

***The Literary Impact of the Spanish Civil War: Writers
Take Sides***
3 credits
1st semester

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Aims and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to examine the political, social and cultural climate of the 30's in the English-speaking countries and to reflect on the impact of the Spanish Civil War, one of the most significant episodes that had a profound mark on intellectuals, artists, and writers from English speaking countries. Furthermore, the course will help students to gain insights into the nature of what is known as "committed literature" and to explore their literary manifestations: memoirs, first person accounts, poems, novels, and journalistic dispatches.

When students have successfully completed this course, they should be able to:

- identify and analyze the diverse manifestations: memoirs, personal narratives, journals, autofictional texts, etc.
- Use essential terms like war poetry, committed literature, trans-nationalism, mito-biography,
- Identify the cultural, literary and political contexts within which the Spanish Civil War took place.
- Discuss the problem of the self and its representation in literature.
- Distinguish the roles given to the writer and its literary production.

Course Program

1. Spain as the "last great cause": The Spanish Civil War as a literary phenomenon.
2. Cultural representations of the Spanish Civil War
 - 2.1. The aesthetics of reportage: some representative correspondents and their texts
 - 2.2. The Spanish Civil War in poetry
 - 2.3. The Spanish Civil War in fiction and in personal narratives
 - 2.4. The Spanish Civil War in images

Required Readings. Students are required to read at least two of the following books, one for a public presentation and the other for the seminar (*Boadilla*, E. Romilly).

* Claud Cockburn (Frank Pitcairn), *Reporter in Spain* (1936)
Arthur Koestler, *Spanish Testament* (1937)

- * **Seminar: Esmond Romilly, Boadilla (1937)**
- *Geoffrey Cox, *The Defence of Madrid* (1937)
- George L. Steer, *The Tree of Gernika* (1937)
- *John Sommerfield, *Volunteer in Spain* (1937)
- Upton Sinclair, *No Pasarán* (1937)
- Mary Low and Juan Breá, *Red Spanish Notebook* (1937)
- George Orwell, *Homage to Catalonia* (1938)
- *Keith Scott Watson, *Single to Spain* (1938)
- *The Book of the XVth Brigade
- *Sylvia Townsend Warner, *After the Death of Don Juan* (1938)
- *T.C.Worsley, *Behind the Battle* (1939)
- Tom Wintringham, *English Captain* (1939)
- Alvah Bessie, *Men in Battle* (1939)
- *Ted Allan, *This Time a Better Earth* (1939)
- Ernest Hemingway, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940)
- Virginia Cowles, *Looking for Trouble* (1941)
- Ralph Bates, *The Olive Field* (1952)
- William Herrick, *Hermanos!* (1969)
- Jason Gurney, *Crusade in Spain* (1974)
- Laurie Lee, *A Moment of War: A Memoir of the Spanish Civil War* (1991)
- Milton Wolff, *Another Hill* (1994)

Methodology

Class meetings will consist of lectures, group discussions, and oral presentations. Strong emphasis will be put on oral presentations and class discussion so students are strongly advised to have read the material carefully before attendance.

Assessment

The students will be evaluated on a combination of their participation in class, their oral presentations and their written assignments. A brief final paper will be required for the course and should the student be interested in selecting any of the topics for his/her final paper or project (TFM), either of the lecturers will be willing to supervise and assess this work.

Assessment:

Students will have to read a number of required readings which will be given on the first day of class and will be assigned a specific calendar for oral presentations. It is highly recommended for students to read all the assigned tasks before class. The final distribution of grades will most likely be as follows:

- Ø Class attendance 10%
- Ø Oral presentations 40%
- Ø Class Contribution 20%
- Ø Tutorial Work 5%
- Ø Seminar 25%

Bibliography and Resources

- BENSON, FREDERICK R. *Writers in Arms* (1967).
- BINNS, NIALLS. *La llamada de España de España: Escritores extranjeros en la guerra civil* (2004)
- ___ ___ *Voluntarios con gafas* (2009)
- CELADA, ANTONIO R., M. GONZÁLEZ & DANIEL PASTOR. *Los Internacionales. English-speaking Volunteers in the Spanish Civil War* (2009)
- CELADA, ANTONIO R., DANIEL PASTOR & ROSA LÓPEZ. *Las Brigadas Internacionales: 70 años de memoria histórica* (2007)
- COCKBURN, CLAUD, *en España*. (Edición crítica de Luis Alberto Lázaro que consta de 74 pp. de Introducción y aparato crítico y 190 páginas de texto en traducción al español). Amarú Ediciones, Salamanca, 2012.
- COX, GEOFFREY. *La defensa de Madrid, Oberón, Madrid, 2005*. (Edición crítica de Martin Minchon).
- CUNNINGHAM, VALENTINE (ed.). *The Penguin Book of Spanish Civil War Verse*, Penguin Books, 1980.
- --- (ed.). *Spanish Front: Writers on the Civil War*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1986.
- ---. *British Writers of the Thirties*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988 (1993)
- DIETZ, BERND (ed.). *Un país donde lucía el sol: Poesía inglesa de la guerra civil española*. Madrid: Ediciones Hiperión, 1981.
- ---. *El impacto de la guerra civil española en la poesía inglesa (1936-1939)*. La Laguna, 1999, 2 vols.
- INSAUSTI GABRIEL (comp.) *Escritores Británicos en la guerra civil española*. Sevilla, Renacimiento: Colección Espuela de Plata, 2010.
- JUMP, JIM (ed.). *Poems from Spain: British and Irish International Brigaders on the Spanish Civil War*, London: Lawrence & Wishart, 2006.
- SOMMERFIELD, JOHN, *Voluntario en España*. (Edición crítica de Daniel Pastor García que consta de 74 pp. De Introducción y aparato crítico y 190 páginas de texto en traducción al español). Amarú Ediciones, Salamanca, 2012.

ROMILLY, ESMOND, Boadilla. (Edición crítica de Antonio R. Celada que consta de 74 pp. de Introducción y aparato crítico y 190 páginas de texto en traducción al español). Amarú Ediciones, Salamanca, 2011.

WEINTRAUB, STANLEY. *The Last Great Cause*. (1968).

WORSLEY T. C. *Los ecos de la batalla*. (Edición crítica de Manuel González de la Aleja que consta de 74 pp. De Introducción y aparato crítico y 190 páginas de texto en traducción al español). Amarú Ediciones, Salamanca, 2012.