Course Description

The course goes from the Spanish Golden Century (Renaissance and Baroque painters and architecture) to Goya, the greatest Spanish artist, who experienced the transition from the old Regimen to Liberalism. As a result, this course is a good preparation to visit the Prado Museum. Indirectly, the lessons deal also with the classical topic of the psyche of the Spaniards, as portrayed by his painters. The students have to make two 10’-15’ presentations with a particular method given by the teacher. They can present a) either works already seen in class, or other related ones, or b) comparable-similar Taiwan “palaces” or buildings or paintings, with the concepts and vocabulary used in the classes by the teacher.

Course Objectives

This course is primarily a course of Spanish language; nevertheless, its main aim is to introduce the most representative cultural achievements of Spanish Culture from the 16th century to the early 19th century (Renaissance, Baroque and Goya), in order to be experienced them in a cultural field trip to Spain. Another objective is to understand the universality of art, since many of the art concepts, appreciation methods and iconography in Spain have counterparts everywhere, including Taiwan. Also, concepts of preservation, restoration, revitalization, etc., will be discussed in general and applied to the Taiwan setting.

Requirements

To have studied at least Spanish II in NTU, or to have a good command of Spanish similar to the level B1 of the European Common Frame of Reference, regardless how it was acquired.

Textbook

Cultura Clásica Española-II: Del siglo XV a Goya, Taipei, 2012 (Notebook in Spanish)

參考書目

Heroven, Catalina, et alt., The Spanish Golden Age: painting and sculpture…, 2016
Grading

Mid-term exam 35%
Final exam 35%
First presentation 10%
Second presentation 15%
Attitude (questions, homework, attendance, etc.) 5%

In principle, the exams will be based in general questions, middle size questions and short ones, previously emphasized in the class, where the students have to show their understanding of the content of the course.

Syllabus

The Alhambra: a multicultural palace
第 1 週 08 Sep.
1.1 The cosmic iconography: The Patio de los Leones of the Alhambra
1.2 The Renaissance proportions: The Patio of Carlos V in the Alhambra

The multiculturalism as threat
第 2 週 15 Sep.
2.1 The monarch as Maecenas (patron): El Escorial as a monastery and library
第 3 週 22 Sep.
2.2 Art as battlefield: El Greco as Counter Reformation painter

Multiculturalism in the Spanish Empire
第 4 週 29 Sep.
3.1 How to decorate a Palace: Velázquez and the Buen Retiro Palace
第 5 週 06 Oct.
3.2 Mythological paintings in Velázquez: Las Meninas, Las Hilanderas
第 6 週 13 Oct.
Students' presentations
第 7 週 20 Oct.
Students' presentations
第 8 週 27 Oct.
Mid-term exam (lessons 1-3)

Nationalist resistance against rational homogenization
第 9 週 03 Nov.
4.1 Common people as relevant to art: Goya and the Cartones
第 10 週 10 Nov.
4.2 Looking for eternity: Goya as painter of the royal court
第 11 週 17 Nov.
4.3 Historicity in paintings: Goya and the Guerra de la Independencia
第 12 週 24 Nov.
4.4 Expressionism in painting: Goya and the Pinturas Negras
第 13 週 01 Dec.
Students' presentations
第 14 週 08 Dec
Students' presentations
第 15 週 15 Dec
Final exam (lesson 4)
第 16 週 22 Dec
Visit the church of Todos los Santos (Heping island): Saturday, early October

Keywords:
La Alhambra, El Escorial, El Greco, Velázquez, Goya, Guerra de la Independencia