SPANISH ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Total length of the module: 45 hours  
Length of each session: 1.5 h  
Number of sessions: 30

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course gives an overall view of the art history of Spain from prehistoric times to the present, dealing in more detail with the Baroque period, Modernism and 20th century art. There will be regular visits to museums in order to keep the course as close to real artistic practice as possible. However, this course also has a special focus on the theory aspects of Art History, which we will develop throughout the in-class sessions. Attendance to class and oral participation is very important, and all students are expected to contribute to the class development with their questions and commentaries, and preparing beforehand reading assignments and visits to exhibitions. These tasks will be discussed in class.

REQUIREMENTS

- Fluent in English
- Interest in Art & Architecture

CONTENTS

- Pre-roman Art in the Iberian Peninsula. Cave Painting. Iberian Art
- The Greek presence in the Iberian Peninsula
- Hispanic Roman Art
- Islamic Art: from the Caliphate of Córdoba to the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada
- Visigoth Art- Pre-Romanesque Art
- Romanesque Art. Social context; Architecture
- Gothic Art. Social context; Painting, Sculpture and Architecture
- The Renaissance. Social Context; Painting, Sculpture & Architecture; Plateresco
- Mannerism: El Greco. The transition to the Baroque period.
- The Baroque period: the art of Counter-Reformation. Social context; Architecture
- Baroque painting (I): The Valencia school; The Seville school; The Madrid school
- Baroque painting (II): Diego Velázquez
- Rococo and the 18th century: Francisco de Goya
- Modernism and Antoni Gaudi
- 20th century sculpture and painting: **Pablo Ruiz Picasso, Salvador Dalí and Joan Miró**
- Spanish Contemporary Visual Arts

**GRADING**

**Mid-term exam (20%):**
A mid-term exam will consist of the information that has been explored to date. The exam will mainly consist of multiple choice questions as well as questions related to visual identifications of art styles and periods.

**Papers (25%):**
Research tasks: There are 2 compulsory research papers related to visits to Museums.

1. Our first guided visit is to the MNAC - Museu Nacional d’Art de Catalunya. Students will be given a task that is to be developed during the visit. (min. extension 2pgs - max. extension 3pgs).

2. For the individual visit to a museum, students are expected to visit the MODERN ART COLLECTION of the MNAC on their own, select one of the artworks that interest them, and analyse it following the "Analysis of Artwork" task sheet that will be given to them in class. (min. extension 2pgs - max. extension 3pgs).

**Class participation and in-class Presentation (25%):**
Research tasks: There are 2 compulsory research tasks as well as a reading task in this course that also involve in-class or on tour presentations

1. Students are to conduct relevant research on Gothic Barcelona and hand in a short paper with the results of their study following the directives given on the "Analysis of Artwork" task sheet that will be presented to students in class. (min. extension 1pg - max. extension 3pgs). Students will present their topic before the class during a tour around Gothic Barcelona. This task can be done in groups of 2-3 students.

2. Students are to conduct relevant research on Modernism in Barcelona and hand in a short paper with the results of their study following the directives given on the "Analysis of Artwork" task sheet that will be presented in class (min. extension 1pg - max. extension 3pgs). Students will give a presentation of their topic in class. This task can be done in groups of 2-3 students.

**Reading task:** There are 5 compulsory readings during the course. The class will be divided into groups. Each group will be assigned one of the 5 texts to summarise and present on in class. Students are encouraged to add extra information about the subject dealt with in the text and to use images during the presentation.
Final Exam/Paper (30%):
A research paper is due in on the last day of the course. Students will be able to choose among a range of topics related to the material explored throughout the course. Students will have a month to write the paper. (min extension 10 pgs - max. extension 14 pgs; excluding support images, index, bibliography, etc.).

BIBLIOGRAPHY


RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR THE COURSE:

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY IN ENGLISH:
AMELL, Samuel (Ed.) Literature, the arts, and democracy: Spain in the Eighties; Rutherford: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1990.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY IN SPANISH AND CATALAN

GENERAL ART COLLECTIONS
HISTORIA DEL ARTE HISPÁNICO. Varios volúmenes. Editorial Alhambra.