

Spain & Catalonia through Cinema

UGRA_009261

Departments	Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	2
Teacher responsible	Fernández de Castro Krings Alejandro - alex.fernandezdecastro@esade.edu

Course Goals To acquire a deeper understanding of Politics and Society in recent Spanish history through some of the best Spanish movies produced in 20th and 21st Century.

Previous knowledge No previous knowledge about Spanish Cinema is necessary to take this course.

Prerequisites No previous knowledge or research about Spanish Cinema is necessary to take this course.

Description

Course contribution to program To acquire a deeper understanding of Politics and Society in recent Spanish history through some of the best Spanish movies produced in 20th and 21st Century.

Short description 15 hour long course (6 sessions, 2,5 hours each), taught in English. A full movie will be watched entirely in almost every class. Students will take to mini-tests to prove they remember main facts about each movie/film director. They will also make group presentations about Spanish movie not watched in class.

Bibliography

- Rob Stone, "Spanish Cinema", Pearson, 2001 (Book)
- Barry Jordan and Rikki Morgan, "Contemporary Spanish Cinema", University of Manchester Press, 1998 (Book)
- Frederic Strauss, "Almodovar on Almodovar", Faber & Faber, 2006 (Book)
- Luís Buñuel, "My Last Sigh: The Autobiography of Luís Buñuel", Random House, 2013 (Book)
- Virginia Higginbotham, "Spanish Film Under Franco", University of Texas Press, 1987 (Book)

Activities

In-class discussions and debates
Impromptu debates and discussions will be carried during class. Student participation is highly encouraged.

Analytical exercises
Students will contribute opinions and analysis to forums of discussion posted on moodle (each for each movie included on the syllabus)

Written and/or oral exams

At the end of the intensive course, students will take one 15 minute long mini-test about the movies watched in class.

Readings

Before each movie is watched, the professor will provide a brief introduction to the movie, key biographical facts about the Director, etc. Exceptionally, longer lectures will be carried by the professor (Spanish Movies before and during Franco's years)

Presentations

Each student will contribute to a 15 minute-long oral group presentation about a Spanish movie not included in the syllabus

Essays

Students will have to write one single final essay: 4 pages long at least, double spaced, with two sections: a) main take-aways from the course and b) a very personal analysis of any Spanish movie.

Content

#	Topic
1	"La Lengua de las Mariposas" by José Luís Cuerda: Spain on the brink of the 1936-1939 Civil War
2	"Volver" by Pedro Almodóvar: Spain after Franco's Dictatorship. Values, attitudes and customs in Modern Spain.
3	"Mar Adentro", by Alejandro Amenábar. Assisted Suicide in Spain.
4	"Vick, Cristina, Barcelona" by Woody Allen: Barcelona through the eyes of a foreign film-maker + Cinema and Morals
5	"Los Olvidados" by Luís Buñuel: less compliant film directors during Francisco Franco's dictatorship (1936-1939)
6	"Cebra", a short film directed by Félix Fernández de Castro and written by Alex Fernández de Castro. Students will learn how a script is written, and how it becomes a film.

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Written and/or oral exams	Final mini-test	Ordinary round	40.00%
Participation in program activities	Student participation: Contribution to forums, attendance, group presentation	Ordinary round	30.00%
Final individual project	All students must write one final essay. As a retake, writing a second final essay will be required will	Ordinary round	30.00%
Final individual project		Retake	100.00%

PROGRAMS

BBA20-Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Undergraduates: Business)
BBA20 Year 1 (Optative)

BBA23-Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Undergraduates: Business)
BBA23 Year 1 (Optative)

DBAI23-Double Degree in Business Administration and Artificial Intelligence for Business (Undergraduates: Business)
DBAI23 Year 1 (Optative)

GBL24-Double Degree in Business Administration and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Business)
GBL24 Year 1 (Optative)