary aspects in order to present them in written and oral formats in Spanish.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

**Critical/Creative Thinking:** Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

**Oral Communication:** Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

**Cultural Sensitivity:** Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

**Information Literacy:** Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

**Written Communication:** Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify Spain's geographical location, geographical regions, natural borders, geophysical characteristics, climates, geopolitical regions, and economic natural resources.
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10. Know and understand Spain's historical, political, cultural, social, artistic, and literary influence in other countries and cultures.
11. Augment vocabulary.
12. Increase interpretive reading strategies.
13. Apply research skills in Spanish.
14. Apply prior developed writing skills, expanding them by utilizing further strategies.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Demonstrate an intermediate advanced level of Spanish through interpretive reading, interpretive listening/viewing, interpersonal communication, presentational speaking, and presentational writing.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

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15. Apply and further develop interpersonal communication skills at an intermediate advanced level.

16. Use oral presentation strategies.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Class discussion of class textbook readings, cultural aspects, artistic and literary works
2. Written assignments
3. Research written and oral reports
4. Final research paper
5. Midterm written exam
6. Final written exam

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Introduction. General aspects about Spain
  - a. Geographical location
  - b. Geographical regions
  - c. Natural and political borders
  - d. Geophysical characteristics
  - e. Climates
  - f. Natural resources
  - g. Languages
  - h. Current population
  - i. Currency
  - j. Symbols (flag and coat of arms)
  - k. Political system
    - l. Political division
  - m. Capital and major cities
  - n. Major religion
  - o. Gross domestic product, and economic sectors.
2. The formation of Spain from prehistorical times to medieval times
  - a. Prehistoric societies in the Iberian Peninsula
  - b. Ethnic substrate Tartessian civilization
  - c. Ethnic substrate Iberian civilization
  - d. Ethnic substrate Celt Civilization
  - e. Ethnic substrate Celtic Iberian Civilization
  - f. Phoenician colonies
  - g. Greek colonies
  - h. Carthaginian colonies
    - i. Spain as a Province of the Roman Empire
    - j. Germanic groups invasions
  - k. Spain: Visigoth Kingdom
    - l. Arabic invasion and Christian Kingdoms Reconquista
  - m. Sociopolitical, economic, cultural, and religious impact, and relevance, in modern Spain, of ethnic substrates, colonizations, and invasions.
  - n. Artistic artifacts
    - i. Paleolithic paintings
    - ii. Iberian sculptures
    - iii. Celtic artifacts
    - iv. Greek and Roman cultural imprint, objects, sculptures and architecture
    - v. Medieval artifacts, paintings, sculptures, and architecture
    - vi. Role of Alfonso X El Sabio, and el Camino de Santiago
    - vii. First literary works in Spanish: jarchas; cantares de juglaría y clerecía, and poesía trovadoresca.
    - viii. Excerpts or complete poems: *El Cantar de Mio Cid*, Romances *El Conde Fernán González*, *Abenámbar* y *el Rey Don Juan*, and *Cantiga de Amigo*.
3. Political and religious unity of Spain as a modern nation in the 15th century
  - a. The beginnings of an Empire
  - b. The Catholic King Fernando of Aragón and Catholic Queen Isabel of Castille
  - c. Gothic art

- d. Renaissance movement: Cultural and artistic examples of the period.
  - e. *Literary works: Coplas de Jorge Manrique a la muerte de su padre, and La Celestina* excerpts.
4. Spanish Empire
- a. Overview of 15th Century Emperors Charles I of Spain 98 and V of Germany, and his son Felipe II administrations
  - b. Cultural and social effects of Spain's expansion in Europe and other parts of the world
  - c. Spain's role in America's exploration, conquest, and colonization (America is understood here as a continent from Canada and Greenland in North America to the Land of Fire in South America)
  - d. Spain's role in religious counter-reformation
  - e. Socio-cultural effects in Spain and abroad of Spain's imperial and religious enterprises
  - f. Artistic and literary trends: Renaissance, Humanism, Erasmism, picaresque novel, and mysticism
  - g. Discussion of samples of architecture (El Escorial), paintings (El Greco), and literature
  - h. Excerpts of El Lazarillo de Tormes and Santa Teresa's writings
  - i. Poems of Garcilaso de la Vega, San Juan de la Cruz and Fray Luis de León
5. Spain's Golden Age
- a. Spain's political, military, economic and social crisis versus cultural, artistic, and literary splendor
  - b. Spain's Baroque movement. Artists and writers universal impact
  - c. Culteranism and Conceptism literary styles
  - d. Poems from Luis de Góngora and Francisco Quevedo
  - e. Excerpts of Miguel de Cervantes's *El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha*, Lope de Vega's *Peribáñez y el Comendador de Ocaña*, Pedro Calderón de la Barca's *El alcalde de Zalamea*
  - f. A selection of Diego Velázquez's paintings (including *Las Meninas*), and Francisco Zurbarán's paintings
6. Spain's 18th century struggles between tradition and modernity
- a. Political, economic, and social changes
  - b. The Illustration movement: educational, artistic, and cultural changes
  - c. Neoclassicism and beginning of Nationalism
  - d. Samples of this periods trends in a selection of Francisco de Goya's paintings
7. Spain's 19th century's political, economic, cultural, and social developments
- a. Napoleon's invasion
  - b. War of Independence
  - c. First Constitution
  - d. Continuous political and social upheaval and instability
  - e. Urban and industrial advancement
  - f. Liberalism, Positivism, and Krausism ideologies
  - g. Renaissance of regional nationalism, cultures and languages
  - h. Literary movements: Romanticism, Realism (Silver Age), and Modernism
  - i. La Generación del 98
  - j. Paintings of Francisco de Goya illustrating historical events
  - k. Excerpts of Espronceda's poetry, and Emilia Pardo Bazán novel *La tribuna*
  - l. Selection of poems by Antonio Machado
  - m. Samples of Antoni Gaudí's modernist architecture
8. Contemporary Spain from the 20th to the 21st century
- a. Sociopolitical, economic and cultural events that led to Spain's Civil War in 1936
  - b. Francisco Franco's regime
  - c. Spain's economic boom in the 1960's
  - d. 1970's transition to a Constitutional Monarchy
  - e. 1978 Constitution
  - f. Basque terrorist organization
  - g. Spain, an European Union country
  - h. Sociopolitical, economic and cultural highlights of this period as well as current challenges for the future:
    - i. Environment
    - ii. Illegal immigration
    - iii. Terrorism
    - iv. Women equality
    - v. Catalan and Basque independence movements
    - vi. Other current at the time the course is being taught
  - i. Artistic and literary highlights:
    - i. Generación de 1914
    - ii. Generación del 27

- iii. Postwar literature
- iv. 20th and 21st centuries's main literary trends and prizes
- v. Music's greats: Falla, Turina and Rodrigo
- vi. Vanguardism in Art (cubism, surrealism)
- vii. Selection of Picasso's, Miró's, Dalí's, and Gris's paintings
- viii. Overview Luis Buñuel's and Santiago Calatrava's works.

## Resources

Pereira-Muro, Carmen. *Culturas de España*. Second Edition. Stamford: Cengage Learning, 2015.

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[www.cervantesvirtual.com](http://www.cervantesvirtual.com)

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García de Cortazar, Fernando. (2010) *BREVE HISTORIA DE LA CULTURA DE ESPAÑA*, Barcelona, España: Editorial Planeta.

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(2010) *ANTOLOGÍA COMENTADA DE LA LITERATURA ESPAÑOLA*, Barcelona, España: Editorial Castalia.

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Tamame, Ramón and Rueda, Antonio. (2010) *COMPRENDER LA ECONOMIA ESPAÑOLA*, Madrid, España: Ediciones.

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González Vesga, José Manuel and García de Cortazar, Fernando. (2017) *BREVE HISTORIA DE ESPAÑA*, España: Alianza Editorial.

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