Spanish Contemporary History
Dr. Charles Powell, Universidad CEU San Pablo
(2018-2019)
(www.charlespowell.eu/docencia/ - cpowell@rielcano.org)

Topic 1: From the II Republic (1931-36) to the Civil War (1936-39)
What where the major achievements and failures of the Second Republic?
Was the Civil War inevitable? Why did Franco win it?

Topic 2: Legacies of the Franco regime
What was the true nature of the Franco regime (1939-1975)?
What were the regime’s major achievements and failures?

Topic 3: Spain’s transition to democracy
How was a democratic system of government established in Spain after Franco’s death?
What were the major successes and shortcomings of Spain’s transition to democracy?

Topic 4: The PSOE’s ‘long government’ and its legacies
What were the major successes and shortcomings of the PSOE in office (1982-96)?
In what ways did Spain’s economy and society change during this period?

Topic 5: Spain’s evolving international role
How has Spain’s international role evolved during the second half of the 20th century?
What has membership of the European Union entailed for Spain?

Topic 6: The revenge of history?
How is the past relevant to contemporary social and political debates?
What ‘unfinished business’ is Spanish society still trying to digest?
BIBLIOGRAPHY

I. General

Stanley Black, *Spain since 1939* (Palgrave, 2010).


Javier Tusell, *Spain: from dictatorship to democracy, 1939 to the Present* (Blackwell, 2007)

II. From the Second Republic (1931-36) to the Civil War (1936-39)


III. Legacies of the Franco Regime


Angela Cenarro, ‘The Spanish Civil War, 1936-39’ in Adrian Schubert and José Álvarez Junco (eds.), *The History of Modern Spain* (Bloomsbury, 2018)

IV. Spain’s Transition to Democracy

Sebastian Balfour (ed.), *The Politics of Contemporary Spain* (Routledge, 2005)


Richard Gunther, José Ramón Montero & Joan Botella (eds.), Democracy in Modern Spain (Yale University Press, 2004)

Diego Muro (ed.), The politics and memory of democratic transition: the Spanish model (Routledge, 2011)


Charles Powell, ‘Revisiting Spain’s transition to democracy’, (IEMED, 2016).


V. The PSOE’s ‘long government’ and its legacies


David T. Gies, ‘Spain today: is the party over?’ VQR, Summer 1996

Paul Kennedy, The Spanish Socialist Party and the modernization of Spain (Manchester University Press, 2013)


VI. Spain’s evolving international role


Ignacio Molina (ed.), Towards the strategic renewal of Spain’s foreign policy, Real Instituto Elcano, 2014.

VII. The revenge of history?

Paloma Aguilar, Memory and amnesia: the role of the Spanish Civil War in the transition to democracy (Berghahn Books, 2004).

