



TITLE: POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

LANGUAGE: English

TOTAL HOURS: 45 hours

CREDITS: 3 credits

TERM: January Multi-Country

SIS Course Code: IS 305

JU Course Code (will appear on JU Transcript as): IS 305 Special Topics: Politics and Society in the Mediterranean

DESCRIPTION

The Mediterranean Sea is home to some of the most ancient civilizations in the world. This course will allow students to immerse in the fascinating history and culture of some three of the most beautiful and inspiring cities in Europe. We'll start with the modern and extravagant architecture of Gaudi in the vibrant city of Barcelona, then travel to the ancient Imperial Rome and finish in the Florence of the Renaissance with Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci.

BARCELONA

Our first destination will be Spain's most popular and vibrant city. The city of Barcelona is the perfect setting to start our cultural experience walking through its tiny streets, trying its magnificent cuisine and admiring the astonishing works of architecture like the Park Güell or the Sagrada Familia.

ROME

We'll fly over the Mediterranean to visit the heart of the Mediterranean Culture, once the capital of the biggest and most renowned empire in history. In class we'll have the opportunity to learn the basic aspects of Italian history and culture.

FLORENCE

After discovering Rome's ancient history we'll travel to the birthplace of Renaissance and heart of the Tuscany region. Classes will give us the chance of learning the main aspects of Florentine art and culture.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Cognitive / Knowledge skills

- Acquire general knowledge on Spain's and Italy's history and culture as a way of understanding their politics and society today
- Understand specific processes and concepts from an interdisciplinary approach to learn about the Mediterranean's political, cultural and social diversity
- Improve language skills in romance languages such as Spanish and Italian

Analytical / Critical Thinking Skills (Oral & Written)

- Develop critical thinking by reading and hearing different perspectives and views on a wide variety of topics
- Analyze the cities we'll be visiting as a reflection of the contents that are worked on in class



Affective & Behavioral / Attitudinal Skills

- Engage with the local people as a way of merging with their culture
- Learn to interact with heritage and art in a much more conscious and interactive way

METHODOLOGY:

The course will use a combination of guided lectures, classroom interaction, field visits, research, case studies, student presentations and individual assignments.

EVALUATION:

Attendance to classes and field trips is mandatory; poor attendance will affect the final grade of the student as well as the everyday participation grade. The final grade consists of:

- Field Trips (10%)
- Participation (10%)
- Final Project (15% Written Paper, 15% Class Presentation)
- Midterm exam (25%)
- Final exam (25%)

Class participation:

Active class participation includes coming to class prepared, having read the material for that day, answering questions from the professor, asking questions and engaging in group activities. Students are encouraged to express their opinions in class with the professor and the other students.

EXAMS:

The final exam may contain a mix of short answer and essay questions aimed to test the student's' full comprehension of facts and the ability to argue his/her opinions based on class material.

The guidelines for exams are as follows-

- Any student found cheating will automatically fail this examination. Additional sanctions may be imposed.
- Talking or communicating with other students during the examination is forbidden.
- Desks must be cleared of all books, notes and papers. All unauthorized materials must be put away and remain out of sight throughout the examination.
- All telephones and electronic devices must be turned completely off during the exam.
- Students arriving later than 15 minutes will not be allowed into the classroom to take the examination, subject to the decision of the instructor.
- At the end of the examination students will remain seated until their papers are collected. No one may leave the room until excused.
- Should assistance be required, students will attract the attention of the instructor.
- Failure to follow these rules will automatically lead to failure of this examination.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

SIS programs foster critical thinking and intellectual development of its students. In doing so, SIS requires that students introduce their original thoughts, opinions, and ideas in all of their assignments with the support of cited sources. Any violations of academic integrity- such as cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, academic misconduct, fabrication, misuse or misrepresentation of research, and noncompliance- may result



in an automatic For immediate dismissal from the program if the student falls below the minimum number of credits required for the term; 12 credits during the semester, or 3 hours during the summer.

Cheating- Any action that violates the rules and guidelines given by the instructor for submitting assignments or exams.

Plagiarism- Any action that presents the ideas, opinions, research, etc. of another as your own.

- Directly copying another's work without citing sources
- Submitting another person's work into your own without properly citing the source(s) used.
- Paraphrasing another person's work without providing appropriate citations

Self-plagiarism- Submitting a piece of one's own work to receive credit for multiple assignments in one or more class.

Academic Misconduct- Any act that impedes or threatens the open exchange, expression, or flow of information or fair evaluation of students. This includes intimidation and complicity in any acts or attempts to interfere with the ethical and fair submission and evaluation of student work.

Fabrication- Providing inaccurate or false information, including research findings, quotes, and cited sources, etc.

Non-compliance- Failure to comply with the values, objectives, and procedures contained in this policy.

As SIS is accredited by Jacksonville University, students are held accountable to JU's [Academic Integrity and Code of Conduct](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PyZmN0EAH1o4bKVZdxVyKw-wdiwXewx/view) (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PyZmN0EAH1o4bKVZdxVyKw-wdiwXewx/view). You are expected to read and understand the JU terms and regulations of Academic Misconduct.

ATTENDANCE:

Semester: Students are allowed THREE absences throughout the semester without penalty. Starting with the fourth absence, the student's FINAL GRADE will be lowered by a fraction of a letter (1/3 of a letter grade). For example, if a student has 4 absences and a final grade of B+, the grade will be lowered to a B, if 5 absences the grade is lowered to B-.

Summer: Students are allowed TWO absences throughout the summer without penalty. Starting with the third absence, the student's FINAL GRADE will be lowered by a fraction of a letter (1/3 of a letter grade). For example, if a student has 4 absences and a final grade of B+, the grade will be lowered to a B, if 5 absences the grade is lowered to B-.

**January Term students are allowed TWO absences as well.*

There are NO excused absences. If a student misses class because s/he is sick, that counts as one of the allowed absences. No excused absences and no excuses.

Quizzes, exams and participation points that are missed because of an absence cannot be recuperated.

Students that arrive late 5 minutes or more will receive a 0 for participation for the day.

COURSE CONTENT

Session	Lectures & Discussions	Student assignment (INT STUDIES 320)
1	Course description, Introduction and Orientation. Pantheon, Piazza Navona and Trastevere	D.Abulafia, <i>What is the Mediterranean?</i> pp. 1-10
2	Introduction Italy's society, history and culture Discussion: preconceptions of Mediterranean Politics and Culture Colosseum and Imperial Forums	Woolf, G. <i>Inventing Empire in Ancient Rome.</i>
3	The splendor of the Roman Empire Villa Borghese	Short essay: Monument Analysis from a political perspective
4	Vatican Museum, Saint Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel	
5	Florence: Introduction and Orientation	
6	Introduction to Mediterranean politics and culture in the time of the Renaissance Duomo complex, Cathedral and Brunelleschi's Dome	Kaborycha, L. <i>Out of the Ashes. The rise of the Communes and Florence in the age of Dante</i>

7	Great artists of the Renaissance Galleria dell Academia with the David from Michelangelo.	Bowden, J. <i>The Power of the Medici Family in the florentine republic. 1434-1494</i>
8	The Florence of the Medicis Church of Santa Croce, Piazza Signoria and the Galleria degli Uffizi	Short essay: Monument Analysis from a political perspective
9	Midterm Exam	
10	Arrival in Barcelona: Introduction to Spain's political and cultural background The Ramblas and Boqueria Market	Article on political situation in Catalonia and Spain
11	The splendor of Barcelona in the Middle Ages Gothic Neighborhood and el Born	Hughes, R. <i>The Reach for the Skies, on Catalan Modernism</i>
12	Industrialization and the Art Nouveau (Modernismo) Eixample and Sagrada Familia of Gaudí	Short essay: Monument Analysis from a political perspective
13	From the Civil War to the Olympic Games Air-raid shelter and the Montjuïc's castle	Preston, P. Article on George Orwell's <i>Homage to Catalonia</i>
14	Final Presentations	
15	Final Exam	
	Depart from Barcelona	

**Number of sessions and order of assignments may vary depending on term.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abulafia, D. *The Mediterranean in History*, ed. 2011
- Bowden, J. *The Power of the Medici Family in the florentine republic. 1434-1494.*
- Carr, R. *Spain, a History.* Oxford University Press, 2001
- Hughes, R. *Barcelona, the Great Enchantress.* National Geographic Society, 2004
- Kaborycha, L. *Out of the Ashes. The rise of the Communes and Florence in the age of Dante*, in *A Short History of Renaissance Italy.* University of California, Berkeley, 2011
- Ruggiero, G. *The Renaissance in Italy. A social and cultural history of the Rinascimento.* Cambridge University Press, 2014
- Woolf, G. *Inventing empire in ancient Rome*, in *Empires. Perspectives from Archaeology and History.* Cambridge University Press, 2009
- Woolf, G. and Edwards, C. *Inventing Christian Rome: The role of early Christian Art.* in *Rome the Cosmopolis.* Cambridge University Press, 2003

Recommended readings

- Brenan, C. *The Spanish Labyrinth*, Cambridge University Press, 2015
- Beard, M. and Crawford, M. *Rome in the Late Republic*, Duckworth, 1999
- Duggan, D. *A concise History of Italy*, Cambridge University Press, 2004
- Ealham, C. *Class, Culture and Conflict in Barcelona 1898-1937*, Routledge, 2004
- Fossi, Gloria. *The Uffizi Gallery: The Official Guide, All of the Works.* Giunti, 2004
- Heather, P. *The Fall of the Roman Empire*, Macmillan, 2005
- Hibbert, C. *The rise and the fall of the house of Medici*, Penguin books, 1979
- Toibín, Colm. *Homage to Barcelona.* Picador, 2002
- Turner, A. Richard. *Renaissance Florence: The Invention of a New Art.* New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1997
- Tremlett, G. *Ghosts of Spain, travels through a country's hidden past.* F. and F. 2006
- Orwell, G. *Homage to Catalonia*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1952