

COURSE: SPANISH GEOGRAPHY

Language	English
Level of Spanish required	Not required
Hours	45 hrs.
Credits	6 ECTS

Course description

The main goal of this course is to enable students to learn about Spain's physical and natural environment in the first place, and then about aspects of the country's society and economy, both nationally and regionally.

The syllabus has been divided into two large units. The first deals with physical geography (relief, climate, landscape, soil, vegetation, etc.), and the second with human geography (population, regional differences, organization of land, agriculture, fishing, industry and the service sector).

Methodology

Each session's subject matter is presented in an introductory explanation, and the students then study it in greater depth, jointly and actively in the classroom, on the basis of a map, a graph or a text. The lecturer helps them solve any doubts they may have in relation to the topic or the materials.

Assessment

Attendance and participation in classes: 40%

Exam on part 1: 30%

Exam on part 2: 30%

Syllabus

First part

1. Introduction. The Iberian Peninsula: situation, extension and diversity.
2. Iberia's climatic diversity: a mainly Mediterranean environment.
3. The Iberian Peninsula's relief: main structural and topographical units
4. The hydrographical network: the challenge of water scarcity.
5. Natural and cultural vegetation.
6. Natural environment: nature protection and ecological risks.



Second part

1. Spain's population and society: demographic structure and dynamics.
2. The population location: urban and rural Spain.
3. Administrative structure: from centralism to autonomism.
4. Economic activities: the regression of Primary sector.
5. A recent and weak and unfear industrialization.
6. Production and consumption services: the relevance of tourism.
7. Regional diversity
8. Spain into the European Union and into the Global world.

Bibliography

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- BURGUEÑO, J.: *La invención de las provincias*, Los Libros de la Catarata, Madrid, 2011.
- CARRERAS, C. and GARCIA BALLESTEROS, A. *Geografía de España*. Barcelona: Instituto Gallach, 1995; 14 vols.
- GARCIA BALLESTEROS, A., BOSQUE MAUREL, J. and CARRERAS VERDAGUER, C., *A Geographical outline of Spain*. Madrid: Real Sociedad Geográfica, 1992.
- GIL OLCINA, A. (ed.): – *Geografía de España*, Ariel, Barcelona, 2001.
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- NADAL, J.: *La población española*, Ariel, 1991.
- *Atlas de la industrialización de España (1750-2000)*, Crítica, 2003.
- RABELLA, J. M.: *Atlas de España y Portugal*, Península, Barcelona, 1998.
- *Atlas de la Península Ibérica*, Península, Barcelona, 1998.
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