CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course title: The Camino de Santiago: Pilgrimage, Religion, History, and Culture
Course code: HISP 3001 ALSP (ENG)
Programs offering course: Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

The Camino de Santiago, a pilgrimage route that runs from the Pyrenees to the Cathedral of St. James in Santiago de Compostela in the Northwest corner of Spain, is a fundamental part of Spanish culture and history. Originally, a spiritual journey for devout Catholics, the pilgrimage now attracts people from many cultures and religions and has developed international significance. The approach to this course is interdisciplinary, encompassing the role of the Camino in Spanish history, art, architecture, and literature. The course emphasizes different aspects of popular culture such as gastronomy, music, and traditions, helping students acquire a further knowledge of Spanish culture. Students' performance is assessed through a set of interactive readings, debates, a seminar-length paper, an oral presentation, and two exams covering the major themes of the course.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

Students will learn to examine the Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage from a multidisciplinary approach. In the course, students will analyze the religious, historical, cultural, and artistic backgrounds to then understand the complex evolution of the Camino de Santiago to what it is today. A special effort will be made in studying what has been the evolution of all these characteristics of the Camino from the Middle Ages to the present time to be able to better understand the reality of contemporary Spain.

This new financial approach will be introduced as a way to better understand the new economic component that has an essential influence in the current XXI century pilgrimage. New concepts such as “turiperegrino” (Pilgrim + tourist) will be discussed in relation with the increasing development of the power of media in this medieval age pilgrimage. Analytical debates about traditional concepts such as religious motivations, salvation, brotherhood, redemption through the walk, etc will connect with new concepts such as social outcomes, intercultural experiences, media resources & applications, etc.

Course Prerequisites

This course has no pre-requisites

Methods of Instruction

The most important outcome of the course is to assimilate theoretical and practical concepts derived from imagining the Jacobean route. To reach this objective, students will work with a Camino de Santiago manual produced by the professor of the course as well as with articles and book chapters, different visual and audiovisual materials (one movie and two documentaries), etc. The course will primarily follow an interactive teaching style where students and the professor will both lead and share the development of the contents of the course through each of the sessions. Course presentations and
class debates will be complemented by the analysis of different texts. Through this combination of theoretical and practical components, student will get involved in a hands-on reflection processes that will guide them through the interpersonal, experiential and life-changing experience that the Camino de Santiago offers to all pilgrims.

**Assessment and Final Grade**

1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Final Exam 25%
3. Oral Presentation 10%
4. Final Paper 20%
5. Assignments 5%
6. Readings 10%
7. Co-curricular Visits / Activities 5%
8. Class Participation 5%

TOTAL 100%

**Course Requirements**

**Midterm Exam**

The midterm exam will consist of a set different type of questions to reflect about the concepts and ideas taught and assess the overall understanding and analysis of the theoretical and practical components presented in class. The exams will combine a set of short questions to develop (about 75 words each), 2 long questions (350-400 words each), a text analysis, multiple-choice questions, images recognition's, etc.

**Final Exam**

The final exam will consist of a set different type of questions to reflect about the concepts and ideas taught and assess the overall understanding and analysis of the theoretical and practical components presented in class. The exams will combine a set of short questions to develop (about 75 words each), 2 long questions (350-400 words each), a text analysis, multiple-choice questions, images recognition's, etc.

**Oral Presentation**

1. Ppt, materials 5%
2. Content 5%

A 15-20 min oral presentation (based on the final paper) will be conducted by the student. The oral presentation will be submitted a few days in advance to be checked and graded. Students will not be allowed to read full notes; they will just use these notes as a guide during the presentation.

Each of these elements will be submitted to the professor on a specific time schedule during the length of the semester to avoid last week of the semester excessive workloads. Each of the above components will be sent or printed to the professor. If the student decides to email them, it is required to receive a message from the professor stating he got the document. Otherwise it will not be consider as received.
Final Paper

1. Title, theme, description of content 1%
2. Outline and structure 2%
3. Draft # 1 7%
4. Final paper 10%

Students will need to submit an essay by the end of the course. The topic will be discussed with the professor who will guide the students in its development. This final paper will have an approximate extension of 3000 words. In order to distribute the workload associated with it, students will follow this workload distribution:

- Title, theme, description of content: week 3
- Outline and structure: week 6
- Draft: week 9
- Final document: week 14

Assignments

During the course students will be required to complete different assignments and readings with the idea to foster the content explained in class as well as to improve the overall understanding of the materials. In this sense, students will participate in debates based on the documentaries and movie watched in class.

Two summaries (approximately 350 words) of two articles provided by the professor will be submitted: one before the midterm exam and the other one before the final exam (check due dates). The titles will be chosen and agreed with the professor.

Readings

During the course students will be required to complete different assignments and readings with the idea to foster the content explained in class as well as to improve the overall understanding of the materials. In this sense, students will participate in debates based on the documentaries and movie watched in class.

Two summaries (approximately 350 words) of two articles provided by the professor will be submitted: one before the midterm exam and the other one before the final exam (check due dates). The titles will be chosen and agreed with the professor.

Co-curricular Visits / Activities

Students will participate in 2 organized co-curricular activities:

1. Pilgrimage from Santa María Church to Santa Faz Monastery
2. Friends of the Camino de Santiago Association in Alicante.

Both visits are mandatory for all the students.

Class Participation

CIEE Academic Policies
Papers and assignments submission

According to CIEE Alicante academic norms all assignments, paper, readings, etc. must be turned in on the due date. Late submissions of coursework/assignments during the course of the term of study are not accepted.

If an exception is granted by the Academic Director, the new deadline for the assignment will be set for the next earliest possible date for the student for reasonably submit the assignment.

Course Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify (via e-mail with a copy to the Resident Director or Program Coordinator) their instructor beforehand if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class during their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the professor and the RD or PC and provide appropriate documentation.

For CIEE courses, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent (student will be reminded of the policy). Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or events, etc. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused.

An absence in a CIEE course will be only considered excused if:

1. A doctor’s note is provided. The UA medical center does not generally provide class absence notes. In the case a doctor’s absence note is extremely necessary, students will need to go to the Vithas International Hospital to be examined.
2. A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
3. Evidence is provided of a family emergency

Persistent absenteeism (students exceeding 10% of the total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policy in more than one class) will lead to a written warning from the RD, notification to the home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reductions in class grade(s).

1. Since each CIEE Alicante course is 45 hours, 10% of the total course hours are 4.5 hours.
2. Students who miss more than 4.5 hours of class without justification will see their final grade reduced by -5%. For instance, students achieving a grade of 89.00 out of 100 points and missing more than 4.5 hours of class will see their grade reduced from 89.00 (B+) to 84.00 (B).

Students with unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course. Written warnings and home school notifications will happen well before the absenteeism causes the student to fail the course so that the student has an opportunity for corrective actions.

Likewise, if any CIEE group organized activity/informational session (e.g. Intercultural development sessions) is scheduled during class hours, attendance to this activity or session is also mandatory for all students enrolled in courses that meet during that block of time. Not attending these CIEE group organized activities/sessions during regular class hours will result in an absence.

Plagiarism
Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment may result in failing the course or being expelled from the program. Students are expected to adhere to the US American and norms.

Important principles:

1. Final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from other person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an “open book” basis).

2. The same written paper may not be submitted in more than one course.

3. Any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with the course

Add/Drop

The add/drop period last for 1 week after the start of the courses. After the end of the add/drop period, the student’s registration is considered final, and no course(s) may be changed or deleted from the student’s CIEE Academic Record.

Withdrawal from a course

Students are required to register in 5 courses during their studies at CIEE Alicante. Each CIEE course is worth 3 credits (45 contact hours) and each Universidad de Alicante course is worth 4 credits (60h - unless the course has more than 60h of instruction). If exceptional circumstances warrant, the student may request permission from the Center Director to withdraw from a course. However, a student participating in a semester program is not allowed to drop below 12 US semester credits.

Attendance

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class  1.1  Course Introduction and Initial Expectations

The apostles.

Figure of Santiago “The Greater”.

Santiago: life, apostolate and death.

The symbols of Santiago.

Discovery of the Tomb in the Iberian Peninsula: Paio, Bishop Teodomiro and King Alfonso the II.

The Road to the Stars.

Class  1.2  Documentary

Did Something Grand!
Week 2
Class 2.1 The Role of Relics

Definition, classifications, authenticity, and role of power. Theocentrism: Catholic Church

Class 2.2 Debate

Prisciliano vs. Santiago apostle: who’s buried in Santiago? Does it really matter?
Motivation for pilgrimages in medieval ages and the concept of redemption and indulgence

Week 3
Class 3.1 Geo-political Situation of the Iberian Peninsula

Germanic tribes, Christian kingdoms, Arab tribes, the Francos and the Pope in Rome.
The battle of Clavijo and the significance of the figure of Santiago: The idea of Santiago, the Moor-Slayer
Recreational/Historical recreations: The festivals of the Moors and Christians.

Class 3.2 The Codex Calixtinus: Lliber Sancti Iacobi

The Camino de Santiago as a route of commerce, ideas and culture: metaphor of the future creation of the ECM and then EU.
The role of the Cluny Monasteries
The Order of Santiago: The Crusades.

Paper: Title, topic, and brief description of the content

Week 4
Class 4.1 Feudalism: Origin and Characteristics

Life in the Medieval Ages.
Social classes: the concept of vassals
Education and medical practices
The role and power of the Catholic Church
Medieval phenomenon of peregrination: causes and effects
The decline of the Camino de Santiago. Invention and re-invention
Corruption in the Catholic Church
Religious reformations across Europe: main figures and ideology
Pandemics: Black death, leprosy, tuberculosis, syphilis, etc.

Class 4.2  Visit
Pilgrimage from Santa María Church to Santa Faz Monastery.

Week 5
Class 5.1  Romanesque (XI-XIII Century)
The transmission of ideas facilitated by the knowledge of artisans, architects, etc on their way to the shrine of Santiago.
The importance and development of architecture, and paintings in the promotion of the power of God: medieval implications.
Royal Pantheon of San Isidoro in León.
Gothic: The evolution of arts into light and heaven. Moving from Theocentrism to Humanism. The role of architecture and paintings. The Cathedral of Burgos.

Class 5.2  Mock Exam

Week 6
Class 6.1  Baroque
The development of artistic decoration and the appearance of a theatrical image of the power of God.
Rococo: Luxurious decoration in architecture and paintings. Santiago de Compostela Cathedral: combination of artistic styles.
The Spanish Civil War.

Class 6.2  Franco, Dictator
The use of the figure of Saint James by Franco.
Images and metaphors.
The revival of the Camino: consolidation of democracy, the figure of Pope John Paul II, UNESCO, Government of Galicia tourist campaigns and Holy Years (Año Xacobeo).

Paper: Outline and structure

Reading: First article summary

Week 7
Class 7.1 Midterm

Week 8
Class 8.1

Elias Valiña Sampedro’s role and the town of O’Cebreiro in the new discovery of the Camino de Santiago.

Routes to Santiago through Spain and Europe. The French Way, the Silver Way, the North Way, etc.

Class 8.2 Oral Presentations

Week 9
Class 9.1 Movie: The Way

Class 9.2 Discussion and Debate

Paper: deadline to submit draft paper, March 25th.

Week 10
Class 10.1 XXI Century Motivations

Pilgrim shelters: Albergues vs. Refugios

The Way of Saint James: the physical experience

The Way as a deep personal experience

Other religions on the Camino de Santiago

Camino de Santiago Friend’s Associations: role, objectives, etc.

Consolidation of the success of the Camino de Santiago: audiovisual resources (movies, documentaries, apps, etc) and literature (guides, books, etc.)

Economic culture generated in the Camino de Santiago. The concept of tourism: The Turi-peregrino
Week 11
Class 11.1 The Role of the Hospitaleros and Pilgrim Shelters
Rituals at the Santiago de Compostela Cathedral: Portico de la Gloria, Hug to Santiago, Maestro Mateo, etc.

Class 11.2 Routine Along the Camino
Pilgrim shelters, meals, physical pain, psychological process, etc.

Week 12
Class 12.1 Documentary
The Camino de Santiago is not a path of roses.
Discussion and debate
Reading: Second article summary.

Class 12.2 Visit
Friends of the Camino de Santiago Association in Alicante.

Week 13
Class 13.1 Final Exam Review

Class 13.2 Final Exam Review

Week 14
Class 14.1 Final Exam Review

Class 14.2 Mock Exam
Paper: deadline to submit final paper.

Week 15
Class 15.1 Final Exam Week

Course Materials
Readings
The list of readings and dates will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

- Camino de Santiago CIEE Alicante Manual@. Prof. Francisco Díez. 2017
- Cazaux, François. To be a pilgrim: A contested identity on Saint James’ Way. Université Aix-Marseille I, France

Visits

- Santa María Church and Santa Faz Monastery.
- Friends of the Camino Association in Alicante.

Online Resources

- Official Galician tourism office website www.santiagoturismo.com/camino-de-santiago
- Detailed description of the routes to Santiago. www.caminodesantiago.consumer.es
- Camino de Santiago Social Network https://vivecamino.com

Media Resources

- Do Something Grand! A documentary by Matthew Anderson. Professor of Theological Studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada
- ¡El Camino de Santiago no es un camino de rosas! Documentary by José Alvarez. 2006.