

# SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY – MADRID CAMPUS

Faculty of Modern Humanities and the Arts

## **ARTH 363- The Golden Age of Spanish Art: XV to XVIII centuries**

**Semester and Class Time:** FALL 2012 T-R 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Professor:** Curra Vericat, ([fvericat@slu.edu](mailto:fvericat@slu.edu))

**Office hours:** T-R, 12:30- 1:30 p.m. or anytime by appointment

### **1.- COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The birth of Spain as a nation and its development into one of Europe's greatest Empires will set the stage for the study of art and architecture in Spain. Looking at the great masters of this period, El Greco, Velazquez, Ribera, and Murillo, and the architectural styles of the Renaissance and the Baroque, this course will highlight the significance of royal patronage, taste, artistic styles and techniques.

Visits to Prado museum and Palacio Real will be announced

Recommended texts:

- Moffit, John F. *The arts in Spain*. Thames and Hudson, 1999
- Brown, J. *Painting in Spain. 1500-1700*. Yale University Press
- Carr, R. *Spain- A History*. Oxford University Press
- **Selected readings will be posted in Blackboard**

### **2.- AIMS and OBJECTIVES:**

During the course:

- The student will study the **cultural history** of Spain, its birth as a **modern nation** and consolidation into a **powerful European Empire**, and the summit of its splendour in art: **Renaissance and Baroque** styles.

By the end of the course:

- The student will have developed **critical thinking** about the influence of Spanish Golden Age Art through History to our actual culture.
- The student will have achieved **personal skills** and **sensibility** for **visual analysis** and **interpretation** of art works as part of his/her intellectual formation.

- The student will have learnt the **vocabulary** of art and will have been able to **identify** the most important elements of artistic and architectural styles, their influences and development as well as different methods and techniques of production.
- The student will have been able to **recognize the significance** of the Golden Age of Spanish Art in relation to its social and historical context, and **to identify** key artworks and masterpieces from this period, and their influence for later generations of Spanish artists.
- The student will have understood the role of State, Monarchy and Church as important **patrons** of Spanish Art and the changing of **social status of art and artists**.
- The student will have had the opportunity to **visit and study art collections** in Madrid, Spain and around Europe in order to **enjoy and experience first hand** some of the most significant masterpieces of Spanish paintings, sculpture and architecture from the Golden period.

### **3.- COURSE REQUIREMENTS and ASSESSMENTS:**

The final grade of the course will be the sum of:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-term exam: **20%** (October 16<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mid-term exam: **20%**. (November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thursday)
- Final Exam: **40%. It will cover the whole syllabus.**  
(December 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, 12.00)

Attendance and

Class Participation: **20%**. It includes a **presentation** in class and a **research paper** (8-10 pages including the sources used)

**Participation** entails critical thinking, critical listening and being able to share your opinions with the rest of the class. Only coming to class does not count as participation.

Participation includes: a **Research Paper** about a topic chosen with the professor (8-10 pages). That means an in-depth approach to an artwork, writing about aspects like: historical moment, style and inspirations of the master, the explanation of the subject matter represented if a painting or sculpture, comparisons with other artists of the same style or the same topic...It should be handled in by the last day of class.

It also includes a **Short presentation** about 10 minutes long based on the topic of the research paper. Students are encouraged to use visual aids (eg. Power point, or slides). Specific guidelines, times and topics for the presentations will be determined during the term.

**Regular attendance** will be expected to both class and scheduled activities. Success in this course will be highly dependent on participation in class and engagement with the readings. Students will be expected to come to class having read the texts assigned, and present **typed written summaries** of the required selected readings (maximum 500 words). In order to fulfill this part of the module, students will also be asked to present one or two texts during the course.

It is mandatory to start **promptly** as well as to have **a justified reason for absence: no more than 2 unexcused absences**. Both **lateness and absence** mean lower grade.

**Classroom Ethics:** Please refrain from using cell phones and **eating or drinking** in class. **Anyone seen using their cell phone will be asked to leave the class**. Please arrive in time and **do not leave the class during session**. Both late arrivals and leaving the class cause disruption and disturb the class. **Laptops/Notebooks are not allowed** unless they are being used to take notes for class and students **seat in the front row**.

#### **Grading Criteria and procedure:**

The College of Arts & Sciences recognizes the following letter grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D, F, AF (attendance failure), I (incomplete).

An incomplete form must be completed for any "I" given.

There will be **no** extra credit policy.

#### **Make up-examination policy**

Dates for examinations and presentations will only be rescheduled under exceptional medical or personal circumstances. You must contact me within 48 hours to discuss necessary arrangements. **It is your responsibility to attend class and not miss exams or deadlines.**

#### **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such Conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Students should review the College of Arts and Sciences policy on Academic Honesty, which can be accessed on-line at:

<http://www.slu.edu/colleges/AS/languages/department/files/AcademicHonestyPolicy.pdf>

## **Disabilities Accommodation Statement:**

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.

- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to [http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning\\_resources.html](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html).

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 204, send an e-mail to:

[counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu) , or to visit the Counseling Office (Padre Rubio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

## **4.- COURSE OUTLINE:**

### **1.- Introduction**

Brief Chronology of Spanish Art: Periods and artistic styles.

Earlier artistic styles that will have influence in Spanish Golden Age:

- Islamic Art in Al- Andalus: Córdoba, Sevilla y Granada
- Romanesque: Art of pilgrimages: The way of Santiago.
- Gothic Cathedrals: cities and the bourgeoisie.

### **2.- Modern Age: Renaissance Art in Spain: XVI century**

The Catholic Monarchs and the birth of Spain as a nation.

Plateresque: First Renaissance style in Spain. Salamanca

Arrival of Habsburg dynasty: Charles V of Germany, I of Spain.

Classicist Renaissance in Spain: Palace of Charles V in Granada

Philip II: The greatest empire in the world

**El Escorial**: Herrera and Spanish Renaissance Style

Renaissance sculpture: The Leoni at the service of the Monarchy.

Renaissance Painting: Italian influence: Yañez de Almedina.  
Court Official Portraits.

### **3.- The question of Mannerism in sixteenth-century Spanish Art:**

Sculpture: Alonso Berruguete

Painting: **El Greco** in Toledo. His influences and his unique genius

### **4.- Baroque Art: The “Golden Age”: XVII-XVIII centuries**

Artistic Patronage: the Catholic Church and the Habsburg Dynasty.

The social status of the artist.

The decadence of the Spanish Empire

**Architecture:** General characteristics

Civic buildings: Plaza Mayor in Madrid

Royal Palaces: The arrival of The Bourbon dynasty: Madrid y La Granja

Religious buildings: Santiago de Compostela, La Cartuja de Granada

Churrigueresco: Plaza Mayor in Salamanca

**Sculpture:** Polychrome wooden sculpture. Altarpieces.

School of Valladolid: Gregorio Fernandez

School of Andalusia: Alonso Cano

### **5.- Painting: Tenebrism and Naturalism.**

The Golden Age of Spanish painting:

Ribera: the Italian tenebrism of Caravaggio.

Zurbaran: Monks. Still lifes

**Velazquez:** painter of kings, king of painters.

Nobility of Art: Las Meninas

Murillo: Idealism in Baroque.

### **6.- The Iberoamerican Baroque.**

Development of the baroque style in the colonies:

The influence of Spanish features mixed with indigenous craftsmanship.

Viceroyalty of New Spain: Mexico

## **5. REFERENCE & BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### Recommended books available in the library:

Gudiol, J. *The Arts of Spain*. Doubleday & Company. Garden City, New York  
Livermore, Ann. *Artists and Aesthetics in Spain*. Tamesis Books Limited.  
London Barral i Altet, *Art and Architecture in Spain*. Bulfind Ed  
Brown, J. *Velazquez, Painter and Courtier*. Yale University Press

### Books of General content:

Wölfflin H. *Principles of Art History*. Dover Publications Inc  
Janson H.W. *History of Art*. Harry N. Abrams Inc N.Y. Third Edition  
Gardner, Helen. 1991. *Gardner's: art through the ages*. San Diego: Harcourt  
Brace Javanovich. (9<sup>th</sup> edition)

Gombrich, E.H. 2002. *The Story of Art*. London: Phaidon. (16<sup>th</sup> edition)  
Preziosi, Donald. (ed). 1998. *The Art of Art History: a critical anthology*.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press

### **Useful databases available from the University's Pius XII Library:**

<http://www.slu.edu/libraries/pius/>

Oxford Art Online  
Google Scholar  
Jstor  
Art Full Text

### **Other resources:**

Dictionary of art terms

[www.artlex.com](http://www.artlex.com)

Prado museum

<http://www.museodelprado.es>

Metropolitan Museum timelines and essays on art periods and topics

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/intro/atr/01sm.htm>

Web Gallery of Art

<http://www.wga.hu/index.html>

Some general image sites

[www.artchive.com](http://www.artchive.com)

[www.artcyclopedia.com](http://www.artcyclopedia.com)

[www.abcgallery.com](http://www.abcgallery.com)

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING CELL PHONES AND EATING OR DRINKING IN CLASS. THANK YOU!!!!!!**