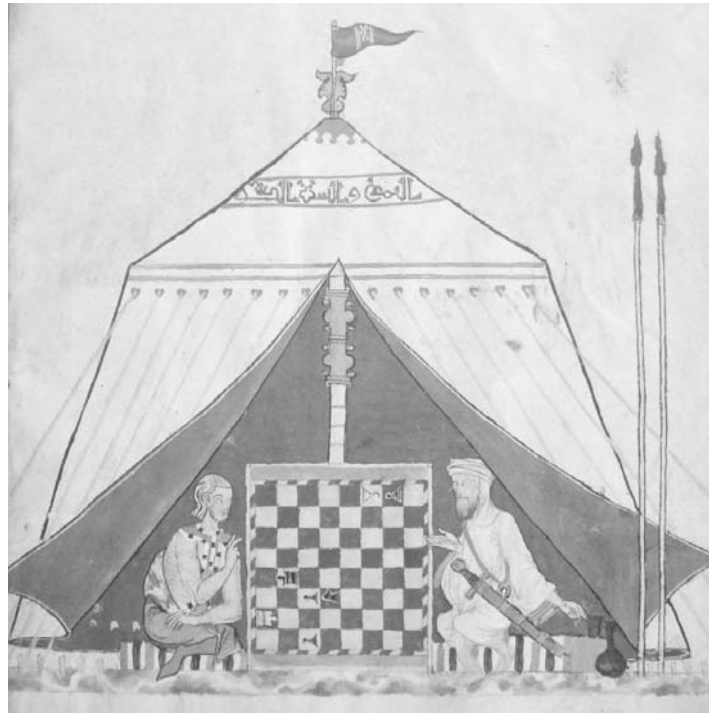


Rutgers University-Newark
Federated Department of History

Al-Andalus: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Medieval Iberia
Fall Semester 2017



A Christian and a Muslim play chess.
Spanish manuscript. Alfonso X, *Libro de los juegos* (1283)

Course number: 21:510:226:01
TOPICS IN HISTORY
Tuesday 11:30 AM - 12:50 CON-346
Thursday 11:30 AM - 12:50 CON-346

Instructor: **Dr. Mayte Green-Mercado**
E-mail: mayte.green@rutgers.edu
Office: Conklin Hall 315
Office Hours: T TH- 2:00-3:00, or by
appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the history of Muslim presence in the Iberian Peninsula from the Islamic conquest in 711 to the expulsion of the last Iberian Muslims, the Moriscos, in 1609. The land of the three Abrahamic religions, Al-Andalus, as the Iberian Peninsula was known to Arabic speakers, offers an ideal laboratory to examine the entangled relations of Muslims, Jews, and Christians in the Middle Ages, and to test contentious constructs such as identity, *convivencia* (coexistence), conflict, violence, or tolerance. We will read chronicles and other historical sources, literary texts, art, and architecture, to examine historically the dynamics of a medieval multicultural society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- name and identify individuals, events, themes, and issues of major importance in the history of Islamic civilization in Spain,
- recognize the importance of cause and effect in history, and discuss the significance of change and continuity over time,
- develop an understanding toward the use of historical evidence by historians and display some familiarity toward different types of evidence,
- critically analyze historical evidence and articulate a synthesis with a thesis,
- think critically about questions of identity, multiculturalism, coexistence, tolerance and intolerance.

ASSIGNMENTS:

You are expected to write two papers for this class. The first paper will be a short paper (3-4 pages; due **Sept. 21**). The second paper will be longer (6-7 pages, due **Nov. 28**). Detailed information regarding the papers will be announced in class AND posted on Blackboard.

LATE PAPERS AND/OR EMAILED PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

EXAMS:

There will be two exams for this course, a midterm and a final. In these tests, the emphasis will be placed on specific information such as important dates, names, and terms. The second test will only cover the material covered after the first.

GRADING:

- 10 % First paper
- 20 % Second paper
- 10 % Participation
- 30 % First test
- 30 % Second test

GRADING STANDARDS:

- 90-100 % A (a genuinely outstanding achievement)
- 80-89 % B (above average achievement)
- 70-79 % C (comprehension of the subject at an appropriate university level)
- 60-69 % D (unsatisfactory performance, barely passing)
- Below 60% F (failure)

COURSE POLICIES:

- Attendance at **all** regularly scheduled meetings of this class is expected. Rutgers catalog states that “the recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions.” Four UNEXCUSED absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade. More than four UNEXCUSED absences will automatically result in your failure. It is your responsibility to come to class and see that you are marked

present for the classes you attend. In the event that you have a medical, legal, or family-related problem that might lead to an extended absence, you need to meet me in person and bring necessary documentation as evidence for your problem. Only then, we can discuss whether your absence can be excused or not. An email message explaining your problem will NOT be considered as an excuse of your absence. Ultimately, it will be the instructor's judgment to decide whether an absence can be excused or not. If you miss a class due to a reason that you cannot document, please do not contact me to explain your case. Instead, consider it as one of your unexcused absences. Please remember that any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of EXCUSED and UNEXCUSED absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.

- You are expected to come to class having done the assigned readings **and participate in class discussions**. All readings will be available electronically on Blackboard. On discussion days, make sure to bring a copy of the assigned reading with you. Any student who does not have the readings or the primary source(s) may be asked to leave the classroom and marked absent for the class.
- The use of laptops or other electronic devices in this class requires the consent of the instructor. If you have a condition that necessitates the use of a laptop during class for the purpose of taking notes or accessing readings, please bring it to my attention along with a letter from The Office of Disability Services. Those students will be asked to sit in the front row of chairs in the classroom. Otherwise, **the use of portable electronic devices such as laptops and cell phones during class, in a manner not compliant with classroom conduct (phone conversation, texting, and others), will not be tolerated**. Students may be warned for such behavior initially. If repeated, they may be asked to leave the classroom and marked absent for the day.
- Punctuality and courtesy at all times are expected.
- If you have questions or concerns about this class, come and talk to me during my office hours. Please do not send email inquiries related to your absence or class materials. It is your responsibility to find out about the subjects covered in your absence and to study them.
- If for any family or medical reason you find it absolutely necessary to miss an examination, you must contact me before the exam and have my consent to your absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment. With the exception of extreme cases there will be no early or make-up exams! As with all other exams, you must contact me in advance should an extreme emergency arise.

Rutgers University-Newark Academic Policies

Academic integrity: As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is

essential to the success of the University's educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community.

- **Academic integrity policy:** <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

- **Disability Services:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must complete an intake meeting, and submit appropriate documentation. If your request for reasonable accommodations is approved, you will receive a Letter of Accommodations (LOA), which you should present privately to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations are not retroactive and are effective only upon submission of the LOA to the instructor. Please begin the process by completing and submitting the Registration Form, Applying for Services, which is available at the website below.

- **Applying for Services:** <http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/applying-for-services>

- **Documentation Guidelines:** <http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>

- **Letter of Accommodations (LOA):** <http://ods.rutgers.edu/my-accommodations/letter-of-accommodations>

- **Office of Disability Services (ODS)**

Suite 219, Paul Robeson Campus Center

(973) 353-5375

odsnewark@rutgers.edu

Religious Holiday Policy: Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work of exams according to an agreed-upon schedule.

Learning resources

- Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)

Room 140, Bradley Hall

(973) 353-5608

<http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/rlc>

- Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops)

Room 126, Conklin Hall

(973) 353-5847

nwc@newark.rutgers.edu

<https://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter>

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to amendment or change at the discretion of the instructor, and students will be notified of any changes.

Week 1 Geography, Concepts, and Context

- Sept. 5 Iberia/Hispania/España/al-Andalus/Sefarad: Introduction and Organization
- Sept. 7th Visions of al-Andalus
Edward Said, "Andalusia's Journey," *Travel and Leisure*, May 15, 2009 [online edition]
Online access: <http://www.travelandleisure.com/articles/andalusias-journey>
- María Rosa Menocal, "Why Iberia," *diacritics* 36/3-4 (2006): 7-11.

Week 2 Visigothic Hispania

- Sept. 12 E. Michael Gerli (ed.), *Medieval Iberia. An Encyclopedia*, (New York, London: Routledge, 2003).
"Visigoths," 843-844.
"Visigothic Kingdom, Toulouse and Toledo," 839-841.
"Visigothic Kings," 841-843.
- Sept. 14 **Primary Sources:**
"Lives of the Holy Father of Mérida (ca. 630)," Visigothic Conversion to Catholicism; "Visigoth Legislation Concerning the Jews," in Olivia Remie Constable, Ed. *Medieval Iberia: Reading from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Sources*, (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012).

Week 3 From the Conquest to the Emirate

- Sept. 19 Bernard Reilly, *Medieval Spains* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993): 51-67.
Roger Collins, *Early Medieval Spain, Unity in Diversity (400-1000)*, 2nd ed. (London: Macmillan Publishers, 1995): 169-180.
- Sept. 21 **Primary Sources:**
"Chronicle of 754;" Ibn 'Abd al-Hakam, "Narrative of the Conquest of al-Andalus;" Ibn al-Qutiyya, "History of the Conquest of al-Andalus;" "The Pact of 'Umar;" "The Treaty of Tudmir," in *Medieval Iberia*.

*****First paper due (bring hard copy to class and submit electronic copy using Turn-it-in within 24 hours)*****

Week 4 The Umayyad Caliphate of al-Andalus

- Sept. 26 Richard Fletcher, *Moorish Spain* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993): 53-77.

- Sept. 28 **Primary Sources:**
“On the Campaigns and Diplomacy of ‘Abd al-Rahman III (918-939),” in *Medieval Iberia*
a) Ibn ‘Abd Rabbihi, The Unique Necklace
b) Ibn Hayyan, Muqtabis
c) Declaration of an Andalusí caliphate

Week 5 Religious Minorities in the Caliphate: the Mozarabs

- Oct 3 Mikel de Epalza, “Mozarabs: An Emblematic Christian Minority in Islamic al-Andalus.” In *The Legacy of Muslim Spain*, eds. Salma Khadra Jayussi, Manuela Marín (Leiden: Brill, 1992): 149-170.

- Oct 5 **Primary Sources:**
Paul Alvarus, “Description of Christian Youth,” in *Medieval Iberia*.

“The Christians in Cordova (early 10th century),” *Christians and Moors in Spain*, ed. Charles Melville and Ahmad Ubaydli, vol. III, (Warminster, Wiltshire: Aris and Phillips Ltd., 1998).

Week 6 Court Culture in al-Andalus

- Oct 10 The Party Kings (Ta’ifa)
Richard Fletcher, *Moorish Spain*, 79-103.
- Oct 12 **Primary Sources:**
“Ibn Arfa’ Ra’suh,” in *Hispano-Arabic Poetry*, ed. James T. Monroe (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press, 2004)
“al-A’ma at-Tutili,” in *Hispano-Arabic Poetry*.

Shmuel HaNagid, *Selected Poems of Shmuel HaNagid*, trans. Peter Cole, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996).

Week 7 Jews in al-Andalus

- Oct. 17 Raymond P. Scheindlin, “The Jews in Muslim Spain,” in *The Legacy of Muslim Spain*, eds. Salma Khadra Jayussi, Manuela Marín (Leiden: Brill, 1992): 188-195.
- Oct. 19 **Primary Sources:**
“Two Jewish Viziers in Granada,” in *Medieval Iberia*.

Week 8 “Reconquista:” The Christian Conquest of al-Andalus

- Oct 24 **Primary Sources:**

The Conquest of Toledo (1085), in *Medieval Iberia*.
[‘Abd Allah ibn Buluggin, Tıbyan (1095)] “The Political Dilemma of a Granadan Ruler,” in *Medieval Iberia*.
[Song of the Cid] “Exile of the Cid and His Capture of Valencia (1089-1094).

Oct. 26 **Test 1**

Week 9 Berber Empires: The Almoravids and Almohads

****Watch film at home:** *Destiny*, Youssef Chahine (1997).

Oct 31 Fletcher, 105-130.

Nov 2 **Primary Sources:**
“Ibn Tumart and the Rise of the Almohads,” in *Medieval Iberia*.
“The Doctrine of Divine Unity. The Almohad Creed,” in *Medieval Iberia*.

Week 10 Synthesis and Creativity: Philosophy

Nov 7 **Philosophy**
Anwar Chejne, *Muslim Spain. Its History and Culture* (Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press, 1974): 312-334.

Nov 9 **Primary Sources:**
Ibn Ṭufayl, “Ḥayy ibn Yaqzān.” In *Medieval Islamic Philosophical Writings*, ed. Muhammad Ali Khalidi (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005): 99-153.

Week 11 Synthesis and Creativity: Mysticism

Nov 14 Continuation of discussion of Ibn Ṭufayl, “Ḥayy ibn Yaqzān.”

Nov 16 **Mysticism**
Chejne, 334-343.

Primary Sources:
“The Life of an Andalusı Mystic, Ibn al-‘Arabi,” in *Medieval Iberia*,.
“Shushtari,” in *Hispano-Arabı Poetry*.
“Ibn ‘Arabi,” in *Hispano-Arabı Poetry*.
“Bahya ibn Paquda,” in *The Dream of the Poem*, trans. and ed. Peter Cole (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007).

Week 12 Convıencia on the Other Side: Jews and Muslims in Christian Spain

Nov 21 Fletcher, 131-156.

Primary Source:

“The Legal Status of Jews and Muslims in Castile,” in *Medieval Iberia*.

Nov 23 NO CLASS

Week 13 The Last Muslim Stronghold in Iberia: Nasrid Granada

Nov 28 Fletcher, 157-169.

Primary Sources:

- A. “Black and White (684/1285),” in *Christians and Moors in Spain*, vol. III.
- B. “A Diplomatic Request (724/1324).”

*****Second paper due (bring hard copy to class and submit electronic copy using Turn-it-in within 24 hours)*****

Nov 30

Primary Sources:

- A. A Lament on the Fall of Granada (897/1492), in *Christians and Moors in Spain*.
- B. The Final Agonies (1492-1501).

The Christian Conquest of Granada, in *Medieval Iberia*.

- A. Hernando del Pulgar, *Crónicas de los reyes de Castilla* (1492).
- B. Capitulations of Granada.
- C. Nubdhat al-‘aşr.

Week 14 Jews, Muslims, and the “End of Convivencia”

Dec 5

Primary Sources:

- “Charter of Expulsion of the Jews,” in *Medieval Iberia*.
- “Expulsion of Muslims from Castile and Leon,” in *Medieval Iberia*.

Dec 7

Primary Sources:

Nuñez Muley, *A Memorandum for the President of the Royal Audiencia and Chancery of the City and Kingdom of Granada*, ed. Vincent Barletta (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007). Excerpts

“Morisco Appeal to the Ottoman Sultan [Verses to Bayezid II],” in *Medieval Iberia*.

Week 15 Final Week

Dec 12 Recapitulation and Review

Dec 14 Reading day

Dec. 15 Final Exam (3:00-6:00)