

.VĒRITAS

U N I V E R S I D A D

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Course name: Latin American Literature in Translation

Course code: SPAN -3010

Total contact hours: 48 hours

Pre-requisite: None but basic knowledge of Spanish is recommended

Professor: Shirley Leiva

Course description

This course will introduce students to the richness, variety and ideology of Latin American literature through a historical perspective, taking into account the social, cultural, and political contexts that are reflected in each work. As such, we will begin with older texts and authors moving toward the most contemporary to provide a sound chronological backdrop on which to base discussion and argumentation.

Because the literary movements we will study are so closely related to developments in all areas of artistic endeavor, we will also link the readings to other art forms, specifically film.

General and Specific Objectives:

The course is designed to equip or reinforce students with textual analysis skills using appropriate terminology and concepts and relevant contextual information. All instruction and activities will be conducted in English.

- to study the different literary movements as each relates to cultural identity and ideology
- to discuss actively in class regarding the production of literary texts and their possible influence on historical events
- to compose analytical essays on the texts themselves and on the author's craft
- to acquire more Spanish vocabulary through reading more complex texts to be able to cite sources appropriately without plagiarizing

Methodology

By the end of this course, students should have been able to gain a clear understanding of the Latin American heritage and cultural milieu. The selected materials deal with past and current attitudes and perceptions prevalent in some parts of Latin America. In order for students to really understand, appreciate, and possibly identify with the dilemmas posed in the literature, it is necessary for them to acquire an understanding of the dynamics of **how** and **why**, Latin American society and culture actually functions in different situations. In order to reach this goal, students will read (from the) literary works and view films listed above dealing with, but not limited to the following cultural issues: The role of women, cultural gender expectations, political structure, and the role of

religion. Existing customs, as well as myths, will also be explored in terms of their effects on socialization and acculturation.

Audience

This course is structured for International Students attending the Study Abroad program at Universidad Veritas. However, courses are not exclusive to foreigners so a few native student could enroll in this course.

Evaluation

Class participation	30%
Oral presentations (2)	20%
Journals (5)	15%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Final Project	20%

Course Outline Session	Topic	Reading(s)
1	Class presentation and syllabus overview	<i>A View from the South</i>
2	Introduction to Latin American Literature	Thamara Holzaptel: <i>The Latin American Literature</i>
3	Modernism	Jose Marti: <i>Simple Verses, My Little Horseman, Poetry is sacred</i>
4	Modernism	Ruben Dario: <i>Sonatina Portico</i> Litany for Our Lord Don Quijote The Ruby
5	Realism and Naturalism	Horacio Quiroga: <i>The Dead Man</i>
6	Realism and Naturalism	Martin Luis Guzman: <i>The Eagle and The Serpent</i>
7	Post Modernism	Alfonsina Stormi: <i>Sierra</i> You Would Have Me White Little Man Lighthouse in the Night I am Going to Sleep
8	The Beginnings of Vanguard	Gabriela Mistral: <i>Notes on Pablo Neruda</i> Castile
9	Vanguard	Jorge Luis Borges: <i>Borges and I</i> The Circular Ruins
10	MID-TERM EXAM	
11	Vanguard	Film: <i>Yo, la Peor de Todas</i>
12	Vanguard	Miguel Angel Asturias: <i>Tecun-Uman</i> Alejo Carpentier: <i>The Fugitives</i>

13	Vanguard	Juan Carlos Onetti: <i>Santa Rosa</i>
14	Magic Realism	Julio Cortazar: <i>Axoloti</i>
15	Magic Realism	Julio Cortazar: <i>The Island at Noon</i>
16	Magic Realism	Film: <i>Blow up</i>
17	Magic Realism	Gabriel Garcia Marquez: <i>A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings</i> , <i>The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World</i>
18	Oral Presentations	
19	Magic Realism	Gabriel Garcia Marquez: excerpts from <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
20	Contemporary Literature	Film: <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> Mario Benedetti: <i>Montevideanos</i>
21	Contemporary Literature	Isabel Allende: <i>The Stories of Eva Luna</i>
22	Contemporary Literature	Mario Vargas Llosa: <i>The Green House</i>
23	Oral Presentations	
24	FINAL EXAM	

Bibliography as presented on outline. Excerpts will be uploaded in moodle portal.

NOTE: Other short, non-literature readings may be used, but these will be provided and read during class

By the end of this course, students should have been able to gain a clear understanding of the Latin American heritage and cultural milieu. The selected materials deal with past and current attitudes and perceptions prevalent in some parts of Latin America. In order for students to really understand, appreciate, and possibly identify with the dilemmas posed in the literature, it is necessary for them to acquire an understanding of the dynamics of **how** and **why**, Latin American society and culture actually functions in different situations. In order to reach this goal, students will read (from the) literary works and view films listed above dealing with, but not limited to the following cultural issues: The role of women, cultural gender expectations, political structure, and the role of religion. Existing customs, as well as myths, will also be explored in terms of their effects on socialization and acculturation.

