

**Westminster College  
Humanities 277  
Spanish Civilization**

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**Winter 2015-2016**

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***If you need to make a special arrangement with the instructor (such as graduating this semester) please let her know before starting the course. After December 16<sup>th</sup> the instructor will not help you.***



**Introduction:**

Welcome to Hum 277 an introduction to Spanish Civilization. In this class we will cover the history, literature and culture of Spain. The historical period is vast, beginning with the Stone Age peoples of Spain and ending with a synopsis of the modern democratic state, over 10,000 years of history. We will also be covering various artistic expressions (painting, architecture, music) from Spain. In addition to the textbook, we will be reading a selection of literary works from the various eras in modern Spanish history, offering artistic insight into the societal and cultural structures and institutions that continue to make up the foundations of Spain to this day.

**This class requires a great deal of reading and writing in a very short period of time.**

**Take into consideration that a regular class meets 3 hours a week for fifteen weeks, and that you have decided to take this course understanding that you will complete it in 13 days. Thus, you are expected to complete all the reading and writing assignments on time.**

**Contents:**

Spanish History, from ancient times to the present

Civilizations and religious coexistence

Language and Culture

Cultural expressions

Modernization, ways of expression, class conscience and moral crisis through painting, sculpture, architecture and literature

Spanish Society today, considering different relevant topics both from the 20th century in general or from the immediate present.

**Relationship to Tier II (277):**

The successful completion of this course satisfies the Cultural Diversity and Global Interdependence requirement in Tier II. In this course, we will study the history and culture of Spain in a global context, with a focus on its relationships with other European countries and its conquest of a large part of the New World, examining the relationships that existed and continue to exist between Spain and Latin American countries and, since the American Revolution, with the United States.

**Prerequisites:**

For students in Humanities 277, there are no prerequisites for this class.

**Course Goals:**

Students will:

1. Explore the diverse cultures of the Spain, its history, literary and artistic expressions
2. Recognize important events paying attention to their chronological order, cause and effect.
3. Recognize important ideological, ethnic, cultural, sociopolitical, geographic, and historic factors that have contributed to the formation of Spain's modern civilization and identity
4. Reflect on their own cultural heritage and the parallels between Spanish and American culture.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Students will complete read, submit and discuss the homework assignments based on readings that concern Spanish history.
2. Students will read and discuss literature excerpts pertaining different periods of Spanish history.

**Required Materials:**

- Textbook: *A Concise History of Spain* (Cambridge Concise Histories) by William D. Phillips Jr. and Carla Rahn Phillips.
- Literary works (excerpts) to be found in Moodle.

## Evaluations and Assessments

You will achieve a grade in this class using the following points to compute your grade.

### Grades are earned not given

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Homework (15 points each by 8 assignments) | 120 points |
| 3 exams (60 points each)                   | 180 points |
| 3 Discussion Forum (30 points each)        | 90 points  |
| Total                                      | 390 points |

### Grading scale:

|                    |                    |                   |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|                    | 390 – 361 points A | 360-350 points A- |
| 349-338 points B+  | 337-322 points B   | 321-312 points B- |
| 311- 300 points C+ | 299-285 points C   | 284-273 points C- |
| 272-261 points D+  | 260-245 points D   | 244-234 points D- |
| 233-0 points F     |                    |                   |

**In this class copying and recycling are considered cheating:**

**Copying: Collaboration on assignments is fine, but your answers must be your own. When detected, all identical or close copies of submitted assignments and exams will be given a zero score. Help your classmates, but do not do their work for them. Copying is the wrong way to learn. Misappropriating assignments points by copying will not make up for the lost opportunity to learn the material in the right way.**

**Recycling: You will also get a grade of zero if you submit assignments or exams that have been submitted by a different student and graded for a previous class (summer 14 and 15, and winter 14-15)**

**Incidences of cheating will be immediately reported to the Honor Commission.**

## Assigned Readings

You are expected to read all required assignments **prior** to the date the material is assigned. In a course of this short time-span, it is especially important to stay on top of the readings. You should plan to study/read/work for this course approximately four-five hours each day. **Power Points** will be available for review daily that outline the parts of the chapters to be emphasized for the exams.

### Homework assignments:


The homework for each lesson will be posted on Moodle. There will be eight lessons. There will be comprehension questions over chapters that you read from the textbook *A Concise History of Spain*. When doing this assignment, follow these instructions:

1. Answer the question in complete and clear sentences. **One sentence is not enough to answer any question. You have to explain very well by giving details and analyzing.**
2. Use the information from the text to formulate your answers.

3. Review your document at least twice to correct your mistakes and to reframe your sentences.

**The homework assignments are to be submitted the due date at 11:55 PM**

You are to do this homework online in Moodle. These are the steps you must follow:

1. Click on the homework assignment.
2. Click on Add submission
3. Read the questions carefully and analyze them.
4. Click on this icon  to open the Edit tool bar.
5. Type the answers to the questions.
6. Answer the questions in complete and coherent sentences.
7. Edit and review your answers. Make sure you are answering the question correctly. Check the spelling, punctuation and grammar.
8. Click on save changes after you have typed all answers.
9. You can edit your submission before actually submitting the assignment.
10. Read carefully before clicking on any button

**Moodle Discussion Forum:**

Three times during the term I will post a question or a series of questions for you to respond to on the Moodle course Discussion Forum. You are asked to respond to these questions or series of questions and post your response(s). These postings will generally be tied to the literary works.

1. You will post your answer or reaction to the question or questions.
2. In addition to your main reply, you need to respond to (two) of your classmates' responses. You are expected to have a dialogue, exchange ideas and not merely say "I agree or disagree with you."

**Discussion Forum responses are due by 11:55 p.m. the day it has been assigned.**

**Read the text before submitting your responses and follow the instructions given for each discussion forum.**

**Exams:**

There will be three exams throughout the three week course. They will be available on Moodle on the day indicated on the calendar starting at 8:00 AM and closing at 11:55 PM. The exams cannot be turned in late or made up unless the student provides a valid reason for missing the exam. The exam is open book, but you will have only 90 minutes to complete it.

**Exams must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. the day it has been assigned.**

**Class Netiquette** Your course instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Our differences will add richness to this learning experience. Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate

unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambience.

**Westminster Honor Code:**

Please remember that you are subject to all provisions regarding cheating and plagiarism in the Westminster College Honor Code found in your student handbook. Any violation of the honor code will result in a grade of F on that assignment, which will be reported to the Honor Commission

**Calendar of assignments and exams**

| <b>Day and date</b> | <b>Topic<br/>Read, prepare and analyze</b>  | <b>Assignment to be submitted in Moodle</b>                      |
|---------------------|---|--|
| W – Dec. 16         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus</li> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> preface and chapter 1</li> </ul> <p><b>1.- The land and its early inhabitants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Read <i>The Song of Mio Cid</i> (excerpt)</b></li> </ul> | <p>Introduce yourself in Moodle</p> <p>Submit homework 1</p>     |
| R- Dec. 17          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 2</li> </ul> <p><b>2.- Ancient legacies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Read <i>The Song of Mio Cid</i> (excerpt)</b></li> </ul>   | Submit homework 2  |
| F – Dec. 18         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 3</li> </ul> <p><b>3.- Diversity in medieval Spain</b></p>   | <p>Submit homework 3</p> <p><b>Submit discussion board 1</b></p> |

| <b>Day and date</b> | <b>Topic<br/>Read, prepare and analyze</b>  | <b>Assignment to be submitted in Moodle</b> |
|---------------------|---|---|
| M – Dec. 21         | <b>Exam 1 (includes book chapters 1- 3, and the literary excerpt <i>El Mio Cid</i>)</b>   | <b>Submit Exam 1</b>                        |
| T – Dec. 22         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 4</li> </ul> <p><b>4.- The rise of Spain to international prominence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Read <i>El Lazarillo de Tormes</i> (excerpt)</b></li> </ul> | Submit homework 4                           |

|             |  |                   |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| W – Dec. 23 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 5</li> </ul> <b>5.- Spain as the first global empire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>El Lazarillo de Tormes</i> (excerpt)</li> </ul> | Submit homework 5 |
|-------------|--|-------------------|

| Day and date | Topic<br>Read, prepare and analyze   | Assignment to be submitted in Moodle |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| M – Dec. 28  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 6</li> </ul> <b>6.- Modernity: From the Napoleonic invasion to Alfonso XIII</b> | Submit homework 6                    |
| T – Dec 29   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start reading <i>Doña Perfecta</i> (excerpt)</li> </ul>   | Submit discussion board 2            |
| W – Dec. 30  | <b>Exam 2 (includes chapters 4 – 6, and the literary excerpt)</b>  | Submit exam 2                        |

| Day and date | Topic<br>Read, prepare and analyze   | Assignment to be submitted in Moodle |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| M – Jan. 4   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 6 and chapter 7</li> </ul> <b>7.- The struggle for the Spanish soul: Republic civil war, and dictatorship</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Doña Perfecta</i> (excerpt)</li> </ul> | Submit homework 7                    |
| T – Jan. 5   | <i>Doña Perfecta</i> (excerpt)   | Submit discussion board 3            |
| W – Jan. 6   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Concise History of Spain</i> chapter 8</li> </ul> <b>8.- New Spain, new Spaniards: European, democratic and multicultural.</b>   | Submit homework 8                    |
| R – Jan 7    | <b>Exam 3 (includes chapters 7 – 8 and the literary excerpt)</b>   | Submit exam 3                        |