

Culture and Civilization of Spain

SPAN 3320 – CRN 33904

A survey of the country and its peoples, emphasizing historical, geographic, political, social, and artistic elements.

Class location and time

Week 1

Classroom Building C204

9:20-11:30

Weeks 2 to 4

TSE at A Coruña, Spain

10:00-12:00

Instructor

Raquel González de Anda

raquelg@utep.edu

Office hours: After class or by appointment

Office: Graham Hall 300

Course description

This course is a survey that includes the study of the ethnic cohesion of Spain, its political and social history. The course will cover a global view of Spain's geography, history and culture from prehistoric time to the present day. We will examine the different cultures within Spain: Castilian, Catalan, Basque and Galician; focusing mainly on language, nationality, and political implications. We will study relevant historical, artistic and cultural events, as well as the people who were part of such events. We will study in detail a historical event of great significance, Spain's Civil War of 1936. We will also analyze the Franco's dictatorship, the transition period and the resulting democracy.

Course objectives

- Familiarize students with Spain's historical and social context.
- Familiarize students with different aspects of Spain's languages, culture, art and literature.
- Bring awareness of the cultural diversity of the world to better understand the global dynamics and their importance in the formation of national identities.
- At the end of the course, students should demonstrate an understanding of important historical and social events and their effect on modern Spanish society.

Readings

No textbook is required for this course. Readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Technology tools required

Course content will be delivered in person in Classroom Building C204 M-R from June 10 to June 13, and from June 17 to July 4 at True Spanish Experience.

Students should have a working UTEP email and access to Blackboard. Students should contact the UTEP helpdesk for technical difficulties helpdesk@utep.edu ph. 915 747 HELP.

Blackboard

Let your instructor know if you cannot access the Bb shell

If you have technical difficulties contact the Bb helpdesk, they are available 24-7.

Course evaluation

Participation/attendance	10%
Discussion boards	20%
Weekly presentations	60% (15% each)
Final – Portfolio	10%

Grading scale

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69

F 0-59

Class Participation/attendance 10%

Students are expected to complete class activities and to ask questions or make comments. Presence in class is the minimum expected, but that alone does not constitute active participation. If you have questions, or even if you're just curious about something related to what we're working on, please ask. Your questions and observations help us all to learn and make the class more interesting for everybody. Your participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also to create a community of learners.

Attendance will be taken and recorded on Blackboard at the beginning of class.

Attendance policy

- Two class absences (excused and/or unexcused) are allowed without penalty
 - Students will lose 3/100 points from their final grade for every absence after the second
- Two extra-curricular activities absences (excused and/or unexcused) are allowed without penalty
 - Students will lose 3/100 points from their final grade for every absence after the second

- At the professor's discretion, when a student has missed more than 3 classes, they may be dropped from the course with a W before the drop date or with a W or F after that date. For details, refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.
- Please, arrive on time, and please do not leave early; either is very disruptive to both the students and the professor. A late arrival, and an early departure will be counted as half an absence.
- While abroad (June 15 – July 5) students are required to be available on the WhatsApp group chat. Students are responsible for charging their phones and answering messages as needed. At the professor's discretion, if a student fails to communicate with the instructor, they may be dropped from the course.

Discussion boards (20%)

Students are required to participate on discussion boards. Discussion boards will be assigned daily on Blackboard. The word count for new threads is 150, and for comments it is 50, unless instructed differently.

- There are no right or wrong answers on discussion boards. Use formal language and be respectful to your classmates.
- For every DB, students will have to create an original thread, and comment on at least two of your classmates entries.
- Original threads are due the day the DB is assigned. Comments are due by the end of each week.

Weekly presentations (15% each)

The last day of every week (June 13, June 21, June 28, July 4) students will work in pairs or groups of three to give a short presentation on a topic assigned early in the week. Each group will be responsible for submitting an infographic with each of their presentation. Students will present their work the last day of every week. Each presentation should be accompanied by an Infographic that will be part of the student's portfolio.

Portfolio (10%)

Students will put together some of the material they submitted on the DBs and all their presentations and build a portfolio. The portfolio should be designed as a presentation that someone wishing to visit Spain could benefit from. Specific guidelines will be provided on Blackboard.

Course AI policy:

The use of generative AI tools such as Chat GPT is permitted in this course for the following activities, **which must be noted or cited**:

- Researching information for presentations and Discussion Boards

However, **you may not use AI tools to complete** the following activities:

- Original thread and comments on discussion boards
- Infographics

- Material for presentations if not cited

Students must cite any borrowed content sources to comply with all applicable citation guidelines, copyright law, and avoid plagiarism. Instances that violate these guidelines will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to a plagiarism detecting software.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on reports or papers. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as one's own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act.

Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts.

Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

Accommodations Policy:

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support

Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Tentative course schedule:

Week 1 – Spain: general information

Discussion Board

Monday – What I know about Spain

Tuesday – Here vs. There

Wednesday – Picture day! (El Paso)

Presentation:

Autonomous communities of Spain

Week 2 – Languages of Spain

Discussion Board

Monday – Picture day! (Your trip)

Tuesday – Bilingualism in Spain

Wednesday – Linguistic justice

Thursday – Linguistic landscape of Spain

Presentation:

Explore a Spanish language

Week 3 –History of Spain

Discussion Board

Tuesday – Picture day! (Spain)

Wednesday – Imperial Spain

Thursday – Civil War

Presentation:

Historical Event

Week 4 – Spanish culture, art, literature

Discussion Board

Monday – An artist from the past

Tuesday – An artist from the present

Wednesday – Picture day! (Spain)

Presentation:
Spanish traditions

IMPORTANT DATES:

Course drop deadline – July 1st

Last day to submit portfolio – July 8

IMPORTANT NOTE: The syllabus provides a general plan for the course; modifications are often necessary and may be implemented as a result of students' needs, course development, and classroom life in general.