Course Description
If medieval Europe was dominated by the church and Christian kingdoms, the Spain was different. Unlike the rest of medieval Europe, the Spain was home to Christian and Muslim kingdoms which were home to members of all three Abrahamic faiths. By the early 13th century Christian Spain was more tolerant, even accommodating, of religious and cultural difference than any other part of Latin Christendom. However, by the end of the 15th century this situation had changed completely: after a long and difficult cultural struggle, religious tolerance was officially revoked with the establishment of the Inquisition and the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Christian Spain. Using primary sources spanning from the sixth to the fifteenth century as a foundation, this class will trace the modern construction of medieval Iberian history from the time of the Visigoths to the time of the Inquisition. In particular, we will focus on the expression and exertion of political and religious power, treatment of religious minorities, and the why that modern historians have interpreted these issues.

Written assignments: Historical writing demands that you make your arguments in a clear and precise manner and that you back them up with historical evidence. In addition, the UF Writing Requirement ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning. Thus, written assignments will be graded on the basis of style as well as content. Completion of the written assignments is absolutely required. Late assignments will not be accepted without penalty. Please make every effort to apprise the instructor of adverse circumstances that affect your ability to attend class or complete assignments on time. Official documentation is required to excuse an absence and to schedule make-up assignments. Unless otherwise noted, assignments will be collected at the end of the precept session for which they are assigned. Do not submit your work to via email – written work must be presented in hard-copy. the instructor will evaluate and provide feedback on the student’s written assignments with respect to grammar, punctuation, usage of standard written English, clarity, coherence, and organization

Reading assignments: You will likely find yourself frustrated and confused during the lectures if you do not make a good faith effort to finish the reading assignments before the class meetings. If you find yourself falling behind in the readings, I suggest you at least skim the texts for each week before lectures so you are familiar with the themes and issues addressed on that day.

Attendance: Students are required to attend class regularly and arrive for seminar promptly. A penalty will be imposed on students who arrive late for class. Unexcused absences will be penalized in the following manner: you will be permitted one unexcused absence over the course of the term; every
unexcused absence thereafter will lower your grade by one third. Please be prepared to provide official certification to assure that your grades will not suffer for legitimate absences.

In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else’s work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and will not be accepted in this class because it violates the University of Florida’s honesty policy. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

The university counseling services and mental health services can be reached at: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx; 392-1575, University Police Department 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Online Course Evaluation Process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.

Grade Distribution and Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation*</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>A = 100 - 93</td>
<td>C = 74 - 71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visigothic Code paper (1000 words)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>A- = 92 - 90</td>
<td>C- = 70 - 67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book review (1000 words)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>B+ = 89 - 87</td>
<td>D+ = 66 - 63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper (5000 words)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>B = 86 - 83</td>
<td>D = 62 - 60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B- = 82 - 79</td>
<td>D- = 59 - 56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C+ = 78 - 75</td>
<td>F = below 55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See below for breakdown

Participation: History classes are most rewarding when students interact with the texts, each other, and the instructor on a sustained basis. Readings provide the raw material for class discussion, where much of the learning takes place. Engaged class participation is therefore essential. Students can expect a respectful atmosphere in which to express their opinions. Participation will be graded on: a) contribution to in-class discussion based on a careful reading of the assigned texts; b) completion of the short weekly writing assignments (see the ‘Assignments’ page on the Canvas site). These will not be graded, but failure to complete them will bring your participation grade down; c) Regular and prompt attendance. If you spend your time in class engaged with other activities – like texting – your participation grade will also suffer.

The Research Paper: The goal of this assignment is to immerse you in an intense and extended project based on original research. As such, and perhaps unlike most other papers you’ve written at the university, it will demand significant planning. Papers will be evaluated on the basis of: the breadth and depth of original research using primary and secondary sources, the formulation of an original argument based on that research supported by substantial evidence, as well as the clarity of writing.
In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else's work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and will not be accepted in this class because it violates the University of Florida’s honesty policy. Please review the policy at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/Links to an external site.

**Books:** The following books are required for this course:

It is available at the University of Pennsylvania Press website [here](http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14910.html) or at Amazon [here](https://www.amazon.com/Medieval-Iberia-Readings-Christian-Sources/dp/0812221680/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1471543568&sr=8-1&keywords=medieval+iberia).

**Be sure to buy the 2nd edition of this book.**


All other readings will be posted on our Canvas site.

**Weekly Schedule**

22 August  
**Introduction – themes, methods, expectations; Making Spain Christian – The Visigothic Kingdom**

29 August  
**Muslim Conquest and the culture of al-Andalus**
- **REQUIRED** *Medieval Iberia* 33-60.

5 September  
**The Caliphate**
- **REQUIRED** *Medieval Iberia* 61-100.


12 September Dissolution of the Caliphate and the Taifa period

- REQUIRED Medieval Iberia 101-137


19 September No Class – Yom Kippur

26 September Crusade and Christian ‘Reconquest’ (Discussion – finding academic journals and using electronic resources)

- REQUIRED Medieval Iberia 147-171, 184-198


3 October Reading and Writing week

Chose book for review – subject to my approval

10 October Crusade and Christian ‘Reconquest’ – (discussion – how read and review an academic book)

- REQUIRED Medieval Iberia 203-233


17 October  Interfaith Relations and Royal Power in the 13th Century

- **REQUIRED** *Medieval Iberia* 271-307
- Caputo, *Debating Truth*

24 October  Life in the 13th Century

- **REQUIRED** *Medieval Iberia* 310-327 and 347-351

Project proposal due – must include preliminary bibliography with at least 2 primary and 5 secondary sources and research questions

Book review due

31 October  The 14th century


7 November  Unification and the Inquisition

- **REQUIRED** *Medieval Iberia*, 482-530
- TBA
- Watch “Game Night”s

Initial draft due – one hard copy and one electronic copy

14 November  Writing Workshop
21 November   No Class - Thanksgiving
28 November   Presentations
5 December – Presentations, papers due