



POL 315E: Spain Facing the 21st Century: Politics, History, and Society

Course aims and description:

This course will explore the path followed by Spain from the starting point of the Franco's regime until the present, with an especial focus on the period started in Spain in 1975: the rise of its constitutional framework. We will study some of the most relevant events that took place in the last three decades of Spanish history, connecting them with Spain's current social, political and cultural context. This course will put a lot of emphasis on the final paper and its investigation, which will be prepared and presented throughout the term. Students will choose a topic of their interest and discuss it with the professor and the class - they will be required to develop research and original thinking, and to engage in analytical, empirical and theoretical work.

The course/seminar will be organized along four activities:

a) **Supporting readings** for every theme treated in the seminar: this will include sections of the compulsory text book, recommended academic articles and books, and newspaper articles that connect the theme with the current situation.

b) **Short weekly analysis** (written and oral) of one newspaper article related to the class theme.

Students are welcome to use this weekly exercises to develop their main research theme.

c) **An original study** conducted by the students participating in the seminar, leading to the writing of a research paper. The selection of the research topic and the specific research questions will be agreed with the instructor and discussed in class.

d) A series of **short presentations** by the instructor around certain themes, which will include both research methods and theories, and issues related to Spanish culture and politics.

Topics of the research paper will be selected within the first two weeks of the seminar. A specific research question will have to be agreed in class within the following 3 weeks. Presentations will begin the second half of the semester. Students should engage in their research early on, and make their own presentations relatively brief (20min + 20min) to allow discussion. A short bibliography to be distributed among the other students will be agreed with the instructor before the presentation. Each presentation will be divided in two weekly sessions: in the first session, students will provide the overall context of the investigation (i.e. Spain and the environment) and in the second address the specific research questions (i.e. What are the main factors that explain the success or failure of water management in different Spanish regions?).

Enrolment is limited to API students.

Course Requirements

a) **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes. If there is justifiable reason for

missing a class, this information must be provided to the teacher.

b) Timely Arrival: Students should plan to arrive to class on time.

c) Readings: Students are expected to complete all required readings before coming to class.

d) Academic Honesty: Students are expected to act in accordance with the University's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Grading

Research Paper 50%

Active Participation 20%

Final Exam 10%

Midterm Exam 10%

News Essays 10%

The Midterm / Final Exams will be taken in class, and basically evaluate the assimilation of the information on the required text book in a series of short questions. The **Research Paper** should be based on library research and proper documentation. The paper will be evaluated in relation to the originality of the thinking, the relevance of the research question for the selected topic, and the analytical capacity demonstrated in the paper. Length is flexible. It will be due by the end of the semester. The **news essays** will be evaluated weekly, with oral and written feedback.

Course Outline:

Week 1- Franco's dictatorship, Overview of the Spanish Civil War; Characteristics of Franco's authoritarianism; Catholicism in Spain and the religious cleavage.

Week 2- The historical roots of the cultural diversity in Spain The origins of linguistic and cultural diversity; The Basque nationalism; The Catalan nationalism.

Week 3 - The transition to democracy. Social and political map of the Spanish transition; Actors of the transition; The symbolic basis of the Spanish consensus; The drafting of the 1978 Spanish constitution; The 23-F 1981 coup d'état

Week 4- The constitutional framework. El Estado de las Autonomías; The monarchy; Parliamentary governance.

Week 5- Multi-level governance and globalization in Spain. Globalization, global governance and the state. The birth of a European political union.

Suggested research topics (only indicative)

a. Gender and Age in the Spanish Society. Feminism and violence against women in Spain. Young people in the Spanish society. Towards the end of patriarchy?

b. Terrorist violence in Spain: ETA, GRAPO, Terra Lliure, Al Qaeda.

c. Politics and mass-media in Spain: Public and private media, Felipe Gonzalez' leadership and Scandal Politics. Television's ownership concentration.

d. Social movements in Spain. The Spanish anarchist tradition, trade unions and general strikes, the environmental movement, the anti-globalization movement and the case of Iraq

war in 2003.

e. Immigration in Spain. Contemporary migratory flows. Spain: from transit country to residence country. Towards a more multicultural society?

f. Spanish information society: old and new media. User produced content and the rise of the creative audience. The digital divide in Spain. Peer-to-peer file sharing and intellectual property law.

g. Political elites and political parties in Spain. José Maria Aznar's leadership throughout 2 elections. Zapatero's leadership throughout two elections. Rajoy and the challenges ahead.

h. Spain and the European Union. Historical overview and current cultural, political and economic crisis. The future of the Euro.

i. Spain and the economy. The economic structure of Spain. The job market and growth: unemployment.

j. Spain and the environment. The multi-layered management of the environmental issues in Spain.

Required Text

Gunther, R. y Montero, J.R: *The Politics of Spain*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (2009)

Supporting readings for the themes presented in the first part of the semester

Week 1- Franco's dictatorship

Balfour, S and P. Preston: *Spain and the Great Powers in the Twentieth Century*. Routledge. New York, 1999.

Brenan, G: *The Spanish Labyrinth*. Cambridge, 1936.

Preston, P: *Franco*. Harper Collins. London, 1993.

Thomas, Hugh: *The Spanish Civil War*. London: Penguin 2003.

Week 2- The historical roots of the cultural diversity in Spain

Carr, R: *Spain: A History*. Oxford U. Press. Oxford, 2000.

Carr, R: *Spain: 1808-1975*. Oxford, 1982.

Colomer, JM: *Grandes imperios, pequeñas naciones*. Anagrama, Barcelona 2006.

Graham, H: *Spanish Cultural Studies: An Introduction—the Struggle for Modernity*. Oxford U. Press. Oxford, 1995.

Solé Tura, J: *Nacionalidades y nacionalismos en España: Autonomías, federalismo, autodeterminación*. Alianza Editorial. Madrid, 1985.

Week 3 - The transition to democracy

Arango, R: *Spain: Democracy Regained*, 2nd ed., Boulder: Westview Press, 1995.

Carr, R and JP Fusi: *Spain: Dictatorship to Democracy*. Allen and Unwin. London, 1981.

Cotarelo, R (ed.): *Transición política y consolidación de la España democrática*. Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas. Madrid, 1992.

Edles, Laura D.: *Symbol and ritual in the new Spain. The transition to democracy after Franco*. Cambridge U. Press. Cambridge, 1998.

Gunther, R et al: *Spain after Franco: The Making of a Competitive Party System*. California U. Press. Berkeley, 1986.

Linz, JJ and A. Stephan, *Problems of Democratic Transitions: Southern Europe, South America and Post-Communist Europe*. Johns Hopkins U. Press. Baltimore, 1996.

McDonough, P (ed), *The Cultural Dynamics of Democratization in Spain*, Cornell U. Press. Ithaca, 1998.

O'Donnell, G et al. (eds): *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule : Southern Europe*. The Johns Hopkins University Press. Baltimore, 1986.

Perez-Diaz, V: *The Return of Civil Society: The Emergence of Democratic Spain*, Harvard U. Press. Cambridge, 1993.

Preston, P: *Triumph of Democracy in Spain*. Routledge. London, 1986.

Tezanos et al. (eds): *La transición política española*. Madrid, Sistema 1993.

Week 4- The constitutional framework.

Alcalrara et al. (eds): *Política y Gobierno en España*. Tirant lo blanch. Valencia, 1997.

Encarnación, O.G.: *Spanish Politics*. Polity Press. Cambridge, 2008.

Magone, J.: *Contemporary Spanish politics*. Routledge. London, 2009.

Romero Salvado, FJ: *Twentieth Century Spain: Politics and Society in Spain 1898-1998*. Macmillan. London, 1999.

Week 5- Multi-level governance and globalization in Spain

Castells, Manuel. *The Rise of the Network Society*. Oxford U. Press. Oxford, 2001.

Gunther, R et al: *Democracy in Modern Spain*. Yale U. Press. New Haven, 2004

Gunther, R: *Politics, Society, and Democracy: The Case of Spain*. Westview Press. Boulder, 1993.

Heywood, P: *Politics and Polity in Democracy Spain: No Longer Different?*. Frank Cass. New York, 1999.

Held, David. et al: *Global Transformations*. Polity Press. Cambridge, 1999

Omar, E.: *Spanish Politics*. Oxford, 1982.

Townson, N. (ed.) *Es España diferente? Una Mirada Comparativa*. Taurus: Madrid 2010

Readings and material to develop the research topics

Bollarin, I (dir.): *Te doy mis ojos*. 2003. (película)

Castells, M.: *Communication Power*. Oxford U. Press. Oxford 2009.

Cruz, J y Zecchi, B: *La mujer en la España actual, ¿evolución o involución?* Icaria. Barcelona, 2004.

Hanley, D and J. Loughlin, eds: *Spanish Political Parties*. U. Wales Press, 2006.

Jiménez Sanchez, M: *El impacto político de los movimientos sociales: un estudio de la protesta ambiental en España*. Siglo XXI. Madrid, 2005

Kamen, Henry: *Spain. A Society of Conflict (3rd ed.)* London and New York: Pearson Longman 2005.

Reig, R: *Medios de comunicación y poder en España : prensa, radio, televisión y mundo editorial*. Paidós, Barcelona, 1998

Souviron Morenilla, JM: *El proceso de liberalización y la nueva regulación de las telecomunicaciones*. Comares. Granada, 1999

Zapata Barrero, R: *Discursos sobre la inmigración en España: los medios de comunicación, los parlamentos y las administraciones*. Cidob. Barcelona, 2007

Some Relevant Links and Research Institutions on Spanish Politics

Real Instituto Elcano: <http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org>

(You can also sign up for their bulletins and newsletters produced in Spanish and English.)

Spanish Constitution: <http://narros.congreso.es/constitucion/index.htm>

Foreign Affairs Journal: www.foreignaffairs.org

United Nations: www.un.org

The Brookings Institute: www.brookings.edu

European Political Science resources: www.psr.keele.ac.uk/psr.htm

European Foreign Policy Unit at LSE: www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/intrel/EFPUworkingpaperseries.html

Spanish Safe Democracy Foundation: <http://spanish.safe-democracy.org>

Centro Investigaciones Sociológicas <http://www.cis.es>

Instituto Nacional de Estadística <http://www.ine.es>

Centro Reina Sofía Estudio de Violencia <http://www.gva.es/violencia>

Encuesta de Población Activa <http://www.ine.es>

Anuario Social de La Caixa <http://www.anuariosoc.lacaixa>.

comunicacions.com

Institutions

Constitution <http://www.constitucion.es>

Royal House <http://www.casareal.es>

Congress of Deputies <http://www.congreso.es>

Senate (links to regional parliaments) <http://www.senado.es>

Government (links to regional governments) <http://www.la-moncloa.es>

Political parties

PSOE <http://www.psoe.es>

PP <http://www.pp.es>

IU <http://www.izquierda-unida.es>

CiU <http://www.convergencia.org>

ERC <http://www.esquerra.org>

PNV <http://www.eaj-pnv.com>

EA <http://www.euskoalkartasuna.org>

CC <http://www.coalicióncanaria.org>

ChA <http://www.chunta.com>

BNG <http://www.bng-galiza.org>

Media

El País <http://www.elpais.es>

El Mundo <http://www.elmundo.es>

Televisión Española <http://www.rtve.es>

Cadena Ser <http://www.cadenaser.es>

La Vanguardia, <http://www.lavanguardia.es/>

ABC, <http://www.abc.es/>

Cultural resources

Ministerio de Cultura <http://www.mcu.es>

Museo de El Prado <http://museoprado.mcu.es/home.html>

Instituto Cervantes <http://www.cervantes.es>

National Library <http://www.bne.es>

Museo Reina Sofía <http://museoreinasofia.mcu.es>