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State University of New York

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**INTRODUCTION TO SPAIN'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS**

Instructor: Francisco Seijo

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Francisco Seijo is a political science instructor at Middlebury College C.V. Starr School in Spain, NYU Global Campus Madrid and the Instituto de Empresa among others. He received his PhD in political science from Columbia University. Dr. Seijo's research focuses on environmental politics, forest policy, the politics of climate change and the politics of landscape fires ([http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Francisco\\_Seijo](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Francisco_Seijo)). His work has appeared in numerous scholarly publications as well as in the media. In addition to his academic activities Dr. Seijo has worked as a development consultant for various international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course seeks to improve students' basic knowledge of the Spanish economic and political systems as well as the specialized Spanish language vocabulary related to them so as to enable students to follow current events and developments in both topics. The core topics to be examined are: the Spanish political system and its main political actors with a special emphasis on its influence on Spain's business environment, the Spanish economic system and its main productive sectors, the main IBEX 35 companies and the goals and strategies of their leadership. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the Spanish economic and political systems from each other through in-class formal presentations and structured informal discussions on particular issues related to the idiosyncratic Spanish social, economic and political contexts such as: the quality of political and economic leadership, economic and political developments and opportunities, the Spanish party system, the structure of the Spanish state and its influence on the economy, the particular strategies of selected companies of the IBEX 35, etc.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Identify the main economic productive sectors, political parties and businesses in Spain. their leaders and political and business strategies.
- Critically analyze the strategies and goals of Spain's business and political leadership.
- Prepare powerpoint presentations in Spanish.
- Improve Spanish speaking economics and business basic vocabulary.



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## REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Students will take a multiple choice exam on basic economic, business and political concepts related to Spain's economic and political systems. They will also write a final research paper on a given Spanish productive sector. They will also perform two powerpoint presentations analyzing a Spanish business and a Spanish political party's strategies and goals.

The exercises will be weighed according to the following criteria:

1st Presentation: Case study of a Spanish company or business	15%
2nd Presentation: Case study of a Spanish political party	15%
Midterm exam	30%
Final paper: Spanish political and economic system	30%
Participation, readings and attendance	10%

## CONTENT:

Session 1: Introduction	
Session 2: Spain's economy since 1959	
Session 3: Spain's economy since 1959	
Session 4: Spain's political system since 1975	
Session 5: Spain's political system since 1975	
Session 6: The primary sector in Spain	
Session 7: The primary sector in Spain	
Session 8: The primary sector in Spain	
Session 9: The secondary sector in Spain	
Session 10: The secondary sector in Spain	
Session 11: The secondary sector in Spain	
Session 12: The tertiary sector in Spain	
Session 13: The tertiary sector in Spain	
Session 14: The tertiary sector in Spain	
Session 15: MIDTERM EXAM	
Session 16: IBEX 35 Companies	
Session 17: IBEX 35 Companies	
Session 18: IBEX 35 Companies	
Session 19: IBEX 35 Companies	
Session 20: IBEX 35 Companies	
Session 21: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS CASE STUDIES IN BUSINESSES	
Session 22: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS CASE STUDIES IN BUSINESSES	
Session 23: Spain's leftist political parties	
Session 24: Spain's leftist political parties	



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Session 25: Spain's rightist political parties	
Session 26: Spain's rightist political parties	
Session 27: Spain's rightist political parties	
Session 28: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS OF CASE STUDIES IN POLITICAL PARTIES	
Session 29: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS OF CASE STUDIES IN POLITICAL PARTIES	
Session 30: Course Conclusions	