



UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Basic Grammar (3) This course is designed for college freshman, or other students with little or no university-level Spanish. It covers the basic grammatical structures of the Spanish language.

Intermediate Grammar (3) This course is aimed at students who have had 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It takes a more profound look into various areas of the Spanish language, including the subjunctive mood and aspect.

Advanced Grammar (3) This course is designed for students with 3 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It focuses on the subtleties of the Spanish language, including the aspect, the subjunctive, exceptions, regionalisms, implied/ figurative language, etc.

Introduction to Phonetics (3) This course is designed for students with 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It examines the sound system of the Spanish language and concentrates on improving pronunciation.

Spanish Phonetics and Phonology (3) This course is designed for students with 3 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It is a continued study of the sound system of the Spanish language. Emphasis will be placed on the peculiarities of Peninsular and Latin American accents, and class work will include transcriptions and intonation exercises.

Conversation and Composition I (3) This course is designed for students who have had 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. The course focuses on written and oral expression in the Spanish language through compositions, oral reports, and classroom discussions. A considerable amount of class time is dedicated to grammar, so as to facilitate the student's capacity for oral and written expression.

Conversation and Composition II (3) This course is designed for students who have had 3 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. The course focuses on written and



oral expression in the Spanish language through compositions, oral reports, and classroom discussions. Emphasis is on interactive language use, vocabulary expansion, and accuracy of expression.

Translation (3) This course serves as a guided practice of Spanish- English and English- Spanish written translation. Concentration is on precision, objectivity, and the ability to faithfully transmit the subtleties of one language into another. Newspaper and magazine articles as well as creative writings will be examined. Minor concentration will be placed upon oral translation.

Introduction to Spanish Literature (3) This course is designed for students with 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It is an introductory course which focuses on literary terms and major authors, literary tendencies and eras of Peninsular literature.

Survey of Spanish Literature II (3) This course focuses on Spanish literature from the 17th Century to the 21st Century: The Enlightenment, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism and The Generation of '98, The Generation of '27, Post-war literature, and the latest trends in today's literature. Designed for students with at least 3 semesters of university-level Spanish.

Latin American Literature (3) This course is designed for students with 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It focuses on major authors, tendencies and issues in the literature of Latin America.

Literary Madrid (3) This course seeks not only an understanding of literary texts, but also a unique comprehension of the setting of many of Spain's great literary creations. Walks through the city streets, visits to the city's principal museums, and discussions and debates in Madrid's cafés will complement hours spent in the classroom, in order to allow the student to achieve a better understanding of the city which has served as a backdrop not only for most of Spain's greatest literary masterpieces but also for their creators. Designed for graduate students; undergraduate admission by permission of the instructor.



Cervantes (3) This course is designed for students with 4 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. Students will have the opportunity to study in depth *El Quijote*, as well as Cervantes and the Spain of his time. The course will concentrate on the following areas: the life of Miguel de Cervantes, his works and his literary theory; “Las Novelas Ejemplares”; Cervantes’ theatre and poetry; the content, structure, and construction of *El Quijote*, the characters, the Spanish society of its time, and the language and style of this masterpiece. Designed for 4th year and graduate students.

Literature and Film (3) This course, designed for students with at least 4 semesters of university-level Spanish, will study the parallels between the art forms of cinema and literature, focusing on narrative and linguistic aspects, as well as the mutual influences between these two media. Themes covered will include: parallel elements of literature and cinema (language, themes, structure, etc.); writers in the media of cinema; and adaptations, references, influences, etc., between cinema and literature. Designed for 4th year and graduate students.

20th Century Spanish Poetry (3) This course covers the major Spanish poets of the 20th Century, their socio-historic contexts, and their work, beginning with Modernism and the Generation of 98, continuing through the Generation of 27, Post Civil War Poetry, and throughout the entirety of the century. Among those poets studied will be Juan Ramón Jiménez, Lorca, Alberti, Antonio Machado and Valle- Inclán. This course seeks to impart an overall idea of the themes, ideology, and styles of the Spanish poets of the last century.

Golden Age Spanish Theatre (3) One of the most significant epochs in the evolution of theatre, the Spanish Golden Age is the focus of this course. Emphasis will be on major themes, ideology, socio-historical context, and social function of Golden Age theatre. The student will examine the major authors and works of the period, including Cervantes, Lope de Vega, Tirso de Molina, and Calderón de la Barca. Students will visit the Corral de Comedias, located in the heart of the Historic Center of Alcalá, and donning the badge of the oldest functioning theatre in Europe.



Contemporary Women Writers of Spain (3) This course is an overview which focuses on the body of work produced by female authors in Contemporary Spain, particularly after the Spanish Civil War. Concentration will be on major themes, issues, and ideologies of said authors, as well as their collective place and function in Spanish society and their contributions to and effect upon Spanish literature.

Art and Museums (3) A comprehensive study of the art that can be found in the museums and art galleries of Madrid, this course includes visits to institutions such as the Museo del Prado, El Museo de Arte Reina Sofía, among others. Designed for students with 2 or more semesters of college Spanish. Class conducted in Spanish.

Contemporary Spanish Art (3) This course seeks an understanding of the artistic manifestations which characterize the Contemporary Age of Spanish history, spanning from the 19th to the 21st Centuries. The student will analyze the lives and artistic trajectories of personalities such as Goya, Sorolla, Gaudí, Picasso, Dalí, and Miró, as well as less popular topics such as the Spanish vanguard, the architectural eclecticism of Madrid, and the impact of the Spanish Civil War on artistic creation in Spain. Students will realize various visits to institutions such as el Museo del Prado, El Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, el Museo Español de Arte Abstracto de Cuenca, and la Fundación Juan March de Madrid.

Masterpieces of Spanish Art (3) The cultural richness of Spain is unquestionable. In this course, the student will embark upon a chronological examination of the principal masterpieces which together compose the creative genius of Spanish artists such as Goya, Velázquez, Picasso, and Gaudí, among others. Complementary visits to the various homes of these works allow the student to establish a direct contact with the art itself.

Museums of Madrid/ El Paseo del Arte: Prado, Thyssen, Reina Sofía (3) Few cities can boast such a rich collection of art such as the one found in the various museums located along the Paseo de Arte in Madrid. Among the cultural centers and museums of said area are the Museo del Prado, el Museo Thyssen, y el Centro de Arte



Reina Sofía, collectively housing an adequate and bountiful representation of the History of Painting from the 12th Century to the present day. Students will complement hours spent in the classroom with weekly visits to said institutions.

Spanish Civilization (3) This course, designed for students with 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish, presents a wide variety of information about Spain and its people. Topics include an introduction to the most important aspects of Spanish geography, history, politics, art history, and popular culture.

Commercial Spanish (3) This course is designed for students with 2 or more semesters of university-level Spanish. It focuses on all aspects of conducting business meetings and maintaining business/ professional relationships in the Spanish language. Emphasis is on business vocabulary as well as formal letter writing and professional protocol/ etiquette.

Spain, the US, and the EU (3) This course seeks to provide the student with a general vision of the relations between the United States and the European Union, paying special attention to Spain's role within the European Union. Economic, political, and cultural issues will be examined. Visits to political and economic institutions within the Spanish capital will complement hours spent in the classroom.

Cultural Routes in Spain (3) The aim of this course is to develop an understanding of Spain through the religious, cultural and historical routes and trails which run throughout the country. Among those to be examined are the Camino de Santiago, the Ruta de Don Quijote, and the Paseo de Arte de Madrid. The distribution of classes, and, definitively, the study of each route, trail, or site will be approached from a chronological perspective, beginning in Prehistoric Spain and continuing through the present (21st Century).

Cultural Trips & Field Experience (weekends only) This course seeks an understanding of the history, culture(s), monuments, and peoples of Spain by way of establishing a direct contact with said entities. This class differs from traditional course



structure, as it is held on weekends and involves extensive travel throughout the Peninsula. The course will include the previous study of the given destination, followed by direct contact with said site, and lastly close analysis of experiences gained. Trips are of distinct durations and destinations, and include Barcelona, Santiago de Compostela, Extremadura, Burgos- La Rioja, Madrid, El Escorial, Sigüenza, and Segovia. Minimum 20 students required.

Music and Folklore of Spain (3) This class introduces students to one of the great musical, oral, and social expressions of Andalusian culture. Throughout the course, the musical, ritualistic, socio-linguistic, and anthropological dimensions of Spanish music and folklore will be explored. The instructor of this class holds a PhD in Anthropology and is also an award-winning flamenco guitarist. For students with 4 or more semesters of college Spanish.

World Heritage in Spain (3) The World Heritage Center, part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), declared the Historic Center of Alcalá de Henares a World Heritage Site in 1998. Each year, UNESCO recognizes various cities and towns across the world, honouring these for their respective cultural, historical, and artistic worth, and granting said sites the corresponding recognition and protection. In this area, Spain is a very fortunate country, being one of the world's leading nations in terms of sites, cities, towns, and monuments enjoying this honour. The aim of this course is to gain a close knowledge of these places, including their virtues, problems, and challenges. In addition to visiting various localities which wear the badge of World Heritage Site, students will tour the institutions linked to the conservation and diffusion of World Heritage, such as the Instituto de Patrimonio Histórico Español.

Geography (3) Spain offers a variety of landscapes and geographic conditions which define and condition her diverse and multiple personalities. This course seeks not only the acquisition of a close knowledge of the physical geography present in the Iberian Peninsula, but also the human and economic geographies that reflect the Spanish reality as a whole. In addition to hours spent in the classroom, course work will include



different projects in the field, in direct contact with data which will allow the student to develop an understanding of aspects such as demography, migratory movements in Spain, and existing relationships among the different economic, meteorological, topographical, and social conditions present.

History and Relations between Spain and Latin America (3) In this course the student will approach the concept of the relationship between Spain and Latin America from historic, economic, and cultural perspectives. This course will include an academic journey beginning in the America of the Conquistadores, moving on to the America of the Virreyes, and finally ending its trajectory in the America of the Liberators. We will analyze the consequences of the progressive decadence of the Spanish Empire and its repercussions in Iberoamerica. The second part of the course will analyze the current relationships maintained among Spain and various countries of Latin America as well as Spain- Latin America relations in general, involving a close study of the new socioeconomic landscape of the great economic blocks. Indispensable will be a trip to the Archivo General de Indias in Sevilla, as well as a visit to the Oficina de Cooperación Iberoamericana.

Spain in Images: Photograph, Film, TV, Documentaries (3) The recent commemoration of 50 years of Televisión Española (TVE) and the availability of a rich collection of historical material of audiovisual nature has left us evidence of the evolution of Spain in the past 50 years. Spain, from 1956- 2006, has been the object of much attention and scrutiny, and it is the study of this Spain that we seek to bring to the classroom. This course will allow the student a close understanding of the Spanish reality by way of a close study of audiovisual images (films, documentaries, TV series, publicity, etc.). Complementary visits to the Filmoteca Nacional and the Archivo General de la Administración Civil del Estado form part of the course curriculum.

The Spanish Civil War (3) The Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) was one of the historical events of the 20th Century which most moved the Western world, and has been widely considered a prelude to World War II. This course consists of an in-depth investigation of texts, audiovisual material, and artistic manifestations related to the



Spanish Civil War. Visits to the Archivo de Guerra Civil in Salamanca, the Movimiento Obrero in Alcalá, as well as related sites such as the Valle de los Caídos, the Museo del Ejército, or las ruinas de Belchite will complement hours spent in the classroom.

Institutional Spain (3) This course is designed for those students wishing to specialize in the areas of Law, Economics, or International Relations (among others). Alcalá's close proximity to Madrid allows students of this course to realize a first-hand, up-close examination of the major financial, artistic, and academic institutions of the Spanish capital, such as the Congreso de los Diputados, Patrimonio Nacional, Bolsa de Comercio, and the Real Academia de la Lengua. Class is held outside of the traditional classroom setting in order to allow the student direct contact (meetings, tours, etc.) with said institutions.

Spanish Gastronomy (3) Spain's reputation with respect to her national gastronomy is on par with that of Italy, China, Mexico, France, and India, and the art of Spanish gastronomy is one involving strong cultural and regional influences and traditions. A close taste of Spanish cuisine, then, involves not only the palate but also an understanding of the history and the people who create it. This course involves both theoretical and practical aspects, as the student will learn to craft some of the most renowned Spanish dishes such as paella and gazpacho while he/ she analyzes the traditions and culinary customs of one of the world's great food cultures.