

SPANISH 3340
Introduction to Latin American Literature
Spring 2008
TT 2:35-3:50
CAS 303

Instructor

Dr. José María Martínez

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(keywords in Google: jmmartinez utpa)

Office hours: TT: 10:30 am -12:00 pm.

W: 3:30-4:30 pm

Course description

This course will consist on a general overview of Latin American Literature from the Pre-Hispanic period to the present. It attempts to give the students the whole picture of this literary production and familiarize them with the main names of writers, works, movements, debates, etc, occurred in the field. This course is to be understood as a foundation for the elective courses on Latin American Literature, which specialize on a particular period, genre, movement, etc. The course will be also paying attention to the theoretical approaches of this issue, such as the relationships with Spanish Peninsular Literature, the notion of literary heterogeneity and transculturation, etc. (For a tentative list of contents and an overview of the course, see attached copies).

Course objectives

To obtain a general overview of the literary production in Latin American from the Pre-Hispanic period to the present.

To become familiarized with the most important names and concepts of authors, movements, and literary works.

To understand the Latin American Literary production as a whole, whit its own characteristics and personality.

Introduction to some basic theoretical concepts and relations used to study Latin American Literature (transculturation, heterogeneity, hybridity, literary ethnicity, etc.)

To discuss some of those literary readings in the context of the whole literary production in Latin America.

Bibliographical References (*in Reserve*)

Raquel Chang-Rodríguez, et. al.: *Voces de Hispanoamérica*. Thomson and Heinle, 2005.

Bárbara Mújica: *Introducción a la literatura hispanoamericana*. New York, Wiley & Sons, 2002.

Fernando Lázaro Carreter: *Cómo se comenta un texto literario*. Madrid. Cátedra, 2001.

Exams and Grading

In addition to the final exam, there will be two partial exams. Each exam will consist on a set of multiple choice questions and the critical commentary of a literary text. The purpose is to require from the students both, the learning of the objective data, and the capacity for critical thinking

and literary analysis. Each part will constitute the 50% of the grade for each exam. Active participation in class is required, and no student will pass the course without this interaction with the class. In addition, a research paper will be required for the successful completion of this course. The details about that paper will be explained later in the semester. Each student will also have the option of making a 30 minutes presentation on a topic of his/her choice during the semester. This presentation will add extra points to the student's final grade.

Remarks

- a) Only documented absences for serious reasons are allowed. Students can be penalized in their grades and/or dropped from the class after a excessive number of unjustified absences.
- b) Make-up exams are given only in exceptional circumstances.
- c) As a deference to the others, students are expected to be punctual for every class, and to ask for permission if they need to leave the class early.
- d) It is entirely each student's responsibility to learn the subject covered during his/her absence, as well as the exact date and time of each examination.
- f) If possible, do *not* bring to class: food, drinks, companions, beepers, cellular phones (if you do, please disconnected them during class time).

Calendario provisional

Enero:

- 15. Introducción y presentación del curso.
- 17. Comentario de "D.Q.", de Rubén Darío.
- 22. La literatura precolombina.
- 29. Comentario de las cartas de Cristóbal Colón.
- 31. La literatura colonial (I).

Febrero:

- 5. Comentario de textos de Hernán Cortés, Bernal Díaz del Castillo, Fray Bartolomé de las Casas y Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca (I).
- 7. Comentario de textos de Hernán Cortés, Bernal Díaz del Castillo, Fray Bartolomé de las Casas y Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca (II).
- 12. Comentario de textos de Hernán Cortés, Bernal Díaz del Castillo, Fray Bartolomé de las Casas y Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca (III).
- 14. La literatura colonial (II).
- 19. Comentario de textos del Inca Garcilaso.
- 21. Comentario de textos de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (I)
- 26. La literatura del siglo XVII. La Ilustración.
- 28. La literatura del siglo XIX. Posibles agrupaciones y clasificaciones.

Marzo:

- 4. Comentario de textos de Fernández Lizardi.
- 6. Comentario de textos de Andrés Bello
- 11-13. Spring Break.
- 18. El romanticismo.
- 20. Comentario de textos de Echeverría
- 25. Comentario de textos de Facundo Sarmiento y José Hernández
- 27. Comentario de textos de Gómez de Avellaneda y Ricardo Palma

Abril:

- 1. Comentario de textos de Eugenio de Hostos y Manuela Gorriti.
- 3. El Modernismo
- 8. Comentario de textos de Manuel Gutiérrez Nájera y José Martí.
- 10. Comentario de textos de Rubén Darío.
- 15. Realismo, Naturalismo y Posmodernismo.
- 17. Comentario de textos de Baldomero Lillo y Horacio Quiroga.
- 22. Comentario de textos de Gabriela Mistral y Pablo Neruda
- 24. La narrativa del siglo XX
- 29. Comentario de textos de Borges, Cortázar, García Márquez (I)

Mayo:

- 1. Comentario de textos de Borges, Cortázar, García Márquez (II)
- 5-8. Exámenes finales.

Note for persons with disability (ies)

If you have a *documented disability* which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as I have outlined and/or if you need special accommodations/assistance due to the disability, please contact the Office of Services for Persons with Disabilities (OSPD) Emilia Ramírez-Schunior Hall, Rom 1.101 immediately. Appropriate arrangements/accommodations can be arranged.