

SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: Spanish Culture

Level: C2

Length: 40 hours

Knowledge area: Spanish language and culture

PRE-REQUISITES

In order to successfully take this subject, students will have reached level C1 and, more specifically, the skills and knowledge set out in the official *Spanish Language and Culture C1* programmes (UIMP).

GENERAL AIMS

- Perfecting knowledge and interlinking the main events, moments and aspects that have marked the history and culture of Spain, as well as the different identities that co-exist in the country.
- Exploring the sociocultural, legal-constitutional and political-governmental aspects of Contemporary Spain.
- Grasping common features between students' home and Spanish culture, as well as seeing and appreciating them from different perspectives.
- In-depth exploration of knowledge of Spanish culture through specific instances (politics, society, traditional, customs, social practices, geography, recent history, etc.).

CONTENT

The content will be based on audiovisual material as far as possible. The level of in-depth exploration will be higher in C2 than in C1. The subject is structured around 4 thematic blocks that correspond to each week of the course:

- I. *The lands and people of Spain*: an introductory block that sets out the idea of Spain as a country of contrasts and which also explores the different aspects of Spanish society (profile, habits, attitudes and problems).
- II. *The legal-constitutional and political-governmental framework*: a block designed as a contextualisation of Spain's political, governmental and constitutional reality, namely: branches of government, territorial organisation and education, mainly.
- III. *Contemporary culture*: a block aimed at exploring Spain's cultural panorama in the widest sense, including popular festivals, traditions, the monuments of Spain, artistic trends and cuisine.

- IV. *Spain today*: a block dedicated to Spain's recent history, Spain in Europe and an overview of the current social, economic and political reality, etc. in addition to a critical analysis of the positive and negative aspects to Spanish culture.

METHODOLOGY

Culture class dynamics are based on using Spanish as a tool for action and communication. Grammatical content is largely incorporated into activities and tasks that facilitate inductive learning and require contextualised language use. This methodology requires a participatory, active and cooperative student attitude. Attendance and doing the tasks set by the teacher inside and outside the classroom are essential for learning and a requirement for positive student assessment.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is integrated into the learning process and is formative in nature. Students who attend 85% of classes and do the set activities will receive a certificate of attendance. Students who also pass a level test will receive a UIMP diploma that accredits course completion. Registration for this examination is done at the Student Office by paying the corresponding fees.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Manuals and reference

- López Moreno, C. (2005). *España contemporánea: historia, economía, sociedad*. Madrid: Sociedad General Española de Librería.
- Muñoz, P.M., Marcos, M.C. (2010). *España: ayer y hoy*. N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall.
- Tamames, R. and Quesada, S. (2001). *Imágenes de España: Panorama de la formación de España y de las culturas hispánicas*. Madrid: Edelsa.

Electronic resources

- Acción Cultural Española, <http://www.accioncultural.es/>
- Centro Virtual Cervantes, www.cvc.cervantes.es
- Cervantes TV, www.cervantestv.es
- Instituto Cervantes, <http://www.cervantes.es/default.htm>
- Portal del hispanismo, <http://hispanismo.cervantes.es/>