

## **Brief history of the Inquisition: Representations and myths**

The main objective of this course is to offer an introduction to the history of inquisitorial activity and the various inquisitorial institutions in the Catholic world (Portuguese, Spanish, and Roman Inquisitions). The course will also study the symbolic elements associated with the inquisitorial activity, to understand the strength of the myths created around it. From a critical perspective and using an updated bibliography, different topics and forms of study related to inquisitorial sources will be discussed.

The course is relevant to expand historical knowledge and make students aware of the phenomena related to and generated by religious intolerance.

The course finally seeks to provide guidance and tools for investigating archives and understand documentary sources.

Several examples of inquisitorial documentation will be analyzed along the course, as an exercise to reflect on the changes and permanence of the “holly office” over more than five centuries.

Some of the topics that will be discussed are:

1. Archives, digital projects, and conservation of inquisitorial sources
2. Sources and legal literature for understanding the inquisitorial procedure

3. Symbolic elements used by the Inquisition and its representations in Literature and historiography
  
4. Social and cultural approaches to inquisitorial sources (macro and micro perspectives)
  
5. Bonds between the Catholic Church and the inquisitorial systems. Discussion on the impact of Inquisition in religious behavior.