Course title: Anglo-American Travellers in Spain

Language of instruction: English

Professor: Pere Gifra

Professor’s contact and office hours: Room 20.2E64 (Fridays from 11:00 to 12:00 or by appointment)

Course Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credit: 3 US credits - 5 ECTS credits

Course Prerequisites: None

Language Requirements: None

Course focus and approach: This is a literature course that provides a chronological survey of anglophone travel writing on Spain with an additional emphasis on the context in which it was produced. The approach used in class will be that of literary and travel studies.

Course Description: This course provides a survey of the representation of Spain in Anglo-American letters throughout the 19th. and 20th. centuries. Students will analyze major writings by such authors as Washington Irving, Henry W. Longfellow, Ernest Hemingway, George Orwell, Evelyn Waugh, and Gerald Brenan (alongside other texts by lesser known authors) in order to discuss the most prevalent commonplaces on Spain present in the fiction and the travel writings from this period. The course will examine the role that these texts have played in disseminating a realistic or slanted view of things Spanish, and more specifically it will analyze why this view has had such a lasting influence and often appears closely connected to certain settings and historical events. In another strand, students will also gain some knowledge of the concepts required to analyze the main rhetorical conventions present in travel narratives.
Learning Objectives: At the end of this course the students will have identified, on the one hand, the main stages in the development of British and American travel writing on Spain, and will be familiarized, on the other hand, with the analysis of literary texts from a variety of critical perspectives. Moreover, they will have received basic cultural information about the historical times and characters mentioned in these travel texts, which will enable them to better understand the social and cultural context of the country where they have spent their study abroad period.

Course Workload: Apart from several short texts from a course-pack, the students will have to read five travel narratives. Four of these titles are mandatory for everyone and appear listed below; the fifth text, also mandatory, will be provided as a pdf document and will be assigned by the professor from a list that will be used for the preparation of the group project.

The students will be asked to prepare the assigned texts prior to each class, and occasionally the instructor may supplement the readings with critical articles to be discussed in class. During the course the students will have to prepare a group project on a travel book, which will include an individual commentary on a selected excerpt from that book. They will also have to take a midterm and a final exam.

Teaching methodology: The course will be taught in English and will combine introductory lectures, class discussions, and film screenings. The reading assignments will all be in English and the films in Spanish (with English subtitles).

Assessment criteria:
The final grade will take into account:
Midterm exam: 25%
Final exam: 40%
Class participation: 15%
Term paper and group project: 20%

Absence Policy

After the add/drop, all registrations are considered final and HESP Absence Policy begins to apply. For the academic year 2013-2014, such policy is as follows:

Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student’s final grade as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Penalization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to two (2) absences</td>
<td>No penalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) absences</td>
<td>1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four (4) absences</td>
<td>2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five (5) absences or more</td>
<td>The student receives an INCOMPLETE (”NO PRESENTAT”) for the course</td>
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The PEHE/HESP attendance policy does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences.

Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director of the HESP.

Classroom Norms:
- No food or drink is permitted in class
- Students will have a ten-minute break after one one-hour session
Weekly Schedule  (Last revision: June 2013)

Unit 1: Openings: Spain in the Travel Writings of the Enlightenment.
Unit 2: A Place in the South: the Rise of Romantic Spain.
Unit 3: Granada and Orientalism: Washington Irving.
Unit 4: Neglected Voices: Women Travel Writers in Spain.
Unit 5: Into the Twentieth Century: Hemingway and Waugh.
Unit 6: The Spanish Civil War: George Orwell.
Unit 7: Nostalgia and the Advent of Tourism: Gerald Brenan.
Unit 8: The “New” Spain: Stale versus Contemporary Views.

WEEK 1
• Session 1 (September 25): Introduction to the course. What is travel literature? Elton Glaser, “Hydra and Hybrid” (handout)

WEEK 2
• Session 2 (September 30): Defining travel writing. Michel Butor, “Travel/Writing” (coursepack)
• Session 3 (October 2): The early travelers. Spain and the travelers of the Enlightenment.

WEEK 3
• Session 4 (October 7): Romantic Spain. Washington Irving, Tales of the Alhambra (up to “Legend Arabian Astrologer”)
• Session 5 (October 9): Washington Irving, Tales of the Alhambra (remaining chapters)

WEEK 4
• Session 6 (October 14): Irving’s contemporaries. Alexander Slidell Mackenzie (coursepack); Henry W. Longfellow (handout)
• Session 7 (October 16): Irving’s contemporaries. John Milton Mackie and William Cullen Bryant (coursepack)
WEEK 5
- Session 8 (October 21): Women Travel writers in Spain (coursepack)
- Session 9 (October 23): Mid-term Exam

WEEK 6
- Session 10 (October 28): Into the Twentieth Century. Hemingway’s *The Sun Also Rises* (first half of this novel)
- Session 11 (October 30): Into the Twentieth Century. Hemingway’s *The Sun Also Rises* (second half of this novel)

WEEK 7
- Session 12 (November 4): Film screening. “The Sun Also Rises”
- Session 13 (November 6): The Spanish Civil War. Orwell’s *Homage to Catalonia*

WEEK 8
- Session 14 (November 11): The Spanish Civil War. Orwell’s *Homage to Catalonia* (conclude discussion)
- Session 15 (November 13): Film Screening. “Land and Freedom”

WEEK 9
- Session 16 (November 18): Nostalgia and the Advent of Tourism. Gerald Brenan’s *South from Granada*.
- Session 17 (November 20): Nostalgia and the Advent of Tourism. Gerald Brenan’s *South from Granada*.

WEEK 10
- Session 18 (November 25): Film Screening. “Al Sur de Granada” (subtitled)
- Session 19 (November 27): The changing shape of the travel book on Spain (exhibition)

WEEK 11
Hispanic and European Studies Program

- Session 20 (December 2): Presentation of projects
- Session 21 (December 4): Presentation of projects

WEEK 12
- Session 22 (December 9): Final exam

**Required readings:**

Students will have to buy a modern edition (the date given is the year of publication) of the following books either at the university bookstore or elsewhere.

HEMINGWAY, Ernest. *The Sun Also Rises* (1926)
ORWELL; George. *Homage to Catalonia* (1938)
BRENAN, Gerald. *South from Granada* (1957)

Coursepack prepared by professor Gifra

**Recommended bibliography:**


RUIZ MAS, José. 2003. Libros de viajes en lengua inglesa por la España del siglo XX. Jaen: UNED.