

# The Alhambra and Granada in the al-Andalus

## The Alhambra and Granada in the al-Andalus Period

### COURSE GUIDE

#### DESCRIPTION

This MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) is free of charge and open to all via the Internet. It was designed by the [University of Granada](#) in partnership with the [Patronato de la Alhambra y el Generalife](#) and is taught in Spanish.

It is intended to offer motivated learning in a simple, direct way, without losing any rigour and depth of content. The subjects have been designed and structured by a team of professors and researchers who will introduce the history, urban development, architecture and aesthetic values of the society of al-Andalus.

#### OBJECTIVES

Objectives are the goals of an educational process. The goals of this MOOC are:

- Introducing the study of the history and society of the last state of al-Andalus.
- Exploring in depth the artistic values of the Alhambra and the city of Granada in that period.
- Developing digital skills and attitudes.

#### DURATION AND MODE

The course takes a total of six weeks consecutively. The first module introduces the methodology, and five modules explore the content in more depth.

This MOOC is a fully-online as virtual course. There is no set timetable for participation. Users can choose when to take part in the lines of discussion proposed in each module, and when to answer the weekly questionnaires. However, taking the course in the suggested period will enable them to take part in the online community. There are no time limits on when to take questionnaires or participate in the course forums and activities. The only requirement is an Internet connection.

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## CONTENT AND SUGGESTED TIMELINE

The course objectives will be met through the content making up the course. The six modules are designed to be taken in order, beginning with an introduction to the content and working methods, and becoming more detailed and challenging over time. Each module corresponds to a week of work, as shown in the suggested timeline:

CONTENT AND SUGGESTED TIMELINE	
<p>Week 1: Introduction (coordinated by Rafael López Guzmán)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Al-Andalus and Granada</li> <li>• Granada, Capital of the Zirid Taifa</li> <li>• The Nasrid Kingdom</li> </ul>	<p>Week 2: The Urban Fabric (coordinated by Rafael López Guzmán)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Urban Structure of Andalusí Granada</li> <li>• The Defensive System of Islamic Granada</li> <li>• Hydraulic Infrastructure</li> <li>• Mosques and their Urban Distribution</li> <li>• Funerary Rites. Cemeteries</li> <li>• Markets and <i>Alhondigas</i></li> <li>• The <i>Almunias</i> of the City of Granada</li> </ul>
<p>Week 3: Architecture and Daily Life (coordinated by Rafael López Guzmán)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living in Granada, Gender, Class, and Ethnic and Religious Groups</li> <li>• City Homes and Palaces</li> <li>• Andalusí Baths in Granada</li> <li>• The Nasrid Madrasa of Granada</li> <li>• The <i>Maristán</i> and its Recovery</li> <li>• Household Items</li> </ul>	<p>Week 4: The Alhambra. Structure and Architecture (coordinated by Jesús Bermúdez)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The city of the Alhambra</li> <li>• Streets and Gates</li> <li>• The Defensive System</li> <li>• Hydraulic Infrastructure</li> <li>• Palaces</li> <li>• Baths</li> <li>• Religious Spaces</li> <li>• Service Buildings</li> <li>• Gardens, Market Gardens, and Meadows</li> <li>• Archaeological Spaces</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5: The Aesthetic of the Alhambra (coordinated by José Miguel Puerta Vilchez)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Materials of the Alhambra</li> <li>• The Calligraphy and Poets of the Alhambra</li> <li>• Wooden Doors and Frames</li> <li>• The Gardens of the Alhambra</li> <li>• Water in the Alhambra</li> <li>• Muqarnas plasterwork and domes</li> <li>• Light in the Alhambra</li> <li>• Geometry in Nasrid Architecture</li> </ul>	<p>Week 6: Life in the Alhambra (coordinated by María Elena Díez Jorge)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who Lived in the Alhambra?</li> <li>• Government Activities</li> <li>• Official Receptions, Festivities and Celebrations</li> <li>• Everyday Life at Court</li> <li>• Male and Female Spaces</li> <li>• Houses and Homes</li> <li>• Everyday Life in the Medina</li> </ul>

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## METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCES

MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) are taught and studied totally online. As the name suggests, they are free of charge, online and open to all. This means that students must access the course platform via the Internet, having previously registered and enrolled for the course free of charge. Enrolment is free and can be done anywhere by anyone. The course is designed for anyone interested in the history, urbanism, architecture and aesthetic values of society in the al-Andalus period.

Each week a module will be offered consisting of learning units with specific content on the subject and an introductory video, together with activities which will be suggested in the different module forums.

The resources and materials provided for students are high quality and designed specifically for this course.

- **Materials:**
  - Introductory multimedia videos made on site by the experts in each field, with subtitles.
  - Assessable specific content created by each expert.
  - References and recommended readings.
  - Interactive map and other resources.
  
- **Suggested activities:**
  - Creating a profile on the platform
  - Participating in the forums for each module
  - Watching the introductory videos
  - Reading the assessable content
  - Answering assessment questionnaires for each module and at the end of the MOOC

## ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION

MOOC courses are regarded as informal education and lifelong learning, and therefore their completion is voluntary. Each of the 6 modules will become available on the Monday of each week, and the following Friday the questionnaire corresponding to that module will be posted, to give students time to see the content and take part in the forums. Each module of the course offers a badge relating to the subject, which can be earned by watching and reading the materials and answering a questionnaire on the content.

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- **Assessment criteria:**

- Completing the 6 questionnaires and the final MOOC questionnaire (an essential requirement if choosing to obtain the official certificate, which requires a fee)

- **Recommendations:**

- Taking part in some of the forums offered in each module
- Responding to the general survey (this will appear when the final questionnaire is posted, but is not mandatory)

Below, we show all the badges relating to each module of the MOOC which will be automatically attached to students' profile as they complete each questionnaire in the MOOC.



Module 1



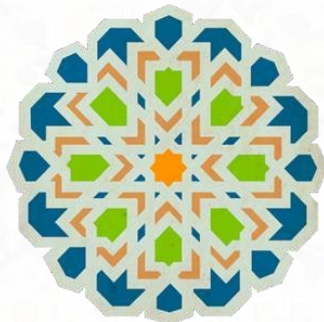
Module 2



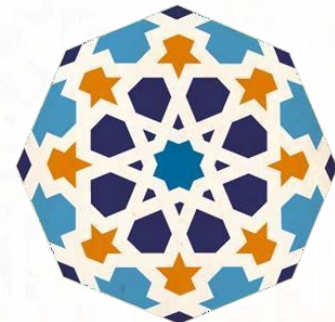
Module 3



Module 4



Module 5



Module 6

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Final Badge

A pass mark for the MOOC is based on the assessment criteria mentioned above.

Students who have completed the MOOC and the questionnaires correctly can request recognition for this course in the form of an Official Certificate (after paying an administrative fee of €37,86). The certificate has two functions:

- At the résumé level, it will form part of your academic history on your CV, just like any other training course.
- At the level of academic credit recognition, any student enrolled in any degree course at the UGR can earn 3 ECTS credits after completing this course. To do this, after acquiring the official certificate, they must apply to the secretary's office of their campus for credit recognition, at any time during their degree course. [Credit recognition](#)