

**Professor Marcus Daniel**  
**History 440: Modern Europe (3 Credits)**  
**University of Hawai'i Manoa**  
**Study Abroad Program**  
**Seville - Spring 2023**

**HIST 440: "Spain is in the Heart":  
A Local and Transnational of the Spanish Civil War**

**Course Description**

The title of this course is taken from a collection of poetry by the great Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda. *Espana en el Corazon* was published in 1938 by Neruda, who had been the Chilean consul to Spain at the start of the Spanish Civil War in 1936, and his poems record his grief about the destruction of the Spanish Republic, and the brutal execution of his close friend and fellow poet, Federico Garcia Lorca, a native son of Granada and Andalucia.

The Spanish Civil War (1936-39) was a watershed in the history of modern Spain, and the defeat of the fledgling Spanish Republic led to a consolidation of a brutal dictatorship in Spain under General Francisco Franco that lasted until the middle of the 1970's. Although Spain has now been a democracy for the past 40 years, the reverberations of the Civil War and the Franco dictatorship still shape Spanish politics and society, and old and bitter conflicts continue to surface in recent debates about the victims of the civil war and the dictatorship, about the legacy and memorialization of Franco, and in contemporary political battles between the Spanish left and the political right, which is once again resurgent. The war also left deep scars in Seville, which was one of the first cities to fall to Franco's forces. You can still see bullet holes from the execution of republicans carried out during the 1930's in the ancient "muralla" or city walls of the city, where there is also a memorial to those who died fighting for the Spanish Republic. However, a few hundred yards away in the Church of La Virgen Macarena lies the well-tended tomb of Quiapo de Lleno, a Sevillano who was one of Franco's most trusted generals, and the city remains divided to this day about the memory and legacy of the war.

But the importance of the civil war was not confined to Seville or even Spain. From the moment the Republic was attacked by Franco and the Falangists in 1936, the civil war sparked fierce international debate and the military intervention of the Soviet Union (via the Communist International and the International Brigades), Mussolini's Italy and the German Third Reich; and Spain quickly became a symbol for the broader conflict between fascism and advocates of democracy in the 1930's, and a *cause celebre* for the left and liberals all over the world. It also inspired an outpouring of cultural and literary activity from painters like Picasso, whose greatest painting *Guernica*, a protest against the German dive-bombing of the Basque city of Guernica, was displayed at the Spanish Pavilion of the Paris International Exposition in 1937 and intended to mobilize international support for the Spanish Republic, to photographers like Robert Capa, poets like Neruda, Lorca and Antonio Machado, writers like George Orwell, Ernest Hemingway, John Dos Passos and a whole host of memoirists. Throughout the course, I

will interweave and emphasize these international, cultural, and literary aspects of the Spanish Civil War.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will be able to identify and understand the critical events of the Spanish Civil War, and the way these events have been represented by historians, writers, poets, artists and other witnesses.
2. Students will be able to understand and explain the critical issues and debates about the legacy and memory of the Spanish Civil War, and the way these issues relate to current political issues and developments in Spanish society.
3. Students will develop their critical reading, thinking and interpretive skills through the close reading of primary and secondary historical and literary texts, and develop their writing and oral presentation skills through essays, class presentations, and other written assignments.
4. Students will develop an appreciation for the complex history of the Spanish Civil War and the Franco dictatorship and the way this has shaped the place they temporarily inhabit, and the political and popular culture of Seville and Spain, as well as the international and transnational dimensions of the conflict.

### **Selected Readings**

Antony Beevor, *The Battle for Spain: The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939*, Penguin, 2006.

Ronald Fraser, *The Blood of Spain: An Oral History of the Spanish Civil War*, Alfred Knopf, 1980.

Adam Hochschild, *Spain in Our Hearts: Americans in the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939* Mariner Books, 2017.

Paul Preston, *Doves of War: Four Women of Spain*, Harper Perennial, 2012.

Ruben Serem, *The Laboratory of Fear: Conspiracy, Coup d'Etat and Civil War in Seville*, University of Sussex, 2017.

Giles Tremlett, *Ghosts of Spain: Travels Through Spain and Its Silent Past*, Walker and Company, 2007.

All the additional readings in the syllabus will be made available on the Laulima class website. Students are expected to do all the required readings for the weekly classes.

### **Schedule**

The class will meet twice a week in a 12-week schedule. Most of these classes will take place at ICS but we will also do at least two walking tours of Seville to trace reminders and monuments of the civil war in the city. I would also like to arrange to bring at least two local visitors to the class to discuss their familial and personal history of the civil war. This effort to ground the learning of the students in personal experiences and in their own immediate environment will be a central feature of the course.

## **Requirements**

Each student will be required to write 3 essays (of 4-5 pages each) over the course of the semester and to present these papers to the class. The first will be a review essay on one of the required texts and will be a test of their ability to synthesize and explain a historical narrative. The second paper will require the student to write and present a paper on some cultural or literary aspect of the civil war – for example Lorca’s poetry, Picasso’s painting, or the experiences in Spain of a writer like George Orwell. Finally, each student will be required to conduct and provide a commentary on one oral history interview with a person of their choice about their subject’s experience of and relationship to the civil war.

In addition, students will be required to keep a weekly journal of their encounters with the traces – physical, political and personal – of the Spanish Civil War during their stay in Seville and Spain. The final paper for the class will encourage them to integrate the semester’s work and readings with their own personal reflections and experiences in a paper on the legacy of the civil war in Seville, and to present this paper as a Powerpoint presentation to the class at the end of the semester.

## **Grading**

Grades will be based on the following percentages:

Essays (4-5 pages)	30%
Final & Presentation (7 page min)	30%
Oral Presentations (3)	15%
Class Journal	15%
Attendance and class participation	10%