



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Spanish Culture

2627-2-F7602M012-F7602M012-1

Learning objectives

The module on the Culture of Spanish-speaking Countries aims to examine, from both diachronic and synchronic perspectives, multi- and intercultural aspects relating to the language, society, culture and economy of Spanish-speaking countries.

Contents

The course aims to provide a theoretical and practical framework for understanding the role of Spanish culture and language within the European and global context, with particular attention to the central position of the Iberian Peninsula in the international tourism market. Through an empirical analysis of historical and contemporary phenomena, the course seeks to trace the evolution of Spain as a tourist destination and to explore the main sustainability challenges facing the country in the 21st century, particularly in the wake of the 2008 economic crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Detailed program

1. The Spanish language as cultural heritage and a global resource: this module will analyse the role of the Spanish language as a constituent element of Spain's cultural identity and as a language of international communication. It will examine the spread of Spanish worldwide, its economic and cultural value, and the contribution of institutions involved in its promotion. Particular attention will be paid to the relationship between language, cultural heritage and language tourism.
2. Culture, society and identity in contemporary Spain: the course will cover some fundamental aspects of modern-day Spain, with particular attention to the plurality of regional identities, tangible and intangible heritage, the construction of Spain's image, and the role of culture in promoting the country as an

international tourist destination.

3. Tourism, heritage and sustainability in 21st-century Spain: through the analysis of case studies relating to urban, cultural and natural destinations, the course will examine the relationship between tourism development, heritage conservation and sustainability. Within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, the course will address the main challenges facing contemporary tourism, such as the management of tourist flows, overtourism, the empowerment of local communities and the current debate regarding the search for more sustainable development models

Prerequisites

Level B1 of the CEFR

Teaching methods

Teaching using a variety of teaching methods – both lecture-based and interactive – which alternate within the same lesson.

Assessment methods

Continuous assessment for students attending classes.

Oral examination on the course topics; the relevant material will be specified or uploaded by the lecturer onto the e-learning platform.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Instituto Cervantes (2025), *El español en el mundo. Anuario del Instituto Cervantes 2025*, https://cvc.cervantes.es/lingua/anuario/anuario_25el_espanol_en_el_mundo_anuario_instituto_cervantes_2025.pdf (chapters indicated by the lecturer);

· Estudios Turísticos. (2025), 'Governance and residents' perspectives on tourism', no. 228, special issue, <https://estudiosuristicos.tourspain.es/index.php/ET/issue/view/207> (articles specified by the lecturer);

· National Institute of Statistics. (2026), Hospitality and Tourism, https://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/es/categoria.htm?c=Estadistica_P&cid=1254735576863

The specific material will be uploaded to the course's e-learning platform in PDF format.

Semester

Second semester

Teaching language

Spanish

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
