

SPRING 2026

Spanish 450: Medieval Spanish Studies – The Worlds of Alfonso X, el Sabio
Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-10:45 am

Prof. I. J. Rivera
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This course will focus on the literary and cultural production of the court of Alfonso X, el Sabio (1221-1284). The course will consider how Alfonso X fostered interactions among Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Iberian peninsula during the thirteenth century. It will examine this interaction through the literature, music, art, legal documents, and other cultural objects produced by Alfonso and his court in order to understand the richness and complexity of multicultural medieval Iberia.

Readings and other course resources will help students to explore Alfonso's role as promoter of cultural and literary activity. This class will provide students with the opportunity to enrich their critical understanding of the cultural dynamics of medieval Iberia and to develop critical skills for analyzing medieval literary texts within the context of cultural interactions.

This course may be used to fulfill the 400-level peninsular Spanish literature requirement for the Minor or Major. Prerequisite: SPAN 340; recommended: SPAN 424.



Reading list:

- Alfonso X, *Cantigas*
- Alfonso X, *Siete Partidas*
- Alfonso X, *Libro de los juegos*
- Alfonso X, *Estoria de España*
- Anon., *Auto de los Reyes Magos*
- Anon., *Sendebat*
- Doubleday, *The Wise King*

For more information about the course, contact Prof. Rivera at ijrivera@ku.edu.

