

CONTEMPORARY SPAIN I: 1975 - 1989
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Module Number:	LS 2003
Number of Aston Credits:	10
Name of Module Convenor:	Mr Aurelio Ramos Caballero
Pre-Requisite(s) for the Module:	completion of level 1 Spanish
Programme(s) for which module is offered:	ML, TS, ES, POL, CH, IBML
Language of delivery:	Spanish
Teaching Period when offered:	Teaching Period 1
Normal minimum and maximum intake sizes:	8-18

1. Module Learning Outcomes:

a) Subject specific, practical and professional skills

- Students will acquire solid background knowledge of contemporary Spanish History from 1975 to 1989.
- Students will become conversant with the major events, processes, structures, circumstances and personalities that shaped post-Franco Spain's History.
- Students will become familiar with the historical references and debates that serve as a major component of the vocabulary of contemporary Spanish cultural discourse: politics, economy and arts.

b) Cognitive and intellectual skills

- Students will develop confidence and a degree of sophistication in their understanding of cultural concepts and discourse.
- Ability to infer key cultural and social issues from the media.
- Ability to recapitulate essential information from written sources.
- Capacity to organise and present ideas in a structured manner.

c) Transferable skills

- Analysis of social events
- Learning the rules and skills involved in historical explanation, causation and argumentation.
- Aspects of independent and team learning
- Develop research skills in Spanish

1. Module content:

The module aims to chart the trajectory of Spanish politics, economy, society and art in post-Franco Spain. This course analyses the events that have shaped Spain after 1975 and until 1989. We will study the political process which led Spain to become a Parliamentary Monarchy from a military dictatorship in a reasonably non-violent atmosphere. We will pay particular attention to the role of democratic Spain in the European Union but will also look at other international connections. Furthermore, the module will examine the challenges the country had to face to become a stable democracy.

3. Method of Learning and Teaching:

The method will consist of a lecture and a seminar. The lecture will be devoted to introductions to political, economic, social and cultural issues. The seminars will be dedicated to deepening students' understanding of issues presented in lectures, consolidating their familiarisation with the relevant vocabulary and developing oral skills. Usually, students must prepare some materials in advance as part of their private study for the seminar to be more productive. Seminars will provide a framework where students can express their opinions, interests, comments and conclusions about different topics in a very active way. So, discussions, team work and open mind are essential requirements to make the most of the seminar.

4. How is the total 100 Learning Hours per module achieved?

- a. Contact and direct learning: 22
 - i. Lectures: 11
 - ii. Seminars: 11
- b. Private study and assessment: 78

5. Method and Type of Assessment:

1. **Essay [40%]:** word-limit 1500 words, by candidate number, written in Spanish, handed into the School Office on Monday of week 11. Topics will be provided at the start of the term, although personal suggestions of different topics will be gladly considered.
2. **Exam [60%]:** two hours class test, comprising two sections: an essay title and several short questions. It will take place during examination period (weeks 12 or 13).

Feedback: Students will receive written and oral feedback for each piece of assessment in class and/or during consultation hours.

6. Bibliography:

- Balfour, S., *The Politics of Contemporary Spain* (London: Routledge, 2005).
- Boyo-Barret, J.O., *Education Reform in Democratic Spain* (London: Routledge, 1995).
- Brassloff, A., *Religion and Politics in Spain. The Spanish Church in Transition, 1962-1996* (Basingstoke: MacMillan, 1998).
- Colomer, J.M., *La Transición a la democracia. El modelo español* (Barcelona: Anagrama, 1998).
- Gilmour, D., *The Transformation of Spain: from Franco to the Constitutional Monarchy* (London: Quartet, 1985).
- Hooper, J., *The New Spaniards* (London: Penguin, 1995).
- Lawlor, T., & Rigby, M., *Contemporary Spain* (London: Longman, 1998).
- Lawlor, T. et al, *Contemporary Spain: Essays and Texts on Politics, Economics, Education and Employment, and Society* (London: Longman, 1998).
- Mainer, J. C., *El aprendizaje de la libertad. La cultura de la Transición* (Madrid: Editorial Alianza, 2000).
- Montoro, R., & del Águila, R., *El discurso político de la Transición española* (Madrid: Siglo XXI de España, 1984).
- Newton, M., *Institutions of Modern Spain* (Cambridge: CUP, 1997).
- Preston, P., *El triunfo de la democracia* (Barcelona: Grijalbo, 2001).
----- *Juan Carlos, el Rey de un pueblo* (Barcelona: Plaza Janés, 2003).
- Romero Salvadó, F.J., *Twentieth Century Spain. Politics and Society in Spain: 1898-1998* (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1999).
- Ross, C. J., *Spain 1812-2004* (London: Hodder, 2004).
- Ruiz, D., *La España democrática (1975-2000). Política y sociedad* (Madrid: Editorial Síntesis, 2002).
- Santos, J., Pradera, J., et al., *Memoria de la Transición* (Madrid: Taurus, 1996).
- Tussel, J., & Soto, A., *Historia de la Transición (1975-1986)* (Madrid: Alianza Editorial, 1996).
- Vázquez Montalbán, M., *Crónica sentimental de la Transición española* (Barcelona: De Bolsillo, 2005).

7. Web sites (see 'External Links' in Blackboard)

<http://www.elpais.com/especiales/2000/franco/index.htm>

<http://www.elpais.com/todo-sobre/organismo/UE/Union/Europea/89>

http://www.elmundo.es/especiales/2007/06/espana/30aniversario_democracia/index.html

http://www.elmundo.es/nacional/XXV_aniversario

<http://www.vespito.net/historia/>

<http://www.eduvinet.de/eduvinet/es015.htm>

<http://www.salman-psl.com/la-transicion/indexcast.html>