

Geography of Spain

Ph. Dr. Alfonso M. Doctor

Course presentation



GENERAL DATA:

6.0 ECTS, I semester

Monday & Tuesday, 12:00-13:30

Virtual classroom: <https://aulasvirtuales.uhu.es/course/view.php?id=3095>

Supporting/tutoring time: Monday 16:30-19:30; Tuesday 10:30-12:00, 16:30-18:00

E-mail: adoctor@dgf.uhu.es

CONTEXT & GOALS

This subject is framed in the Degree in History. So, we'll approach with two main goals:

- 1) Students should understand the influence of geography on historical events.
- 2) Analysing not only the current Geography of Spain, but the historical –especially the most recent- development of its components.

Additionally, we want to reach other general goals:

- 3) That the student is able to direct their own learning process.
- 4) Be able to locate, select, and use geographic information (books, papers, statistics, maps, and images).
- 5) Learning common tools used in current Geography (Excel, and GIS).
- 6) Reaching an overview -as complete as possible over just a semester- about the geography of a country as diverse as Spain.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

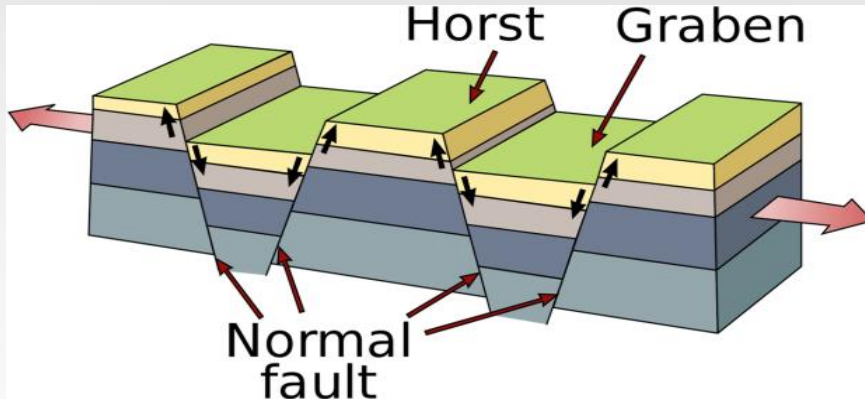
Spanish students: at least B1.

Use of personal computer in the classroom is highly recommended.

SYLLABUS:

1. Singularity of geography of Spain
2. External and internal borders
3. Peninsular and insular relief
4. Climates of Spain
5. Water
6. Biogeography of Spain

7. Environmental Problems in Spain
8. Population of Spain
9. Spanish cities
10. Spanish economy
11. Primary sector & rural landscapes
12. Energy & industry
13. The Tertiary sector



HANDBOOKS, AND GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS/SOURCES

IGN. *Atlas nacional de España*: https://atlasnacional.ign.es/wane/P%C3%A1gina_principal

Loidi, Javier (2017). Introduction to the Iberian Peninsula, general features: Geography, Geology, name, brief history, land use and conservation, in Javier Loidi (ed.): *The vegetation of the Iberian Peninsula*, vol. 1, 3-27. Springer:

www.researchgate.net/publication/319655790_Introduction_to_the_Iberian_Peninsula_General_Features_Geography_Geology_Name_Brief_History_Land_Use_and_Conservation/link/5bd33ccb299bf1124fa60dec/download

Richardson, John S. (2026): *Spain*. Encyclopaedia Britannica: www.britannica.com/place/Spain

Romero, Juan (coord.) (2017). *Geografía Humana de España*. Tirant Humanidades & University of Valencia [MAN 911.3 GEO geo].

Spanish Statistical Office (2026). *Spain in figures*: www.ine.es/dyngs/PUB/en/index.htm?cid=1471

GENERAL WEBSITES

EUROSTAT: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Fisheries & Aquaculture Department: www.fao.org/fishery/facp/search/en

Ministry of Agricultura, Fishing & Food: www.mapa.gob.es/en

National Geographic Institute: www.ign.es/web/ign/portal/inicio

Spanish Statistical Office: www.ine.es/en



ASSESSMENT:

Exam (45 %):

Theoretical (5 x 0.5 points each) and practical (2 x 1.0) questions. Minimum of 2.0/4.5 points is required to pass the course.

(at least two sample exams will be provided to students well in advance of the exam date)

Practical works (25 %):

In pairs.

Fieldwork (10 %) (October 9th):

A field notebook will be available to students in the virtual classroom, which will include a set of questions that students will answer and submit at the end of the day.

Attendance is mandatory in order to score.

Academic paper reading (10%):

A reading list will be made available to students, and each student must notify the professor of their selection.

