



## SYLLABUS

### **HIST 410: NATIONALISM, WAR, AND REVOLUTION: SPAIN AND CUBA FROM 1800 TO THE PRESENT**

**Instructor: Carlos Aguirre**

**Language of Instruction: English**

**UO Credits: 4**

**Contact Hours\*: 40**

### **OVIEDO, SPAIN**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A rather marginal area of the Spanish empire, Cuba became the wealthiest colony in the world by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century thanks to the boom in sugar production after the Haitian revolution. Cuba remained as a Spanish possession through 1898, when it became independent as a result of both the War of Independence launched by Cuban patriots in 1895 and the Spanish-American war that ended in 1898. The struggle against Spanish colonialism shaped various configurations of Cuban nationalism while in Spain the loss of Cuba and other territories represented a dramatic turning point that led to numerous political, economic, and cultural readjustments and opened a period of almost three decades of political uncertainty that would eventually lead to the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) and the dictatorship led by General Francisco Franco (1939-1975). The attainment of “National unity” was one of the central motives behind Franco’s extended authoritarian rule. In the aftermath of Franco’s death in 1975, Spain has seen both the consolidation of “national unity” reflected in the 1978 Constitution and the revival of peripheral nationalisms, especially in Catalonia and the Basque country.

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY**

We will meet for three hours twice a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) for lectures and discussion. In addition, we will watch a film or documentary every Wednesday afternoon, followed by discussion.

#### **METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)**

Two quizzes: 10 points each; 20 total points.

Midterm exam: 30 points

Final exam: 40 points

Attendance and participation: 10 points.

#### **COURSE OUTLINE**

## Week 1

1. Spanish Colonialism and Spanish-American Creole Nationalism through 1850
2. War and Nationalism in Cuba

## Week 2

3. 1898 in Cuba and Spain: “Liberation” and “Disaster”
4. José Martí and the making of Cuban nationalism

## Week 3

5. Regeneration and Revolution in Spain, 1898-1934
6. The Spanish Civil War the Reshaping of Spanish Nationalism during the Franco era (1936-1975)

## Week 4

7. US and Cuban nationalism through 1959
8. Revolutionary Nationalism in post-1959 Cuba

## EXCURSION TO MADRID

## Week 5

9. The post-Franco transition and Spanish nationalism
10. Peripheral nationalisms in Catalonia and the Basque Country

## COURSE READINGS

Benedict Anderson, “Creole Patriotism,” *Imagined Communities* (Verso, 1981).

Ada Ferrer, *Insurgent Cuba: Race, Nation, and Revolution, 1868-1898* (University of North Carolina Press, 1999), pp. 112-202.

Lillian Guerra, *The Myth of José Martí* (University of North Carolina Press, 2005), pp. 119-191.

Julián Casanova, *The Spanish Republic and Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

Aviva Chomsky, *A History of the Cuban Revolution* (Wiley Blackwell, 2015).

Jose Álvarez-Junco, *Spanish Identity in the Age of Nations* (Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2011).

Kathryn Cramery, *‘Goodbye, Spain?’: The Question of Independence for Catalonia* (Sussex University Press, 2014).