

**Course GA-20**            **ECONOMY, SOCIETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN SPAIN** (45 class hours)

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**OBJECTIVES**

To provide students with an initial understanding of the complexity of the Spain of today within the framework of the European Union, while paying particular attention to key aspects related to the Economy, Society and the Environment.

**SYLLABUS CONTENT**

1. The Territorial Structure of the State and its Insertion within the European Union: Community-based, State, Autonomous Community-based, and Local Administrations.
2. Physical and Natural Features: Relief, Climate, Water-Table Infrastructure and Vegetation.
3. Human Interaction with the Environment and its Consequences: Environmental Policy and the Uses Made of It; Natural Environment-based Risks and Planning.
4. Population and its Patterning: Analysis of Population Trends and Migratory Movements. Urban Networking and Infrastructure.
5. Agriculture, the Environment, and Sustainable Growth: Spain's Rural Landscapes.
6. Economic Activity and the Global Crisis: Sector-based Analysis (Industry, the Financial Sector, Business, and Tourism.)

**METHODOLOGY**

The objectives will be approached through theoretical-practical class sessions in which use will be made of visual and audiovisual back-up resources such as image, slide and video viewings so as to illustrate the geographical reality of the Spain of today. Likewise, use will be made of graphs, maps, news items, together with other kinds of texts linked with the syllabus contents being dealt with. Student-Lecturer interaction will be encouraged so as to generate debate with regard to the key aspects of the syllabus, as well as to any issues that may arise.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

BOSQUE, R. (2005). *Síntesis de Geografía de España*, Madrid. Globo.

CORRALIZA RODRIGUEZ, J.A. (2002). *Los Parques Naturales en España: conservación y disfrute*. Madrid, Mundi-Prensa.

GIL OLCINA, A. y GÓMEZ MENDOZA, J. (coords.) (2001): *Geografía de España*. Barcelona, Ariel.

VARIOUS AUTHORS. (2001): *Nuevo Atlas de España*. Barcelona. Salvat Editores, S. A.

**Webs**

[www.ign.es](http://www.ign.es) (The National Geographical Institute's Website is general knowledge- based and offers useful guidance. El Portal Web del Instituto *Geográfico* Nacional tiene carácter divulgativo y orientativo.)

[www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es) (The National Institute for Statistics. Instituto Nacional de Estadística).

<http://club.telepolis.com/geografo/regional/esp/emi.html> (Emigration and Immigration in the case of Spain.)

[www.inm.es](http://www.inm.es) (The National Institute of Meteorology. Instituto Nacional de Meteorología)

[www.igme.es](http://www.igme.es) (The Spanish Institute of Geomining. Instituto Geominero de España)

**COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES**

As the Course develops, scientific video material linked with syllabus content will be screened.

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

The level of knowledge reached, and, above all, the extent of the understanding of the key contents of the Course acquired, will be assessed and graded, together with students' critical capacity when approaching present-day issues concerning Spain. Assessment will be carried out by the undertaking of:

- Written tests, upon completion of each of the syllabus-content sections, together with an end-of-Course exam which will involve the definition of basic concepts, together with the analysis of a text linked with the syllabus-contents dealt with during class sessions.
- A group or individual assignment related to any topic on the syllabus and which may be handed in for grading or presented during a class session.