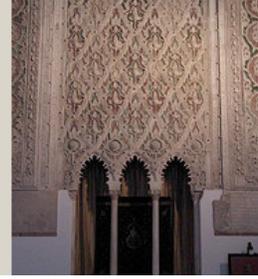




HIS 336H1-S MEDIEVAL SPAIN, 600-1492



Lectures: Mondays, 3-5 pm UC A101

Instructor	Alexandra Guerson	E-mail	alexandra.guerson@utoronto.ca
Office	TBA	Phone	TBA
Office hours	Mondays, 2-3	Website	http://portal.utoronto.ca

This course will focus on the history of medieval “Spain” from the fifth to the late fifteenth centuries. Spain is in quotation marks because during this period, the area that we now refer to as Spain did not exist as a unified country but instead consisted of a variety of smaller kingdoms that were often politically, culturally and religiously distinct from one another. Over the next 12 weeks, we will explore various aspects of these regions, starting with the development of Visigothic kingdoms in the fifth century and ending with the reign of the Catholic Monarchs, Fernando and Isabel. Along the way we will consider topics such as the creation of al-Andalus, society and culture in Muslim Spain, Christian-Jewish-Muslims relations in Muslim and Christian Spain, Frontier Society, the formation of a plural society, Castilian and Aragonese government and institutions, the growth of royal power, the creation of religious uniformity and colonial expansion. Class time will be divided between lectures and discussion. Students will have the opportunity to read a variety of primary and secondary sources.

Required texts (available at U of T Bookstore)

- Olivia Remie Constable ed., *Medieval Iberia: Readings from Muslim, Christian and Jewish Sources* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997)
- *Poem of the Cid: A modern translation with notes* (U Oklahoma Press, 1998)
- Richard Fletcher, *The Quest for El Cid* (Oxford, 1991)

Under course reserves at Robarts Library

- Roger Collins, *Early Medieval Spain: Unity in Diversity, 400-1000* 2nd edition (Palgrave, 1995)
- Angus MacKay, *Spain in the Middle Ages: From Frontier to Empire, 1000-1500*

Assignments

- Wiki Notes Assignment **15%**
- Wiki Notes Group Evaluation **5%**
- Primary Source Evaluation of *The Poem of the Cid* (1,200words) **15%**

- | | |
|--|------------|
| ➤ Essay on <i>The Quest for El Cid</i> (1,200 words) | 20% |
| ➤ Participation (online and in-class) | 20% |
| ➤ Final Exam | 25% |

Course Websites

For this course, we will be using both Portal and a course wiki.

Portal

Portal (aka Blackboard) is the course management platform used by this course; although the course does not rely on Blackboard for most of its weekly activities, students will be able to access their grades through it. The URL is <http://portal.utoronto.ca>

Course Wiki

Everything else will be on the course wiki. You can access our course wiki at: <http://guerson.pbworks.com>

For logging in the first time, you will need to request access to the site. To do so, go to the above URL, click on “request access”, enter your email address and your name in the message section. I will then add you to the wiki. This will allow you to both read the wiki content and make comments on all aspects of the site.

The wiki will be used for:

- posting all assignment sheets and lecture presentations
- posting links to supplemental readings
- discussion on the readings (see below for requirements)
- group wiki assignment (see below)
- questions regarding course issues, readings, assignments etc.

Course Format

Lectures

During lectures I will provide slides and images to illustrate the topics covered. Be aware that I am not requiring that you buy a narrative textbook for this course; the lectures will be your textbook. This means that regular attendance will be essential for success in this course. Although presentation slides will be made available through the wiki, be aware that they do not fully replace attendance in class. **Questions are encouraged during lecture.**

Discussion

Each lecture will be followed by a discussion period during which we will talk about some of the primary and/or secondary sources assigned. In the discussion period, students will sometimes break up into smaller groups to talk about questions related to the specific documents assigned. See below for more on discussion, both in class and online.

Grading, Assignments and Course Policies

Assignments and Grading

El Cid Wiki Project (Source Evaluation of *The Poem of the Cid*) (due February 17th) **15%**
 The aim of this assignment is to evaluate *The Poem of the Cid* as a primary source for studying the history of medieval Spain, focusing on a specific topic. It should be **1,200-1,500 words**. Please see the specific assignment sheet on the course wiki for more details.

Book Review (due March 30th) **20%**
 The aim of this assignment is to review Richard Fletcher's, *The Quest for El Cid* as a secondary source for studying the history of medieval Spain. You will need to use the information gained from the evaluation of *The Poem of El Cid* in this assignment. It should be **1,200-1,500 words**. Please see the specific assignment sheet on the course wiki for more details.

Wiki Group Assignment (due throughout the term) **15%**
 One of the crucial skills that students can develop in university is the ability to look at a volume of material and succinctly summarize the main points, while simultaneously providing connections between various sources. This assignment is designed to teach you how to use these skills in a history course. Each group is responsible for summarizing one lecture, providing key passages from assigned readings and creating a series of questions based on readings, lecture and class discussion. For more information, please see the class wiki.

As part of this assignment, each group member will have to answer a questionnaire about group work, to be distributed at the end of the semester. In this questionnaire, individual group members will be asked to reflect on their own contribution to the group as well as on the contribution of group members. This step will be worth 5%.

Participation In-Class **10%** Online **10%**
 As this course is based largely on discussion, participation is a centrally important aspect. The in-class portion of your participation grade will be based on your involvement in class discussion.

For the online discussion, go to the course wiki, click on the page for "discussions" and then on the individual topic for the day. I will use the comments that you post on the daily readings as the basis for class discussion. You are required to post comments to the readings and your fellow students on the wiki by 9 AM of class day (so by Monday morning). Any comments posted after this point will not count.

Final Exam 25%

There will be a final exam based on the material from the whole course during exam period. I will provide a study guide for the exam

Late Penalties:

There is a zero tolerance policy in this class. This means that late assignments **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**. Extensions are possible for emergencies, but you **MUST** get in touch with me ahead of time to arrange for one.

Submission of Papers:

All assignments must be submitted via Portal unless otherwise specified on the assignment sheet. Make sure to check the appropriate way of submitting each assignment on the assignment sheets.

Plagiarism and Student Code of Conduct:

Plagiarism occurs when a student submits or presents work of another person in such a manner as to lead the reader to believe that it is the student's original work; self-plagiarism is the submission of work previously submitted for academic credit without prior written and signed approval of the current course instructor.

Cheating takes numerous forms and includes, but is not limited to, the following: copying from another student's work or allowing another student to copy from one's own work; obtaining a copy of an examination before it is officially available; misrepresenting or falsifying references, citations, or sources of information; knowingly recording or reporting false or invented empirical or statistical data; and possession of notes, books, diagrams or other aids during examinations that are not authorized by the examiner.

If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action as per the U of T Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. See <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm> for information.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or Accessibility Services at (416) 978 8060; <http://accessibility.utoronto.ca>

LECTURE TOPICS AND READINGS

All readings with an asterisk (*) are required readings. The others are suggested readings.

- January 9th** **Introduction and the Idea of “Spain”**
**Medieval Iberia, “Introduction”*
Early Medieval Spain, “Introduction” and “Chapter One: The Emergence of New Order”
- Visigothic Spain**
**Medieval Iberia, #1-In Praise of Spain; #3-The Visigothic Conversion to Catholicism; #4-Visigothic Legislation Concerning the Jews*
Early Medieval Spain, “Chapter 2:The Imposition of Unity” and “Chapter Four: The Seventh-Century Kingdom”
- January 16th** *******No classes*******
- January 23rd** **Muslim Conquest and the Umayyad Caliphate**
**Medieval Iberia, #6-Two Accounts of the Muslim Conquest; #7-A Muslim-Christian Treaty; #8-Christian Resistance in the North; #9-An Uprising Against Amir al-Hakam; #13-On the Campaigns and Diplomacy of ‘Abd al-Rahman III*
Early Medieval Spain, “Chapter Five: The Arab Conquest”; “The Umayyad Regime”
- January 30th** **Christians & Jews in Muslim Spain**
**Medieval Iberia, #10-A Christian Account of the Life of Muhammad, #11-Eulogius and the Martyrs of Cordoba, #14-A Jewish Administrator Under Caliph Hisham*
- February 6th** **Fragmentation: Christian Kingdoms in the north and Taifa Kingdoms in the south, 10ths and 11th century**
**Medieval Iberia, #12, #15-Ibn Hazm, The Ring of the Dove; #17-A Jewish Vizier Describes the Battle of Alfuente; #19-The Political Dilemma of Granadan Ruler*
- Early Medieval Spain, Chapter 7: The Christian Realms”*
Spain in the Middle Ages, “Introduction”
- February 13th** **Conquest, Holy War and Frontier Society in the Christian Kingdoms**
**Medieval Iberia, #21-Concerning King Sancho I of Aragon and His Deeds; #24-Redeeming a Captive Jewish Woman; #27-Two Arguments in Support of Christian Faith; #22-Two Christian Urban Charters; #23-Justice in Catalonia; #26-The Pilgrimage to Santiago*

Spain in the Middle Ages, “Chapter One”, “Chapter Two”

- February 15th** ******Primary Source Evaluation of *The Poem of El Cid* due******
- February 27th** **Conquest, Colonization and the Formation of a Plural Society**
**Medieval Iberia*, #38-The Christian Conquest of Valencia; #39-The Christian Conquest of Seville; #41-Resettlement and Redistribution of Land
Spain in the Middle Ages, “Chapter Three”
- March 5th** **Government and Institutions (13th century): Castile and the Crown of Aragon**
**Medieval Iberia*, #44-The King and Cortes; #45-The Proper Qualities of a King; *Medieval Iberia*, #43-Everyday Life in the Crown of Aragon
Spain in the Middle Ages, “Chapter Five” pages 95-120
- March 12th** **The Tumultuous 14th century: Expansion and Conflict; Royal Power and Resistance**
** excerpts from King Pere III’s Chronicle*
Spain in the Middle Ages, “Chapter 6”, “Chapter 7”
- March 19th** **Christians, Jews and Muslims in the 14th century**
**Medieval Iberia*, #53-Memoirs of a Castilian Noblewoman; #54-The Convent and the World; #47-The Legal Status of Jews and Muslims in Castile; #49-On Preaching and Conversion
Spain in the Middle Ages, “Chapter Eight”
- March 26th** **Women in late medieval Spain**
**Readings TBA*
- March 30th** *******Quest for El Cid* essay due******
- April 2nd** **Catholic Kings: Royal Authority & Religious Uniformity**
**Medieval Iberia*, #61-The Christian Conquest of Granada, #59-Heresy and Inquisition; #62-The Expulsion of the Jews