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| **GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  **SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES**  **SPAN 3211-SPAIN TODAY**  **SPRING 2010** | Dr. Cecilia Montes-Alcalá [cecilia.montesalcala@modlangs.gatech.edu](mailto:cecilia.montesalcala@modlangs.gatech.edu) Tuesdays noon-1:30 & 4:30-5 pm 223 Swann |

SPAIN TODAY

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course introduces students to current issues in the culture, history, and geography of contemporary Spain. Journalistic articles, lectures, videos, Internet, and class discussions are used as springboard for discussion of social, economic, and political issues of contemporary Spain.

**PREREQUISITES:** Minimum Spanish at 3000-level or above. Students are expected to speak, read, write, and understand advanced Spanish.

# EVALUATION:

Attendance & participation 20%

Quizzes (3 out of 4) 30%

Response papers (3) 30%

Oral presentation 20%

### Grading Scale:

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 0-59

**Note**: if you are taking this class Pass/ Fail, you must earn a grade of 70 or above (C) in order to get a Pass grade.

**Course Requirements:**

* Students are required to attend **all** classes. **The School of Modern Languages allows a maximum of 3 unexcused absences during the semester**, which you should reserve for short illnesses, emergencies, religious holidays, or any other personal business. For each additional absence, you will lose one point from your final grade. The instructor has final say over the validity of any excuse. Any planned absence on a quiz/special project day should be discussed with your instructor in advance, and emergency absences should be reported as soon as possible afterwards. You are responsible for all material covered on days that you are absent. Arriving more than 15 minutes late counts as a full absence.
* Students must **participate actively** in class. Participation is not the same as attendance. Arriving late, failing to do the readings and/or homework, acting passively and/or speaking English can cause your participation grade to drop to an F.
* All assigned work must be completed on time. **No late work will be accepted**. No assigned work should be submitted via e-mail unless your instructor indicates so. **If you will not make it to class on the day an assignments is due, it is your responsibility to make sure your instructor receives it.**
* **NO MAKE-UPS** are allowed. In case of an emergency the student must present evidence of such (it must be severe) in order to have the weight of one exam count towards the next one after the missed one. This can only be done once. There are NO make-ups for classroom work and exams/classroom work will not be given/accepted early or late under ANY circumstances. Please note the dates of the exams in the syllabus and put then on your calendar right away.
* **NO electronic devices are allowed** in class. This includes laptops, cell phones, iPods, PDA’s, anything with an on/off switch. If you have one, please turn it off.

**READINGS:**

For every class meeting there will be assigned readings available electronically on T-Square. Students are responsible for doing the readings before coming to class and being prepared to participate in the discussions. Class notes will be posted on T-Square.

**QUIZZES:**

There will be 4 quizzes during the semester. Please check the syllabus and mark your calendars. No make up exams are allowed. Keep this in mind when making travel plans. The quizzes will focus on vocabulary, basic concepts learned in class and/or short questions. Students are encouraged to study every day and keep a log of important key concepts. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped if all taken.

**RESPONSE PAPERS:**

There will be 3 response papers related to the readings and discussions. These papers will express your reaction to a given topic from a critical point of view. Response papers must be about three pages long (or between 800 and 1000 words), typed, double-spaced, and spellchecked in Spanish. As any other assignment, they must be free of spelling and grammatical errors. Please use a spellchecker every time you write any class assignment.

**ORAL PRESENTATION:**

Students will work in pairs to carry out a final oral presentation. These will be based on the students’ interests and the course topics. The presentations must show integration of the key concepts of the course. Students will present their work in class the last week of the semester.

**Academic Integrity:**

In some of the classroom activities in this course, you will be asked to work with other classmates; in addition, you are encouraged to study with others in order to help yourself and others in the class understand the information presented by the professor. However, **any written/oral work that forms the basis of your final grade in the class MUST be your (or your group’s) own original work.** This includes all exams and assignments. Any and all indications of academic dishonesty will be reported to Dean of Students office. Should you have any question regarding what constitutes "academic dishonesty" in this class, please see your instructor at once. See also: <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/>

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| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #1: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 1:** Demonstrate oral and aural proficiency in the target language | Students will demonstrate oral proficiency at the Intermediate High or higher level on the ACTFL scale. |
| **ML Learning Outcome 2:** Demonstrate effective presentation skills in the target language | Students will demonstrate the ability to carry out one oral presentation in class for 10-15 minutes without notes on a topic related to any of the course themes. |
| **ML Learning Outcome 3:** Demonstrate writing proficiency in the target language | Students will produce 3 response papers at the Intermediate High or higher level on the ACTFL scale. |
| **ML Learning Outcome 4:**  Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target language | Students will demonstrate comprehension of authentic texts related to the general themes of the course with in-class activities and discussions as well as homework assignments. |
| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #2: INTERCULTURAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 5:** Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a *specific* target-language country or region | Students will engage in an in-depth exploration of Spain’s global issues including geography, economy, politics, popular culture, immigration and minorities, cinema, music, sports, etc. |
| **ML Learning Outcome 6:**  Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s) | Students will display the ability to analyze different relevant contemporary cultural issues from both the US and Spanish perspectives, emphasizing points of similarity and contrasts. |
| **ML Learning Outcome 7:**  Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context | Students’ awareness of Spanish culture will increase by encouraging critical thinking about a series of Spanish cultural topics. |

PROGRAMA DEL CURSO

**Martes, 12 de enero**

Presentación e introducción del curso.

**Jueves, 14 de enero**

El medio físico de España.

**Martes, 19 de enero**

La estructura del Estado y la vida política.

**Jueves, 21 de enero** 🡪 Days of Engagement (30 min. discussion)

Nacionalismo y lenguas propias.

**Martes, 26 de enero**

Nacionalismo y lenguas propias (II).

**Jueves, 28 de enero**

Nacionalismo y lenguas propias (III).

**Martes, 2 de febrero**

**QUIZ # 1**

**Jueves, 4 de febrero**

La ciudad como forma de vida.

**🡪 PAPER 1**

**Martes, 9 de febrero**

La familia y la mujer.

**Jueves, 11 de febrero**

La familia y la mujer (II): “Cuéntame”.

**Martes, 16 de febrero**

Los jóvenes y la educación.

**Jueves, 18 de febrero**

Las minorías.

**Martes, 23 de febrero**

Las minorías (II): “Gitanos”.

**Jueves, 25 de febrero**

**QUIZ # 2**

**Martes, 2 de marzo**

La inmigración.

**Jueves, 4 de marzo**

La inmigración (II): “Aguaviva”.

**Martes, 9 de marzo**

La economía y los servicios sociales.

**Jueves, 11 de marzo**

Los medios de comunicación y la tecnología.

**🡪 PAPER 2**

**Martes, 16 de marzo**

La moda.

**Jueves, 18 de marzo**

**QUIZ # 3**

**22 – 26 de marzo 🡪 Vacaciones de primavera (no hay clases)**

**Martes, 30 de marzo**

La música.

**Jueves, 1 de abril**

El cine.

**Martes, 6 de abril**

El cine (II): “Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios”.

**Jueves, 8 de abril**

La cultura popular y las fiestas.

**Martes, 13 de abril**

Los toros.

**Jueves, 15 de abril**

El ocio y los deportes.

**🡪 PAPER 3**

**Martes, 20 de abril**

Repaso y discusión asuntos de actualidad.

**Jueves, 22 de abril**

**QUIZ # 4**

**Martes, 27 de abril**

Presentaciones orales.

**Jueves, 29 de abril**

Presentaciones orales.