

## FAH390YO Seville: Twenty Centuries of Art History

**Professor:** Eric Davis

### Introduction

This online course will explore facets of Spain's rich artistic tradition by placing a special emphasis on Seville's very own unique and extensive Art history. We will survey artistic trends and developments across more than twenty centuries in Spain and Seville, beginning with prehistoric Art and passing the Roman ruins of *Itálica* and ending with architect Santiago Calatrava's contemporary Alamillo Bridge. Seville's varied artistic history will allow us to examine Roman monuments, Islamic palaces, and Gothic cathedrals. We will also analyze works by many of Spain's greatest painters and architects.

Weekly recorded **ONLINE CLASS EXCURSIONS**, virtual site visits and field trips to local monuments, palaces, museums, and galleries will allow us to use Seville's rich cultural heritage as a sort of "laboratory" where students will be able to engage with the material covered in class in a meaningful way. We are also preparing real-time live-feed visits or **VIRTUAL TOURS** to some of Seville's beautiful places.

All readings and discussions are in English. No knowledge of Spanish is required. The class will be conducted using GOOGLE CLASSROOM. Questions and class interaction will be via this platform. **Online Lectures** will be recoded and will have power point style images. Each lecture will have a power point that students can access on our Google Classroom for study purposes.

**Student's Oral presentations** will be a fun part of the online class requiring participation. Students may form groups or individually present an Art History subject to the class via Google Classroom.

*Required text: Students will receive an online course pack/reader at the beginning of the course. Most class readings and assignments will come from **John Moffitt's "The Arts in Spain"** (London, Thames & Hudson, 1999) which students should purchase before the class begins. The online reader includes diverse sources. We may access a Google Drive source for more images and readings.*

### **Week 1**

**Class Day 1:** Course Introduction, **Online lectures; Prehistoric Art**, the Cave Art of Altamira in Northern Spain, the first monuments in Antequera, Southern Spain, Paleolithic and Neolithic periods. We will look at the **Early Inhabitants** of Spain, colonizers such as the Greeks, Phoenicians, Celts, and Iberians. We will study **Roman Spain**, the bridges and monuments of Hispania, the aqueduct of Segovia, the ruins of Itálica and Mérida.

**Recorded Online Class Excursion; The Roman Ruins of Itálica.** Located near Seville, this is one of the finest Roman Ruins in Spain.

Reading for day 2; Moffit p. 9 – 22, Class Reader (Stockstat) p. 1-24.



#### **Class Day 2:**

**Class discussion; “What have the Romans left us?”**

**Online Lectures; The Visigoths, Romanesque, and Islamic Spain.**

**Recorded Online Class Excursion; The City of Cordoba and it’s Spectacular Mosque.**

Another high point, we will tour the town of Cordoba and see a Roman Bridge, an old Jewish Quarter neighborhood and an Architectural treasure, unique in Western Europe, the Mosque of Córdoba.

Reading for day 3; Read on Google drive “Form” p. 67-81.

**Class Day 3: Recorded Online Class Excursion; the Giralda of Seville,** Then we will take a virtual out of town field trip and do another **Recorded Online Class Excursion; The Alhambra de Granada.** This is probably the most exciting visit in our class, to the beautiful city of Granada, where we can walk through the picturesque city streets, and visit the inside of the Alhambra, a medieval Islamic castle containing a spectacular palace, truly one of the most beautiful buildings in the world.

Reading for day 4; Class Reader p. 25-48. Please watch PBS Documentary “The Empire of Faith” on our Google Drive.

**Weekend excursion: Virtual Tour: Metrosol Parasol.** We will all meet online and take a walk through the Roman ruins under an ultramodern piece of contemporary Architecture, called, Las Setas. We will go to the top and look out over the top of the entire city of Seville.

#### **Class Day 4:**

***First Reaction Paper Due; Itálica.***

**Class discussion; “What was the legacy of the Islamic inhabitants? What have they left us and how have they influenced Spain”.**

**Online lectures; about Medieval Spain; Mudejar Art,** a unique aspect of Spain’s history. We will take a **Recorded Online Class Excursion; Mudejar Seville,** walking through the streets of Seville and observing some of these unique buildings.

**Recorded Online Class Excursion; The Alcázar Royal Palace of Seville.**

We will walk through this spectacular building in the heart of Seville, a Royal Palace including Islamic, Mudejar, Gothic and Renaissance sections. We will also walk through the beautiful gardens of the palace.

#### **Class Day 5:**

**Online Lecture: Gothic Architecture.**

**Recorded Online Class Excursion; The Cathedral of Seville,** the world’s largest Gothic cathedral. This is one of the high points of the class, the cathedral is full of Art and the Architecture is varied and spectacular.

Reading for day 6; Moffit, “el Greco” p. 107-119. Also read on Google Drive “Painting” 215-232.



**Class Day 6:**

***Second Reaction Paper Due: The Cathedral of Seville.***

**Class discussion; "How would you compare Islamic and Christian Art and Architecture?"**

**Online Lectures: El Greco, the eternal Artist of Toledo. Ribera, a Spanish Baroque master in Italy.**

Reading for Day 7; Google Drive, "Unity and Balance" p. 131-145

**Class Day 7:**

**Recorded Online Class Excursion; Baroque Seville, Hospital de la Caridad.** We will visit this monument, one of the finest examples of Baroque in the world, filled with beautiful Art.

Student Oral Presentations

Review for Midterm

**Class Day 8: Mid Term Exam**

Reading for day 9; Moffitt p. 126-146, Class Reader "Velazquez" p. 66-74.

**Class Day 9:**

**Online Lectures: Velazquez and Murillo.** Two great Baroque painters from Seville

Student Oral Presentations

Watch "Diego Velazquez: The Rokeby Venus" from the series *The Private Life of a Masterpiece..*

Student Oral Presentations

Reading for day 9; Moffitt p. 126-146.

**Class Day 10:**

**Recorded Online Class Excursion: The Fine Arts Museum of Seville.** We will visit one of Spain's finest museums, housed in a beautiful Baroque building which once was a monastery.

Student Oral Presentations

Reading for Day 11; Moffit 147-168.

Class reader p. 49-65.

Moffitt, "Goya" 179-189.

**Class Day 11:**

***Third Reaction Paper Due: Describe your favorite Artwork in the Fine arts Museum of Seville.***

**Class discussion; your impression of Spanish Baroque Masters.**

**Online Lecture: Goya, the Grandfather of Romanticism, from court splendor to the ravages of war to the black period.**

Watch "Francisco Goya: The Third of May 1808" from the series *The Private Life of a Masterpiece.*

Student's Oral presentations.



**Class Day 12:**

**Online Lecture:** After Goya, Custumbrismo and Modernism, Catalan Modernists Ramon Casas y Santiago Rusiñol. The virtuoso painter Sorolla. The Modernist Architecture of **Gaudi**, the eternal architect of Barcelona. The Sevillian school of Anibal González.

Student's Oral presentations.

**Week 4**

**Class Day 13:**

**Virtual Tour:** We will all meet online in realtime and walk through the Modernist masterpiece, Plaza de España, and we will stroll through the Parque Maria Luisa, Seville's prettiest park!

Reading for day 14; Moffit; Picasso 189-199.

**Class Day 14:**

**Class discussion; the Modernist architecture of Seville, the Barcelona Architecture of Gaudi.**

**Online Lecture: Pablo Picasso**, creator and destroyer, the most important artist of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Student Oral Presentations.

Reading for day 15; Class Reader "Modern Art" p. 75-103, Abrams, "Miro" p.104-107, "Dali" p. 108-121.

**Class Day 15:**

**Online Lecture: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Masters; Salvador Dalí. Joan Miro.**

Student Oral Presentations.

Reading for day 16; handout "Calatrava". Moffit, "postmodernism" p. 225-231.

**Class Day 16: Virtual Tour: the "Cartuja": Seville's 1992 World's Fair and "Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporaneo".** This is a beautiful 16<sup>th</sup> Century Monastery which today houses the latest contemporary Art trends.

Student Oral Presentations.

**Class Day 17:**

**Fourth Reaction Paper Due: One exhibit you found interesting in the Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporaneo.**

**Online Lecture:** Contemporary Art and Architecture in Spain, Calatrava, Rafael Moneo.

Contemporary Spanish Art. Tapiez, Saura, **Barceló**.

Student's Oral presentations.

**Class Day 18:**

**Class discussion; "Do you like Contemporary Art? Contemporary Architecture? Why or why not?"**

Student's Oral presentations.

Review for the Final Exam.

**Class Day 19: FINAL EXAM.**

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**Assignments and Exams:**

**15% Class attendance and active participation.**

**20% Midterm**

**15% Oral presentations**

**25% Field Trip Reaction Papers (5% each)**

**25% Final Exam**

**Grading Scheme (using University of Toronto's Grading Scheme)**

Numerical Scale of Mark	Letter Grade
90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

