

Last updated: October 18th, 2007

THE IBERIAN PENINSULA: CULTURES AND RELIGIONS THROUGH THE ARTS
AH/RL350A

DESCRIPTION:

This course aims to apply visual arts techniques to the interpretation of the Spanish and European experience of Islam, both in the past (the eight centuries of Islamic presence in Spain) and in Modern and Contemporary times; therefore, the timeframe of the course goes from the Middle Ages to the 21st Century. The course proposes a historical as well as contemporary approach to the subject in order to analyze the connections between past and present in the European experience of Islam, focusing on moments of conflict, tolerance or coexistence. The classes and field studies will help to analyze the evolution of these relations through the analysis of artistic images, architecture, popular imagery and film. (3 credits)

PREREQUISITES:

None

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION:

English

PROFESSOR:

C. MARTÍN

STUDENT OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- apply basic art history tools to analyse historical / cultural facts;
- identify the key moments of the relationship between Europe and Islam;
- distinguish the key features and symbols that appear in the artworks and interpret their meaning;
- describe the different meanings of each visual element according to the class content;
- measure the importance of visual arts in the construction of religious and cultural identities.

LEARNING MEANS:

- LECTURES: delivery of core course content and the opportunity to clarify issues.
- READER: a selection of key texts designed to develop a general understanding of the subject matter and encourage discussion. All required readings can be found in the course reading package. The readings listed for a particular session must be completed BEFORE coming to class that day.
- CLASSES ON SITE: first hand appreciation of artworks that reveal the relationships analysed in class.
- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS AND CLASS PARTICIPATION: an opportunity to approach Art History from an original point of view and encourage group discussion. The achievements of the students' research will be part of the class content.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT:

- Midterm exam: 25%
 - Final exam: 30%
 - Term paper: 20%
 - Class presentation: 10%
 - Participation: 15%
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- EXAMS: essay questions for discussion and analysis of images viewed in classes and visits.
 - TERM PAPER: the student and the teacher will choose one topic that is suitable for a research paper. The student can undertake the research alone or maximum in groups of three. The teacher will assess where to find good sources (libraries, museums, etc). This paper has a minimum length of 3,000 words. The paper is due on March 31st (session 19).

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- CLASS PRESENTATION: Groups of 5-6 students will be formed according to the links between the different research topics. These groups will meet before the session to discuss their thesis and conclusions and report them back to the class for 15-20 min. A debate led by the professor will follow these presentations.
- PARTICIPATION: this includes attendance and active participation in class: discussions, interesting questions, readings and a personal and unique approach to the subject

COURSE CONTENT

SESSION 1	Jan. 21, 2008	Class content: Presentation of the course. Structure and methodology.
SESSION 2	Jan. 23, 2008	Class content: The birth of Islam and the formation of Islamic Art Blair, Sheila S. and Bloom, Jonathan M. (2003). The Mirage of Islamic Art: Reflections on the Study of an Unwieldy Field. <i>The Art Bulletin</i> , Vol. 85, No. 1. 152-184.
SESSION 3	Jan. 28, 2008	Class content: Visual Arts Techniques as a Means to Interpreting Cultural Exchange Required readings: Ali, Princess Widjan (2006). <i>Islamic Art as a Means of Cultural Exchange</i> . Available: http://www.muslimheritage.com/uploads/Islamic_Art_Means_of_Cultural_Exchange3.pdf . Accessed: October 13th 2008
SESSION 4	Jan. 30, 2008	Class content: Islamic Art as Seen Through Western Eyes I Required readings: Grabar, Oleg (2006). What Makes Islamic Art Islamic? In Grabar, Oleg, <i>Islamic Art and Beyond</i> . Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 247-251 Grube, Ernst J. (1995) What is Islamic Architecture? In Michell, George (ed.) <i>Architecture of the Islamic World</i> . New York: Thames and Hudson. 10 - 14
SESSION 5	Feb. 4, 2008	Class content: Islamic Art as Seen Through Western Eyes II Required readings: Grabar, Oleg (1987) <i>The formation of Islamic Art</i> . New Haven, Yale University Press: 85 - 109 Grabar, Oleg (2006) "Islamic Ornament and Western Abstraction". In Grabar, Oleg, <i>Islamic Art and Beyond</i> . Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 247 - 251
SESSION 6	Feb. 6, 2008	Class content: Spain: A Western Country? The Theories of Américo Castro and Sánchez Albornoz Required readings: Castro, Americo (1971) <i>The Spaniards. An Introduction to Their History</i> . Berkeley, Los Angeles & London: University of California Press. 209 - 236
SESSION 7	Feb. 11, 2008	Class content: Class on-site: Museu d'Història de Catalunya Required readings:

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		Glick, Thomas F. (1995) <i>From Muslim Fortress to Christian Castle: Social and Cultural Change in Medieval Spain</i> . Manchester: Manchester University Press. 1- 14
SESSION 8	Feb. 13, 2008	<p>Class content: Al-Andalus: The Blend of Identities in the Iberian Peninsula. Christians, Jews, Muslims, Mozarabes, Moriscos</p> <p>Required readings: Kogman-Appel, Katrin (2002). Hebrew Manuscript Painting in Late Medieval Spain: Signs of a Culture in Transition. <i>The Art Bulletin</i>, Vol. 84, No. 2. 256-272.</p> <p>Burckhardt, Titus (1972) <i>Moorish Culture in Spain</i>. London: George Allen & Unwin. 23-30</p>
SESSION 9	Feb. 18, 2008	<p>Class content: A Golden Age: the Caliphate of Cordoba</p> <p>Required readings: Menocal, María Rosa (2002) <i>The Ornament of the World. How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain</i>. New York: Back Bay Books. 53-65</p> <p>Grabar, Oleg (1992) "Two paradoxes in the Islamic Art of the Spanish Peninsula". In Jayyusi, Salma Khadra (ed.). <i>The Legacy of Muslim Spain</i>. Leiden: Brill. 583–591</p>
SESSION 10	Feb. 20, 2008	<p>Class content: A Case Study of Visual Acculturation: I. The Great Cordoba Mosque</p> <p>Required readings: Burckhardt, Titus (1972) <i>Moorish Culture in Spain</i>. London: George Allen & Unwin. 9-20</p> <p>Dodds, Jerrylinn (1994) The Arts of Al-Andalus. In Salma Khadra Jayyusi (Ed.) <i>The Legacy of Muslim Spain</i>. Leiden: Brill. 599 - 620</p>
SESSION 11	Feb. 25, 2008	<p>Class content: Class debate: The Representation of the Past as a Means to Discuss Current Conflicts</p> <p>Required viewing: Film Viewing: Chahine, Youssef (1997) <i>Destiny</i>. Egypt. Misr International</p>
SESSION 12	Feb. 27, 2008	<p>Class content: The End of an Era: Nasrid Granada A Case Study of Visual Acculturation: II. The Alhambra</p> <p>Required readings: Grabar, Oleg (2006). Graffiti or Proclamations: Why Write on Buildings? In Grabar, Oleg. <i>Islamic Art and Beyond</i>. Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 239-244</p> <p>Cammy Brothers, C. (1994). The Renaissance Reception of the Alhambra: The letters of Andrea Navagero and The Palace of Charles V. <i>Muqarnas</i>, Vol. II. 79 -102</p>
SESSION 13	Mar. 3, 2008	<p>Class content: Islamic Forms in a Christian Context 1492. Denial of the Past. A New Visual Program for a New Empire</p> <p>Required readings: Grabar, Oleg (2006). Islamic Architecture and the West: Influences and Parallels. In Grabar, Oleg, <i>Islamic Visual Culture 1100-1800</i>.</p>

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		Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 381-387
SESSION 14	Mar. 5, 2008	Class content: Class on site: Islamic Center in Barcelona
SESSION 15	Mar. 10, 2008	Midterm Exam
SESSION 16	Mar. 12, 2008	Class content: Re-discovery (18 th & 19 th Centuries): the Ottoman Empire. Napoleon's Campaigns. Images of Threat. Required readings: Irving, Washington (2002) Legend of the Three Beautiful Princesses. In <i>Tales of the Alhambra</i> . Granada: Miguel Sánchez. 139-162 Lowe, Lisa (2000) Turkish Embassy Letters. In Macfie, Alexander Lyon (ed.) <i>Orientalism: A Reader</i> . Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 324-325.
	SPRING BREAK	
	SPRING BREAK	
SESSION 17	Mar. 24, 2008	BANK HOLIDAY: NO CLASS
SESSION 18	Mar. 26, 2008	Class content: Orientalism. The Other From a Distance Required readings: Said, Edward (1995) <i>Orientalism</i> . London: Penguin Books. 31-49
SESSION 19	Mar. 31, 2008	Class content: Class on-site: Orientalism within the MNAC (Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya) FINAL PAPER DUE Required readings: De Botton, Alain (2002). <i>The Art of Travel</i> . New York: Vintage Books. 67 -98
SESSION 20	Apr. 2, 2008	Class content: Spanish Colonialism and the Civil War. The Image of Islam During the Franco Period. Popular Imagery. Required readings: Said, Edward (1995) <i>Orientalism</i> . London: Penguin Books. 284-293
SESSION 21	Apr. 7, 2008	Class content: The Postcolonial Response: Contemporary Islamic Symbols Among Us A Case Study. The Great Mosque of Casablanca and Other Western Mosques Required readings: Grabar, Oleg (2002) The Mosque in Islamic Society Today. In Frishman, Martin & Khan, Hassan-Udin <i>The Mosque. History, Architectural Development & Regional Diversity</i> . London: Thames & Hudson. 242-245 Arkoun, Mohammed (2002) The Metamorphosis of the Sacred. In Frishman, Martin & Khan, Hassan-Udin <i>The Mosque. History, Architectural Development & Regional Diversity</i> . London: Thames & Hudson. 268-272

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SESSION 22	Apr. 9, 2008	Class content: Student presentations
SESSION 23 MAKE UP CLASS	Apr. 9, 2008 GROUP A: 17:30-19:00	Class content: New Conflicts and Their Images I Required readings: Esposito, John L. (1999) Clash of Civilizations? Contemporary Images of Islam in the West. In Martín Muñoz, Gema (ed.) <i>Islam, Modernism and the West</i> . London / New York: I.B. Tauris. 94–108 Ali, Princess Widjan (1992) The Status of Islamic Art in the Twentieth Century. In <i>Muqarnas</i> XI. 186 – 188
SESSION 24	Apr. 14, 2008	Class content: New Conflicts and Their Images II Short Film Viewing: López, Valeriano (1996) <i>Estrecho Adventure</i> . Unreleased film. Required readings: Rushdie, Salman (2002) <i>Step Across This Line. Collected Nonfiction</i> . New York: The Modern Library, 2002. 286–288; 336-341
FINAL EXAM*	Apr. 21, 2008	Final Exam

LIST OF SELF-GUIDED VISITS, FIELD STUDIES, CLASSES ON SITE, GUEST SPEAKERS OR FILM VIEWINGS

SESSION	DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
7	Feb. 11, 2008	Class on-site	Museu d'Història de Catalunya
11	Feb. 25, 2008	Film Viewing	Chahine, Youssef (1997) <i>Destiny</i> . Egypt. Misr International
14	Mar. 5, 2008	Class on-site	Class on site: Islamic Center in Barcelona
19	Mar. 31, 2008	Class on-site	Orientalism within the MNAC (Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya)

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REQUIRED READINGS

- Ali, Princess Widjan (1992) The Status of Islamic Art in the Twentieth Century. In *Muqarnas* XI. 186 - 188
- Ali, Princess Widjan (2006). *Islamic Art as a Means of Cultural Exchange*. Available: http://www.muslimheritage.com/uploads/Islamic_Art_Means_of_Cultural_Exchange3.pdf. Accessed: October 13th 2007
- Arkoun, Mohammed (2002) The Metamorphosis of the Sacred. In Frishman, Martin & Khan, Hassan-Udin *The Mosque. History, Architectural Development & Regional Diversity*. London: Thames & Hudson. 268-272
- Blair, Sheila S. and Bloom, Jonathan M. (2003). The Mirage of Islamic Art: Reflections on the Study of an Unwieldy Field. *The Art Bulletin*, Vol. 85, No. 1. 152-184
- De Botton, Alain (2002). *The Art of Travel*. New York: Vintage Books. 67 -98
- Said, Edward (1995) *Orientalism*. London: Penguin Books. 284-293
- Dodds, Jerrylinn (1994) The Arts of Al-Andalus. In Salma Khadra Jayyusi (Ed.) *The Legacy of Muslim Spain*. Leiden: Brill. 599 - 620
- Burckhardt, Titus (1972) *Moorish Culture in Spain*. London: George Allen & Unwin. 9 – 20, 23-30
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- Castro, Americo (1971) *The Spaniards. An Introduction to Their History*. Berkeley, Los Angeles & London: University of California Press. 209 - 253
- Esposito, John L. (1999) Clash of Civilizations? Contemporary Images of Islam in the West. In Martin Muñoz, Gema (ed.) *Islam, Modernism and the West*. London / New York: I.B. Tauris. 94–108
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- Grabar, Oleg (2002) The Mosque in Islamic Society Today. In Frishman, Martin & Khan, Hassan-Udin *The Mosque. History, Architectural Development & Regional Diversity*. London: Thames & Hudson. 242–245
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- Grabar, Oleg (2006). What Makes Islamic Art Islamic? In Grabar, Oleg, *Islamic Art and Beyond*. Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 247-251
- Grabar, Oleg (2006). Islamic Architecture and the West: Influences and Parallels. In Grabar, Oleg, *Islamic Visual Culture 1100-1800*. Aldershot: Ashgate-Variorum. 381-387
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- Grube, Ernst J. (1995) What is Islamic Architecture? In Michell, George (ed.) *Architecture of the Islamic World*. New York: Thames and Hudson. 10 – 14
- Irving, Washington (2002) Legend of the Three Beautiful Princesses. In *Tales of the Alhambra*. Granada: Miguel Sánchez. 139-162
- Kogman-Appel, Katrin (2002). Hebrew Manuscript Painting in Late Medieval Spain: Signs of a Culture in Transition. *The Art Bulletin*, Vol. 84, No. 2. 256-272.
- Lowe, Lisa (2000) Turkish Embassy Letters. In Macfie, Alexander Lyon (ed.) *Orientalism: A Reader*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 324-325

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- Rushdie, Salman (2002) *Step Across This Line. Collected Nonfiction*. New York: The Modern Library, 2002. 286–288; 336-341
- Said, Edward (1995) *Orientalism*. London: Penguin Books. 31-49, 284 - 293

RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Barrucand, Marianne and Bednorz, Achim (2002). *Moorish Architecture in Andalusia*. Köln: Taschen.
- Castro, Americo (1971) *The Spaniards. An Introduction to Their History*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Dodds, Jerryllyn (1992) *Architecture and Ideology in Early Medieval Spain*. University Park: Penn State University Press.
- Dodds, Jerryllyn (1992) *Al-Andalus: The Art of Islamic Spain* (Exhibition Catalogue). New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- Ecker, Heather (2004). Contemplate My Beauty. Perceptions of al-Andalus and the Arts. In *Caliphs and Kings: The Art and Influence of Islamic Spain* (Exhibition Catalogue). New York: New York Hispanic Society.
- Goffman, Dan (2002) *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Grabar, Oleg (1987) *The Formation of Islamic Art*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Jayyusi, Salma Khadra (1992) *The Legacy of Muslim Spain*. Leiden: Brill.
- Maalouf, Amin (1989) *The Crusades through Arab eyes*. Random House.
- Martín Corrales, E. (2002) *La imagen del magrebí en España. Una perspectiva histórica, siglos XVI – XX*. Barcelona: Bellaterra.
- Montagu, Mary (1961) *Turkish Embassy Letters*. London: Henry G. Bohn.
- Ali, Tariq (2002) *The Clash of Fundamentalisms: Crusades, Jihads and Modernity*. London: Verso Books.
- Fregosi, Paul (1998) *Jihad in the West: Muslim Conquests from the 7th to the 21st Centuries*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books.
- Goody, Jack (2004) *Islam in Europe*. Cambridge: Politypress.
- Goytisolo, Juan (2002) *España y los españoles*. Barcelona: Lumen.
- Lewis, Bernard (1993) *Islam and the West*. New York: NY University Press.
- Ramadan, Tariq (2003) *Western Muslims and the Future of Islam*. Oxford University Press.
- Said, Edward (1993) *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Knopf.
- Todorov, Tzvetan (1991) *Nosotros y los otros*. Mexico: Siglo XXI
- Zuylen, G. (1999) *Alhambra: A Moorish Paradise*. London: Alsaqi Books.