

## COURSE: LITERARY TOUR THROUGH SPAIN

Language	Spanish
Level of Spanish required	Intermediate (or above)
Hours of class	45 hrs.
Credits	6 ECTS

### Course description

This course is based on literature as a vehicle to understand the great variety of cultural, literary and historical realities present in the Spain of the 20th and 21st centuries. Through a selection of texts by relevant writers, the students will see the cultural vision, conception of life, customs and landscapes reflected from a position that moves away from that of the tourist and focuses instead on the depth and the diversity of its languages and traditions. By analyzing the different texts grouped by subject and geographical context, the student will better develop their understanding of socio-cultural realities. In addition, they will learn to perceive linguistic, aesthetic, generational peculiarities and more, not only for its content, but by its form, to recognize the characteristic techniques.

The selected literary fragments correspond to the major authors of the most representative movements in Spanish culture such as “Generación del 98”, Modernist, “Generación del 27”, “Generación del 50” and new authors.



### Methodology

In each session, groups of students will study a selection of texts on a region or province. They will try to define some characteristics of the province which will then be shared with the rest of the class, analyzed and discussed in depth. In some cases, the texts will be accompanied by excerpts of film adaptations that can help to clarify the information.

### Assessment

Attendance and participation in class: 40%

Mid-term exam: 30%

Final exam: 30%

### Programme

- 1. Introduction.** Difference between tourist, traveler and writer in the face of a trip and the diverse expression of what is “real”. What is known and what is new. Experiences and real-life scenes.

2. **Spanish Civil War.** Its origins and development. Its importance in the Spanish culture. Experiences and opinions on this issue by the selected authors. Objective and subjective stories: techniques and effects.
3. **Literary modernism.** Landscapes and emotions. “Emotion” as a trigger of the memory. Childhood places.
4. **Catalonia I.** Modernity and tradition. Europeism and local tradition.  
Texts by Jacinto Verdaguer, Victor Catalá, Josep Pla, Salvador Espriu and Maria Barbal.  
**Catalonia II.** Barcelona. Modernity. Modernism. Tradition and finances. Coast and interior.  
Texts by Josep Maria de Sagarra, Mercè Rodoreda, Carmen Laforet, Juan Marsé and Juan Goytisolo.
5. **Valencia and Murcia.** From the XIX century modernism to the 30s existentialist movement. The importance of rural culture.  
Texts by Vicente Blasco Ibáñez, Carmen Conde, etc.
6. **Andalusia I.** Modernism and avant-garde. From esthetic to social compromise.  
Texts by Juan Ramón Jiménez, Federico García Lorca, Rafael Alberti, Luis Cernuda, María Zambrano, etc.  
**Andalusia II.** García Lorca theatre. Ancestral Spain. Submission versus liberty.  
Film: “La casa de Bernarda Alba”  
**Andalusia III.** “El duende”. Federico García Lorca.
7. **Castilla- La Mancha.** Prose and poetry with the landscape and its people in the heart.  
Texts by Miguel de Cervantes, Azorín, Antonio and Manuel Machado.
8. **Extremadura.** Novel as a tool for social criticism. “Caciquismo” as a scourge.  
Miguel Delibes. Film: “Los santos inocentes”.
9. **Castilla y León.** Another vision on cultural centralism.  
Texts by Rosa Chacel, Carmen Martín Gaité and Jesús Fernández Santos
10. **Galicia.** Galician as a poetic language. Culture of the sea and inland. Nostalgia. The importance of the “Camino de Santiago”.  
Texts by Rosalía de Castro, Emilia Pardo Bazán, Elena Quiroga, Gonzalo Torrente Ballester and Manuel Rivas.
11. **Asturias-Cantabria I.** Society and its literacy reflection. Provincial landscapes.  
Texts by Leopoldo Alas “Clarín”, Pedro Garfias, Dolores Medio, Ramón Pérez de Ayala, Gerardo Diego and Álvaro Pombo.  
**Asturias – Cantabria II.** Culture and traditional values.  
Film: Benito Pérez Galdós. “El abuelo”.
12. **Basque Country y Navarra.** Borders and cultural peculiarities. Valleys.  
Texts by Valle-Inclán, Pío Baroja, María de Maeztu, María Goyri and Bernardo Atxaga.
13. **Aragon y la Rioja.** The river as a landscape mark. Cities with rivers.  
Texts by Ramón J. Sender, Soledad Puértolas and Julio Llamazares



- 14. Madrid I.** State culture and district culture. Literary Babel. Literature and city. Culture and counterculture.  
Texts by Benito Pérez Galdós, Concha Méndez, Ernestina de Champourcin, Josefina de la Torre, Dámaso Alonso, Rafael Sánchez Ferlosio, Francisco Umbral, Josefina Aldecoa and Javier Marías.  
**Madrid II.** Camilo José Cela  
Film: “La colmena”
- 15. Baleares.** Isolation and identity construction.  
Texts by Ramon Llull, Joan Alcover, Miquel Costa i Llobera, María Antonia Salvà, Llorenç Villalonga and Baltasar Porcel.
- 16. Canarias.** Atlantic culture and peninsular isolation.  
Text by Victorina Bridoux, Tomás Morales, Rafael Arozena and Domingo Pérez Minik

### Bibliography

- ALVAR, Carlos (et al.): *Breve historia de la Literatura Española*, Alianza, Madrid, 2002
- ASÍS GARROTE, María Dolores: *Última hora de la novela en España*, Pirámide Madrid, 1996
- DESCOLA, Jean: *Historia literaria de España*, Gredos, Madrid, 1968
- MAINER, José-Carlos: *Tramas, libros, nombres. Para entender la literatura española*, Anagrama, Barcelona, 2005
- MOREIRAS, Cristina: *Cultura herida. Literatura y cine en la España democrática*, Ediciones Libertarias, Madrid, 2002
- PEDRAZA, F.; RODRÍGUEZ, M.: *Manual de Literatura Española*, (16 vols.) Cénlit Editores, Navarra, 1983-2015
- PINEL, José Antonio: *Manual de literatura española*, Castalia, Madrid, 1998
- REDONDO COICOECHEA, Alicia: *Mujeres y narrativa. Otra historia de la literatura*, Siglo XXI, Madrid, 2009
- RICO, Francisco: *Historia y crítica de la Literatura Española*, (9 vols.), Crítica, Barcelona, 1975-2000
- SOBEJANO, Gonzalo: *Novela española contemporánea (1940-1995)*, Marenostrom, Zaragoza, 2003

