



ARTE ESPAÑOL A TRAVÉS DE LOS MUSEOS
ALI-Elec 4600 A Museum-Based Survey Of Spanish Art
An Experiential Learning Course

Goals and Objectives:

This course is designed for students studying in Spain who have the opportunity to visit a number of museums and see the actual pieces of art they are studying. Specific artists and works of art representative of the major periods and movements in Spanish art will be studied. Furthermore, students will see a wider range of works by each artist and of other representative artists of each period, which will provide them with background information and a framework for the specific pieces being studied and evaluated. The course will provide an historical and cultural framework for each artist and piece of art studied as well as an evaluation of the artistic elements and techniques used.

Methodology:

This course is divided into two modules:

- 1) Formal classroom study will introduce students to the characteristics of different periods of art and the most representative artists of each period. Specific works that can be seen first hand at museums to be visited will be studied in detail.
- 2) Students will visit museums and sites of artistic and architectural interest in Madrid, Cuenca, Granada, Valencia and Alicante including the Prado, the Reina Sofía, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Alicante (MACA), MUBAG, Museo de Arte Abstracto Español de Cuenca the Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno, the Alhambra, among others. Each visit will be led by the course instructor who will provide on-site explanations of the works being viewed.

Content:

1. **Alicante**
 - a) **MUBAG.** 19th century painting. Picturesquism and orientalism. Artists: Agravot, Sorolla.
 - b) **Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Alicante (MACA).** Paintings from the last half of the 20th century. Informalism: Millares, Tápies, Chillida, Feito, Palazuelo. Cinetic Art: Carlos Cruz-Diez, Jesús Soto, Julio Le Parc, Eusebio Sempere. Pop Art: Equipo Crónica, Equipo El Paso, Juana Francés.
2. **Valencia**
 - a) **Museo San Pío V.** Medieval religious art. Retablos (alterpieces). The Valencian schools: Renaissance and Baroque. Artists: Luis Morales, Juan de Juanes, Vicente Masip, Rivalta, Rivera.

- b) **Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno** (Valencian Institute of Modern Art) 20th century art. Spanish artists in the School of Paris: Julio González, the González family. The 60s: Genovés, Antonio Saura, Gordillo, Palazuelo, Pellicer, Picasso
- 3. **Madrid**
 - a) **El Prado.** Renaissance: Castilian School – Berruguete; Mannerism: El Greco. Baroque: Murillo, Zurbarán, Velázquez, Valdés Leal, Rivera. Neo-Classic/Romanticism: Goya, Mariano Fortuny, Gisbert. Impressionism: Joaquín Sorolla.
 - b) **Centro Nacional de Arte Reina Sofía.** Picasso (the 1930s); Juan Gris – Cubism; Joan Miró – Schematicism; Salvador Dalí – the late period.
 - c) **The Royal Palace.** 18th century decorative art and architecture. French influences.
- 4. **Toledo**
 - a) **Museo Santa Cruz.** Greco, Berruguete, Alberto Sánchez, etc.
 - b) **Sinagoga del Tránsito.** Sephardic Jewish religious decoration.
 - c) **Casa de El Greco.** El Greco- religious works. The Apostle's Series.
 - d) **City tour:** 15th century Isabelina architecture. The transition from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. San Juan de los Reyes Church
 - e) **The City of Three Arts:** Arab (La Mezquita del Cristo de la Luz), Jewish (Santa María) and Christian (the Cathedral).
- 5. **Cuenca**
 - a) **Catedral Gótica.** One of the best examples of Gothic architecture in the peninsula. Cloister, chappels, stained glass, main altar, choir, capitular chamber, etc
 - b) **Museo de Arte Abstracto Español.** Sempere, César Manrique, Feito, Rueda, Guerrero, Saura, Palazuelo, Gordillo, Serrano, Tapies.
- 6. **Granada**
 - a) Moorish art in the Iberian Peninsula: La Alhambra.
 - b) Christian Art: The Royal Chapel, the Cathedral, La Cartuja.
 - c) Palacio de Carlos V: Museo Bellas Artes
 - d) The Moorish City: el Albaycín. The Christian city: Santa Fe.

Grading:

Students participating in this course are required to attend all classroom sessions, study the written material provided and attend all of the on-site sessions at each of the museums. Students will be required to write three short and one long research paper on topics provided by the professor.

1. Making sense out of History. Typologies of art through time.
2. The impact of a museum on the History of Art. Cultural Capital.
3. Spain's cultural impact in the western world.
4. In depth analysis of a witnessed art work.

Bibliography:

Alcolea Blanch, Santiago. (2002) *El Museo del Prado/The Prado Museum*. English and Spanish versions. Ediciones Polígrafa.

Menocal, María Rosa. (2002) *The Ornament of the World. How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain*. Brown, Little Publishers.

Moffit, John. (1999) *The Arts in Spain*. Thames and Hudson Publishers.

Portus Perez, Javier. (2003) *La Colección de Pintura Española en el Museo del Prado*. Madrid:
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