UPF / Hispanic Studies Program
Barcelona: The City and its History

Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Summer 2009
Office Hours: By appointment.
Instructor: Dr. Stephen Jacobson. Office Number: 20. 263. E-mail: stephen.jacobson@upf.edu

[Please Note: Students with disabilities that require special arrangements should see the instructor as soon as possible so that they can be accommodated.]

Description

Once labeled by Newsweek magazine as the “coolest city in Europe,” Barcelona enjoys the reputation of a cosmopolitan city with a great international projection. Like all places, however, it is not without its complexities and contradictions. Behind a glossy and tourist-friendly façade, the city has a complex history. This course introduces the student to the city of Barcelona by studying its past and analyzing its present. We will review the most important moments in the history of Barcelona through its urban and architectural landscape. We will also discuss issues relevant to people living within the city of Barcelona today.

Methodology

The course will consist of a mixture of lectures, discussions, and field trips. Students are encouraged to visit places discussed in class and museums in their free time.

Absence Policy

The UPF does not distinguished between an “excused” and “unexcused” absence. The absence policy is the following:

4 absences: Student loses one point out of ten.
5 absences: Student loses two points out of ten.
6 absences or more: Student receives an “Incomplete” for the course.

Method of Evaluation

- Midterm Exam (40%)
- Class Participation (20%);
- Final Exam (40%)
Required Readings

All required readings will be contained in a dossier available at the study-abroad office.

Optional Paper

Students will have the option to write a paper between five and ten pages and receive a maximum of an additional two points. Only those students who pass the midterm and the final will be eligible to receive the additional points of extra credit. Plagiarism will result in a mark of 0 for the class.

A paper should be about one of the following novels, all of which are available on amazon.co.uk. Guidelines for the paper will be posted on Moodle.

Idelfonso Falcones, *Cathedral by the Sea* (Dutton: 2008). Available at FNAC, El Corte Inglés, and other bookstores.
Juan Marsé, *Shanghai Nights* (Vintage, 2007), 208 pp. UPF call number: “en pròces”
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Themes to be Covered

1. Geography and Demography
2. The Barcelona Model
3. Francoism and Transition to Democracy
4. Who are the Catalans? The Origins of Catalonia
5. The Middle Ages
6. Integration into Spain
7. Barcelona under the Bourbons: Repression and Regeneration
8. The Modern City
9. The Cosmopolitan City
10. The Revolutionary City
Additional Bibliography


Busquets, Joan. Barcelona: The Urban Evolution of a Compact City (Rovereto: Nicolodi, 2005)


Herzog, Lawrence A. “‘City of Architects’: Public Spans and the Resurgence of Barcelona,” in *Culture, Public Space, and City Building in a Global Era*, pp. 4-14. Austin: University of Texas Press.,


