



Course Syllabus-Spring 2014

HIST-493 Medieval Spain: Christian, Jews and Moors

Credits: 3. TR 9:30-10:45.

Professor: Francisco J. García-Serrano, Ph.D.

E-mail: fgarcias@slu.edu. Office hours: TR 8:30-9:30, 12.15-13:15, and 15:45-16:45. SIH 3rd floor, room 7.

Textbook and Reader (available in the University bookstore).

Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Cambridge University Press, 1996).

Medieval Iberia: readings from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish sources / Edited by Olivia Remie Constable.
(Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997).

Reader containing selected articles and primary sources available at: <http://garciaserrano.pbworks.com>

I. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The students will achieve a clear understanding of Iberian civilization during the Middle Ages. They will also gain a critical view toward Hispanic civilization, which will allow them to reassess and evaluate problems such as social diversity, identity and religious tolerance. Particular issues concerning Spain will be placed in a broader historical context to understand the contribution of Spain to Western Civilization.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course analyzes the evolution of the Reconquest, the formation of medieval kingdoms, and the final unification of Spain. Special attention will be paid to the interaction (*convivencia*) between Christians, Muslims, and Jews and their crucial contribution to the formation of the Spanish national character. Reading of primary sources will also be included in the course in order to gain a first-hand knowledge of essential historical issues and to develop an analytical and critical approach towards history.

III. GRADING AND CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is compulsory during discussion sessions, more than **three** unjustified absences will lower the final grade. **Participation** in class will be highly encouraged and it will also be reflected in the final grade. Interaction among students and with the instructor is vital to the over-all success of the course as well as to receiving a good final grade. Class participation is 30 percent of the final grade. This means that anyone who is frequently absent cannot expect a passing grade. Active and prepared participation can bring a B grade up to an A, while lackluster attendance or participation can drop it to a C. One individual and one group **presentation** (about 15-20 minutes) will be also required. There will be a **midterm examination** consisting of essay questions designed to test the understanding of historical issues. The exam will be based on the lectures, textbook, required readings, and issues discussed in class.

Writing: Each student **must consult with the instructor** to select a suitable topic in which he/she will do additional reading and on which he/she will **write a term paper** (about 24 pages). These topics may be in any area of the history of Spain in the period covered. A serious review of a significant work is an acceptable paper but it should involve a critical interpretation of a historical problem. Papers must follow *The Chicago Manual of Style* (Chicago, 2003). Additional information from the History Department Style Sheet for Undergraduate Research Papers: http://www.slu.edu/Documents/arts_sciences/history/Style_Sheet.pdf
Late papers will drop one letter-grade for each working day they are late, except in the case of medical or family emergencies that are communicated to me before the paper is due.

The final grade will be weighted approximately as follows:

Midterm exam:	30%
Term paper:	40%
Participation and Presentations:	30%
Total:	100%

Grading Scale:

93-100	A	73-76	C+
89-92	A-	69-72	C
85-88	B+	65-68	C-
81-84	B	60-64	D
77-80	B-	0-59	F

Dates:

Add/Drop period ends, January 24

Last day to choose audit (AU) or pass/no pass (P/NP) options: February 10

Midterm exam: February 27

Paper Topic due: March 6.

Last day to drop a class and receive a “W”, March 12

Final paper outline due: April 24

Final paper due: May 6

Final day of classes: May 6.

Final Exam: May 13, 9:00-11:00. There will not be a final exam, this period is still a required class meeting; a course-enhancing academic exercise must be scheduled for the period.

IV. COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: Introduction. Introduction to Spanish Geography and Culture. Early Iberian Civilizations. Hispania. The Fall of Roman Spain. The Beginning of the Middle Ages.

Week 2: Visigothic Spain. The Organization of Visigothic Spain. The Councils of Toledo. The Culture and Economy of Visigothic Spain.

Discussion Session : Américo Castro, “The Meaning of Spanish Civilization,” and “The Spanish People.” Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapters 1 and 2).

Week 3: The Muslim Invasion. The Fall of the Visigoths. The Muslim Conquest. The Emirate of Spain. The Umayyad Caliphate of Cordoba. **Islamic Spain.** The Organization of Muslim Spain. The Economy of Muslim Spain. The Architecture of Muslim Spain. Literature and Scholarship in Muslim Spain.

Discussion Session: Julio Rodríguez Puértolas, “A Comprehensive View of Medieval Spain.” Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapter 3).

Week 4: The Origins of the Reconquest: Castile and Leon. Covadonga and the Emergence of Asturias. The Formation of the Kingdom of Leon. The County of Castile and Fernán González. The Independence of Portugal. **The Origins of the Reconquest: Aragon and Navarre.** The Spanish March. The Independence of Aragon. The Growth of the County Of Barcelona. The Kingdom of Navarre.

Discussion Session: James T. Monroe, “The Hispanic-Arabic World.” Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapter 4).

Week 5: The Era of the Taifa Kings. Sancho the Great and the European Policy of Navarre. The Crown of Aragon. The Collapse of the Caliphate and the Taifa Kings. Alfonso VI and the Cid. **The Progress of the Reconquest.** African Invasions. Castilian Expansion by Land. Aragonese Maritime Expansion. Las Navas de Tolosa.

Discussion Session: Joseph H. Silverman, “The Spanish Jews: Early References and Later Effects.” Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapter 5).

Week 6: The Three Cultures in Contact. Jewish Culture. The idea of *Convivencia*. Jews, Muslims and

Christians. The rise of anti-Semitism. **The Era of Unrest.** Civil Wars. Famine and Plague. War Between the Kingdoms. French and English Intervention. The Crisis of the Fifteenth Century. Economic Decay. The Great Pogrom. Popular Unrest and Civil War. The Trastamaras.

Discussion Session: Benjamin Netanyahu, "The Jewish Question." Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapter 6).

Week 7: The Unification of Spain. The Government of the Catholic Monarchs. The Inquisition. Expulsion of Jews and Muslims. The Conquest of Granada. **The Dawn of a new Era: the Origins of Modern Spain.** From Reconquest to Conquest. **General Considerations.** The Jews In Spain. The Debate over the Formation of the Spanish Character.

Discussion Session : Henry Kamen, "The Mediterranean and the Expulsion of Spanish Jews in 1492." Bernard F. Reilly, *The Medieval Spains* (Chapter 7).

Midterm Exam: (February 27)

Group and individual presentations (to be scheduled after midterm exam).

Paper Topic Due (March 6).

Videotape Sepharad (March 6)

Discussion Session (March 11): Selected Documents from Medieval Iberia.

Videotape : Islamic Spain. (March 7).

V. ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, we regularly assess our teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose we keep on file anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs such as: assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of your work for this course, including any exams, oral presentations, assignments, and submitted papers may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If you prefer that Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus does not keep your work on file, you will need to communicate your decision in writing to your professor.

VI. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University is a community of learning, whose effectiveness requires an environment of mutual trust and integrity, such as would be expected at a Jesuit, Catholic institution. As members of this community, students, faculty, and staff members share the responsibility to maintain this environment. Academic dishonesty violates it. Although not all forms of academic dishonesty can be listed here, it can be said in general that soliciting, receiving, or providing any unauthorized assistance in the completion of any work submitted toward academic credit is dishonest. It not only violates the mutual trust necessary between faculty and students but also undermines the validity of the University's evaluation of students and takes unfair advantage of fellow students. Further, it is the responsibility of any student who observes such dishonest conduct to call it to the attention of a faculty member or administrator.

Examples of academic dishonesty would be copying from another student, copying from a book or class notes during a closed-book exam, submitting materials authored by or editorially revised by another person but presented as the student's own work, copying a passage or text directly from a published source without appropriately citing or recognizing that source, taking a test or doing an assignment or other academic work for another student, tampering with another student's work, securing or supplying in advance a copy of an examination without the knowledge or consent of the instructor, and colluding with another student or students to engage in an act of academic dishonesty.

Where there is clear indication of such dishonesty, a faculty member or administrator has the responsibility to apply appropriate sanctions. Investigations of violations will be conducted in accord with standards and procedures of the school or college through which the course or research is offered. Recommendations of sanctions to be imposed will be made to the dean of the school or college in which the student is enrolled. Possible sanctions for a violation of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal from the University. The complete SLU Academic Honesty Policy can be found at the following link:

http://spain.slu.edu/academics/academic_advising/docs/Academic_integrity.pdf

VII. 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.

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, 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.

VIII. ADDITIONAL READING AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alfonso X and the Jews: an edition of and commentary on Siete partidas 7.24 "De los judios."* by Dwayne E. Carpenter. Berkeley: University of California Press, c1986.
- Ashtor, Eliyahu. *The Jews of Moslem Spain*. translated from the Hebrew by Aaron Klein and Jenny Machlowitz Klein. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society of America, c1973-
- Aspects of Jewish culture in the Middle Ages: papers of the eight annual conference of the Center for Medieval and Early Renaissance Studies, State University of New York at Binghamton, 3-5 May, 1974.* edited by Paul E. Szarmach. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1979.
- Baer, Yitzhak. *A history of the Jews in Christian Spain*. translated from the Hebrew by Louis Schoffman. Philadelphia, Jewish Publication Society of America, 1961-66.
- Bard, Rachel. *Navarra, the durable kingdom*. Reno, Nev.: University of Nevada Press, 1982.
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- Bishko, Charles Julian. *Studies in medieval Spanish frontier history*. London: Variorum Reprints, 1980.
- Bisson, Thomas N. *Medieval crown of Aragon: a short history*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1986.
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- Boswell, John. *The royal treasure: Muslim communities under the Crown of Aragon in the fourteenth century*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977.
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- Burckhardt, Titus. *Moorish culture in Spain*. translated by Alisa Jaffa. London, Allen and Unwin, 1972.
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- Cigar, Norman L. *Cities of Muslim Spain*. Monticello, Ill.: Council of Planning Librarians, 1978.
- Collins, Roger. *Early Medieval Spain. Unity in Diversity, 400-1000* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995).
- Collins, Roger. *The Arab Invasion of Spain*. Oxford: B. Blackwell, 1989.
- Cutler, Allan H. *The Jew as ally of the Muslim: medieval roots of anti-Semitism*. Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, c1986.
- Dillard, Heath. *Daughters of the Reconquest: women in Castilian town society, 1100-1300*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984.
- Dozy, Reinhart. *Spanish Islam: a history of the Moslems in Spain*. Translated with a biographical introduction and additional notes by Francis Griffin Stokes. London, Frank Cass <1972>.
- Elliott, John. *Imperial Spain, 1469-1716*. New York, St. Martin's Press <1964, c1963>.
- Fernandez-Armesto, Felipe. *Ferdinand and Isabella*. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, <1975>
- Fiscal accounts of Catalonia under the early count-kings (1151-1213)*. edited with an introduction by Thomas N. Bisson. Berkeley: University of California Press, c1984.
- Fletcher, Richard A. *Saint James's catapult: the life and times of Diego Gelmirez of Santiago de Compostela*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1984.
- Fletcher, Richard A. *The quest for El Cid*. London: Hutchinson, c1989.
- Forey, Alan J. *The Templars in the Corona de Aragon*. London: Oxford University Press, 1973.
- Freedman, Paul H. *The origins of peasant servitude in medieval Catalonia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- The last Jews on Iberian soil: Navarrese Jewry, 1479 to 1498*. Berkeley: University of California Press, c1989.
- God and man in medieval Spain: essays in honour of J.R.L. Highfield*. edited by Derek W. Lomax & David Mackenzie. Warminster: Aris & Phillips, 1989.
- García-Serrano, Francisco J. *Preachers of the City. The Expansion of the Dominican Order in Castile, (1217-1348)*. New Orleans, University Press of the South, 1997.
- Gomez-Tabanera, Jose Manuel. *A concise history of Spain*. Translated by John Inderwich Palmer. Madrid, Cronos <1966>.
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- Harvey, Leonard P. *Islamic Spain, 1250 to 1500* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990.
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