

# DIPLOMA IN SPANISH HISTORY AND CULTURE

## **General Description**

The aim of this Diploma is to provide students with an overview of the Spanish historic, artistic and linguistic contemporary reality in order to deepen their knowledge of Spanish language and culture, which will help them initiate other studies in Spanish and/or complete their humanistic, scientific, experimental and social knowledge.

## **Program details**

The Diploma in Spanish History and Culture awards 30 ECTS credits divided into 5 compulsory courses. This study program, especially designed for international incoming students, covers areas such as: history, art, literature and geography in the context of Spain.

All the courses in the Diploma in Spanish History and Culture are taught by the Faculty of Arts and the Department of Philology academic staff, who have wide experience in teaching in English and have carried out part of their professional training in British and North American universities.

However, with the approval of academic coordinators at their home institutions and the consent of Diploma's Director, students coming to Santander in the frame of an exchange program may select any number of unit courses appropriate for their curricula.

All unit courses are taught during Spring Semester (mid-February through June). A maximum of 40 students is allowed for each unit course. Grading system is based on continuous evaluation, including mid-term and final exams.



## Unit Courses

### **Contemporary Spain (1939-2009). Politics, Society and Culture**

**Spring. 6 ECTS credits**

The core of the subject is the study of the main social, political, and cultural features of Spain during 3 periods: the Franco dictatorship (1939-1975), the transition towards democracy (1975-1978) and the period of full democracy up until 2009. It will help the student to have a wide general knowledge of the history of modern Spain, as well as detailed insights into some of its most significant features.

#### **Textbook**

*Spain: Dictatorship to Democracy*, Carr, Raymond and Juan Pablo Fusi. *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Spanish Culture*, Gies, David. *The New Spaniards*, (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition), Hooper, John.

### **Discovering Spanish Landscapes**

**Spring. 6 ECTS credits**

This course will show students how diverse the Spanish territory is, attending to different geographical points of view. At the end of the course, students will have to be able to distinguish different physical and human landscapes of Spain. The main aim will be to identify and describe different landscapes in Spain from a physical, social, urban and economic point of view. In order to achieve this general aim, students will be able to seek, deal and analyse geographic information.

#### **Textbook**

*Geografía de España*, Gil Olcina A. y Gómez Mendoza, J.; *Waterfronts in Post-Industrial Cities*, Marshall, Richard.

### **Playing with words: the Spanish Literature in its main texts**

**Spring. 6 ECTS credits**

The student will be able to describe the history of Spanish Literature through the analysis of texts, identify the main literary references of each period of Spanish Literature and therefore, be able to identify the main features one given literary period manifests. He/she will be able to express their opinions on the history of Spanish Literature and to discuss overtly with classmates, exchanging opinions and points of view.

#### **Textbook**

*Historia de la literatura española*, Deyermann, Alaan D. y otros. *Historia de la literatura española*, Alborg, Juan Luis.

### **Cross-Cultural Spanish Arts**

**Spring. 6 ECTS credits**

Spanish Arts is shown as the result of a cultural mix, from Ancient times through to the present. Students will learn how deep its classical roots are, how it was shaped by medieval religions (Christian, Islamic and Hebrew) and how it bridged Europe and the Americas from an Early Modern Age.

#### **Textbook**

*Art and Architecture of Spain*. Barral i Altet, Xavier. *The Arts in Spain*. Moffit, John F.

### **From Prehistory to the Twentieth Century: a look into the History of Spain.**

**Spring. 6 ECTS credits**

Students will be encouraged to understand the Spanish past, make their own historical perspective on Spanish reality and acquire a critical rational view of Spanish history.

#### **Textbook**

*Modern Spain, 1875-1980*, Carr, Raymond. *A Social History of Modern Spain*, Shubert, Adrian