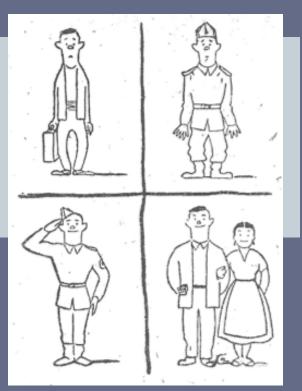
The Feminist Research Institute

presents

So[u]ldiers for Christ and Men for Spain: The Apostolado Castrense's Role in Mandatory Military Service in Spain During the Franco Regime (1939-1975)

Ian Winchester, Department of History Monday, October 7, 2013 12:00—1:00 PM SUB Luminaria



During the Franco regime in Spain, the state pressed all men who met basic physical requirements into two years of active military duty. This conscription served in large part as means of indoctrinating young men with the ideals of the dictatorship. One of the most influential interest groups involved in this enterprise was the *Apostolado Castrense* (the Martial Apostolate), the Catholic Church's organization within the armed forces. The Apostolado was heavily involved in life in barracks, provided all chaplains for the armed forces, published a variety of magazines and journals, and organized "pre-military campaigns" that targeted young men of 18 and 19 years of age to inform them about military service. This presentation will explore the Apostolado's role in the military's attempt to make a certain type of Spanish man by instilling in recruits a masculinity based on specific notions of discipline, honor, and Catholic morality. Focusing on the publications of the Apostolado, Winchester determines the organization's notion of normative masculinity and how they sought to inculcate it in recruits while also analyzing the success or failure of the Apostolado and placing the organization in a comparative perspective with other military interest groups and publications.



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