

## COURSE: SPANISH CULTURE THROUGH THE SHORT FILM

<b>Language</b>	Spanish
<b>Level of Spanish required</b>	Beginner (or above)
<b>Hours of class</b>	45 hrs.
<b>Credits</b>	6 ECTS

### Course description

The main aim of the course is to discover the particularities of Spanish social, cultural and human relations through short films by Spanish directors. Viewing of the short film will lead to critical analysis and debate on social and human issues.

During the sessions, students will be introduced to the main characteristics of Spanish short films, and will watch short films organized by subject area. Students will be encouraged to discuss the material and develop critical abilities.

### Methodology

This course uses the methodological approach *learning by doing*. Its goal, therefore, is twofold: the student will discover, guided by the teacher, the culture and practice of the Spanish language through watching short films and reflecting on them while interacting with other students and the teacher. The overall goal of the course is for the students' to improve their sociolinguistic knowledge of Spanish reality. The lectures will follow these guidelines, considering the learning characteristics of each short:

- Previewing activities aimed to facilitate comprehension and improve vocabulary.
- Comprehension activities done during the viewing.
- Post viewing activities aimed at the oral interaction and written skills practice.
- Wrapping up: debate on topics related to the short film

### Assessment

Attendance and participation in class: 40%

Writing a film critique of the short film, 1st part: 30%

Writing a film critique of the short film, 2nd part: 30%

### Syllabus

- El Regalo* and *7:35 de la mañana*. Social conventions, traditions and Spanish every day nature.
- Estríbillo*. Education in the familiar scope and contrast of an authoritarian and a permissive model.



3. *El palo* and *Una cuestión de etiqueta*. Influence of social networks in the everyday life.
4. *Atención al cliente*. Future vision of the development and rapid evolution of new technologies.
5. *No y sí* and *Anónimos*. Currents problems with living with someone and the factors that influence us when choosing.
6. *Curvas*. Questioning beliefs, superstitions and urban legends.
7. *La entrevista* and *Aptitudes*. The harsh Spanish working conditions nowadays.
8. *Te quiero, papá*, *Desconocidos* and *Éramos pocos*. Family relationships.
9. *Treinta*. Human condition: generosity, selfishness, happiness, and more.
10. *La Historia de siempre*. The harsh reality of cinema and theatre professionals in Spain.
11. *036*. Inefficiency and abuse of power in the public administration.

Depending on the *What's on* and the characteristics of each group, the course program may be subject to modification.



### Bibliography

- ALTMAN, R. (1999) *Los géneros cinematográficos*, ed. Paidós. Barcelona
- BREU, R. (2010): *El documental como estrategia educativa. De Flaherty a Michael Moore, diez propuestas de actividades*, Madrid
- GISPERT, E. (2008): *Cine, ficción y educación*, ed. Laertes, Barcelona
- IRVING Y REA (2007): *Cortos en cine y video*, Madrid
- PATMORE, C. (2007): *Debutar en el cortometraje*, Madrid
- ROMAGUERA I RAMIÓ, J.(1999): *El lenguaje cinematográfico. Gramática, géneros, estilos y materiales* ed. La Torre, Madrid
- SORIANO FERNÁNDEZ, S. (2009): *Cortos sin cortes*, Memoria de máster en enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera, Universidad de Nebrija
- [www.solocortos.com](http://www.solocortos.com)
- [www.losmejorescortos.com](http://www.losmejorescortos.com)
- [www.notodofilmfest.com](http://www.notodofilmfest.com)