Arcadia in Mallorca

MALL SPAN 393S
Cultural Encounters From Prehistory to the Present Day

AIMS

This course will offer a panoramic view of four of the main pillars that constitute a country's culture. With regard to Spain's, these are History, Art, Literature and Traditions.

METHODOLOGY

The lessons will turn out as follow, aside from momentary variations:

- Short introduction of the topic, clarification of some concepts, checking of previous knowledge.
- Explanation of the topic with outlines on the blackboard, description of concepts, Power Point presentations*, and slides shown with the overhead projector.
- Textual analysis.
- Comprehension questions.
- Suggestions for debate: for instance bullfighting or the world-famous Sanfermines (running of the bulls)
- Guided tours around Palma.

ASSESSMENT

For this Cultural Meeting course we will take into account the following criteria:

- Student's participation.
- Comprehension activities.
- Research paper.
- 2 assessment examinations.

*It is compulsory to attend the course. Students are only allowed to have a 25% absence from the lessons.

CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION
1.1 Spanish geographic diversity.
1.2 Spain and its autonomous regions.
1.3 Languages in the Spanish State.
1.4 Folk music and dancing.

2. PREHISTORY
2.1 Our ancestors: Atapuerca.
2.2 Cave painting in Altamira's cave. (Quaternary Art's Sistine Chapel)
2.3 Talaiotic culture in the Balearics. (Costitx Bulls).
2.4 The bull in the Spanish culture.
2.4.1 Osborne's bull.

2.4.2 Bullfighting.
2.4.3 The festival of San Fermín.
2.4.4 The bull in the Spanish literature: Federico García Lorca.
2.4.5 The bull in Picasso's work.

*****Visit to Museo de Mallorca*****

3. THE ORIGINS OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE
3.1 Formation of the Spanish language from its origins to the Middle Ages.

4. THE MIDDLE AGES (I)
4.1 Feudal society.
4.2 Medieval culture.
4.2.1 Romanesque art.
4.2.2 The tradition of the Road to Santiago.
4.2.2.1 From the origins to the present day.
4.2.2.2 Romanesque architecture on the Road to Santiago.
4.2.3 Literature.
4.2.3.1 First words ever written in Spanish.
4.2.3.2 "Mester de juglaría" (Popular minstrel verse of The Middle Ages in Spain) and "El Cantar de Mío Cid" (literally "The Song of My Lord", also known in English as "The Lay of the Cid").

5. THE MIDDLE AGES (II)
5.1 Gothic art. In Spain and in the Balearics.

*****Trip around Palma: visit to La Seu and S´Almudaina*****

5.2 Literature.
5.2.1 "Mester de clerecía" (Learned poetry of The Middle Ages in Spain).
5.2.2 Danza general de la muerte or Dance of Death: an anonymous text from the 14th century.
5.3 The influence of The Middle Ages in our traditions.
5.3.1 Moors and Christians. In the Spanish mainland and in the Balearics.
5.3.2 Ritual dances in Mallorca: "les àguiles", "els cossiers" and "els cavallets".
5.3.3 "El Cant de la Sibilla" or The Song of the Sibyl, performed at some churches of Mallorca.
5.3.4 "La Dansa de la Mort" (Catalan for "Dance of Death" at Verges, Girona, Catalonia).

6. THE RENAISSANCE (16th century)
6.1 Humanism and the bourgeoisie on the rise.
6.2 Architecture and sculpture in Spain.
6.3 Painting: El Greco.
6.4 The Renaissance in the Balearic Islands. Patios in Palma.
6.5 Cervantes and Don Quijote de la Mancha.
6.6 Growth of some 16th century traditions.
6.6.1 "Las fallas" (Festival of San José in Valencia)
6.6.2 Corpus Christi.

7. BAROQUE (17th century)
7.1 Crisis and decadence in Spain.
7.2 Baroque art.
7.2.1 Painting: Velázquez.
7.3 The Baroque takes a walk around the streets. Easter and the religious sense in the different traditions.

*****Trip around Renaissance and Baroque Palma *****

8. NEOCLASSICISM (18th century)
8.1 The Enlightenment.
8.2 Culture in the Enlightenment.

9. 19th CENTURY
9.1 Culture in the 19th century.
9.2 Painting: Goya.
9.3 Romantic literature: Bécquer and Larra.
9.4 Traditions: "los castellers" (human towers)…

10. 20th CENTURY
10.1 Culture in the 20th century.
10.2 Gaudí's modernism and his influence on Mallorca.

*****Trip around modernist Palma*****

10.3 Avant-gardes. Dalí, Picasso and Miró
10.4 Spanish Civil War and Franco's regime.
10.5 Literature.

****Visit to Fundació Pilar i Joan Miró****

11. 21st CENTURY
11.1 Long-history traditions still present in society.
11.1.1 Sant Joan in Ciutadella (Menorca).
11.1.2 Carnival.
11.1.3 Sant Jordi or Book Day.
11.1.4 The devil in some traditions: Sant Antoni, Correfocs…
11.1.5 Regional costume.
11.1.6 Gastronomy.

Grading system:

Concept	Value in Spain	Value in USA
Matrícula de Honor	10 - 9,00	A
Sobresaliente	8’99 - 8,75	A-
Notable Alto	8,74 – 8,25	B+
Notable	8,24 – 7,50	B
Bien Alto	7,49 – 7,00	B-
Bien	6,99 – 6,00	C+
Suficiente	5,99 – 5,00	C
Suspenso	4,99 – 4,00	D
Muy Deficiente		