

## The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939

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<b>Start date</b>	1 April 2016	<b>End date</b>	3 April 2016
<b>Venue</b>	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
<b>Tutor</b>	Charlie Nurse	<b>Course code</b>	1516NRX091

**Director of Programmes** Emma Jennings  
**For further information on this course, please contact** Public Programme Co-ordinator, Clare Kerr  
[clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237

**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### Tutor biography

Charlie Nurse is a Teaching Associate in the Centre of Latin American Studies, Cambridge. He is a former Senior Lecturer in History and Politics at Anglia Ruskin where he specialised on Spain and Latin America. He has also worked as a History Tutor for the Open University and has taught courses on the Cambridge International Summer Schools programme. He is a regular visitor to Spain, having first lived there in the last year of the Franco dictatorship.

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Introduction: Spain in the 1930s
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	1936: Military Coup, Social Revolution and the outbreak of Civil War.
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	The Spanish Civil War as a military conflict.
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Republican Spain.
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	International Responses to the Spanish Civil War
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	The Rise of Franco & the Politics of Nationalist Spain.
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Discussion: Causes of Nationalist Victory and Republican Defeat..
12:45	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

To examine the immediate causes of the Spanish Civil War.  
To explore major aspects of the Civil War, including the main military campaigns, the internal conflicts with the Nationalist and Republican zones and the impact of foreign intervention.  
To consider the reasons for the eventual victory of Franco's Nationalists.

### Content:

This weekend course will examine the dramatic events of the Spanish Civil War, a conflict which, in the late 1930s, influenced international relations and is sometimes seen as the prelude to Second World War. The war was sparked off by a military coup in July 1936 which was only partially successful and which provoked, in the areas where it failed, an extraordinary social revolution. The resulting conflict, between supporters of the military coup (known as Nationalists) and defenders of the Spanish Republic (known as Republicans), lasted three years and ended with the victory of Franco's Nationalists in April 1939. The Civil War excited great passions among the populations of other European countries and elsewhere, most famously leading to the recruitment of the International Brigades to fight for the Republicans.

The early sessions will analyse the causes of these events and will discuss why and how they came about. We will examine in turn the origins of the Civil War, the nature of the military conflict between Nationalists and Republicans, international responses to the Civil War, the internal conflicts within the Republican zone and the rise of Franco to supreme power in the Nationalist zone. The course will end with an assessment of the causes of Franco's victory. Each session will include the use of documents.

### Presentation of the course:

Most of the sessions will take the form of direct instruction, accompanied by extensive hand-outs in the form of bibliography and documents. There will be some time for questions and discussion in each session, and most of the final session will be devoted to this.

### Outcomes:

**As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:**

Discuss some of the causes of the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War.  
Outline some of the major developments during the Spanish Civil War.  
Evaluate some of the reasons for Franco's victory in the Spanish Civil War.

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## Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Baxell, R.	<i>Unlikely Warriors</i>	Aurum, 2014
Beavor, A.	<i>The Battle for Spain</i>	Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 2008
Casanova, J.	<i>The Spanish Republic &amp; Civil War</i>	Cambridge, 2010
Fraser, R.	<i>Blood of Spain</i>	Pimlico, 1994
Orwell, G	<i>Homage to Catalonia</i>	1938. Penguin, 1962
Preston, P.	<i>The Spanish Civil War</i>	Harper Collins, 2006
Preston, P.	<i>The Spanish Holocaust</i>	Harper Collins, 2012

## Website addresses

International Brigades Memorial Trust <http://www.international-brigades.org.uk/>

## Documentary Films

The 1982 Granada TV series, *The Spanish Civil War*, though dated, provides an excellent introduction and includes interviews with survivors. Individual titles of the six programmes are as follows:

1. Prelude to Tragedy 1931-1936.
2. Revolution, Counter-Revolution & Terror.
3. Battleground for Idealists.
4. Franco & the Nationalists.
5. Inside The Revolution.
6. Victory & Defeat.

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 16 February 2016