

COURSE SYLLABUS
SPN 3320 – Hispanic Literature in Translation
Fall 2015

LOCATION: Web course: <http://sulross.blackboard.com/>

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Gregory B. Stone
RGC Del Rio Faculty Office Bldg. 201
Phone: (830)703-4835
Email: gbstone@sulross.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Del Rio: Tue 9am-12pm
Eagle Pass: Tue 4pm-6pm
On Skype: Wed 9am-12pm
and by appointment

DESCRIPTION: This course examines masterpieces of Hispanic literature in English translation. The works, representing the best authors of Latin America and Spain, will be chosen from various genres and periods, thereby presenting a broad overview of Hispanic culture as reflected in literature.

TEXTS:

García Márquez, Gabriel. *Collected Stories*. New York:Harper Collins. ISBN 0060913061

Pérez Reverte, Arturo. *The Seville Communion*. New York: Harcourt Brace. ISBN 0156029812

Neruda, Pablo. *I Explain a Few Things:Selected Poems*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux. ISBN 0374260798

Buero Vallejo, Antonio. *Four Tragedies of Conscience*. Boulder, CO: University Press of Colorado. ISBN 0870819032

Fuentes, Carlos. *The Hydra Head*. New York:Farrar, Straus and Giroux. ISBN 0374515638

OBJECTIVES: **The student will:**

1. Apply literal reading skills for understanding written materials, including stated main idea, topic sentence, sequence of events, supporting details, and summarized information.
2. Apply interpretive reading skills for understanding written materials, including implied the main idea or theme, cause-effect relationships, outcomes, and conclusions.
3. Understand the use of literary conventions, including author's point of view or purpose, the interpretation of figurative language, and the

contribution of grammatical structures to the meaning of various passages.

4. Apply vocabulary skills, including the use of context clues to define ambiguous words, identification of words to fit various contexts, and cultural and conceptual characteristics of literary language.
5. Apply knowledge of idiomatic usage, including distinctions among the possible interpretations of words and phrases in different idiomatic contexts.

GRADING:

The following forms of evaluation will be used to determine the level of student success in mastering the course objectives:

Examinations (2):	50%
**Book Reviews(2):	30%
Discussion Board:	20%
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	100%

Book reviews: The student will prepare written reviews of **two of the books read in this course. These book reviews are to be the student's own response, both aesthetic and critical, to the books being reviewed, and there should be no reference to or use of other persons' ideas or opinions in the student's work.

PROCEDURES:

Since this is a web-based course, class attendance is not a factor, however, regular participation in the discussion board on line is a requirement for this course. You will be expected not only to answer questions from the instructor, but also to formulate your own questions/comments so that other students or the instructor may answer or comment on them.

All assignments and discussions will take place via the Blackboard course page.. Further instructions can be found on this page once you have logged in. The exams will be available on the Blackboard site on the dates indicated on the course syllabus.

The exams will only be available during the published examination period. If you cannot take the exam at the designated time, you must notify the instructor **before** the exam is given in order to reschedule your exam. If you do not do this, you will forfeit your opportunity to take the exam. In all cases, it is up to the instructor to decide if an alternative examination schedule is warranted.

You must use only the Message Center in Blackboard to communicate with the instructor. DO NOT use email to discuss matters pertaining to this course. You may of course use email to

discuss other matters, such as your degree plan, or other non course related matters.

Students with any disability which might affect their performance in this course are encouraged to notify the instructor so that materials and methods may be altered in order to ensure the student an equal opportunity for success.

Distance Education Statement:

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

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COURSE CALENDAR

- WEEK 1** Aug 24-30: García Márquez. *Collected Stories*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 2** Aug 31-Sep 6 García Márquez. *Collected Stories*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- Discussion 1 due by 11:59pm Sep 6**
- WEEK 3** Sep 7-13: Pérez Reverte. *The Seville Communion*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 4** Sep 14-20: Pérez Reverte. *The Seville Communion*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 5** Sep 21-27: Pérez Reverte. *The Seville Communion*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)

- WEEK 6** Sep 28-Oct 4: Neruda. *I Explain a Few Things*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 7** Oct 5-11: Neruda. *I Explain a Few Things*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- Discussion 2 due by 11:59pm Oct 11**
- Book Review 1 due by 11:59 pm Oct 11**
Choose from García Márquez, Pérez Reverte, or Neruda
- WEEK 8** Oct 12-18: **EXAM I**
Available from 8:00am Oct 15 until 11:59pm, Oct 18
- WEEK 9** Oct 19-25: Buero Vallejo. *Four Tragedies of Conscience*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 10** Oct 26-Nov 1: Buero Vallejo. *Four Tragedies of Conscience*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 11** Nov 2-Nov 8: Buero Vallejo. *Four Tragedies of Conscience*.
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- Discussion 2 due by 11:59pm Nov 8**
- WEEK 12** Nov 9-15: Fuentes. *The Hydra Head*
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 13** Nov 16-22: Fuentes. *The Hydra Head*
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- WEEK 14** Nov 23-29: Fuentes. *The Hydra Head*
(for specific readings, see Assignments on Blackboard)
- Discussion 3 due by 11:59pm Nov 29**
- Thanksgiving Holiday, November 25-27**
- WEEK 15** Nov 30-Dec 6: **EXAM II**
Available from 8:00am December 3 until 11:59pm Dec 6
- Book Review 2 due by 11:59pm Dec 6**
Choose from Buero Vallejo or Fuentes

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPANISH COURSES ON THE WEB

Please Note:

If you do not have reliable access to a computer with a high speed internet connection several days a week you should not take this class. If you do not have a computer at home, you may use the computers in one of the SRSU computer labs.

1. Now that you have successfully logged on to this course, please familiarize yourself with the information available on the system. Most everything you do will start by clicking on one of the buttons on the left side of the main course page. Feel free to experiment to familiarize yourself with the site. If you have trouble, click the “**Help**” button on the left side of the page.
2. Every time you log on, check for new announcements by clicking on the “**Announcements**” button. This is how I will communicate general information to the class. I recommend logging on several times a week just to be sure.
3. For all matters pertaining to this course, I will use the “**Message Center**” feature, so please check your messages **daily**. We will only use email for matters unrelated to the course. For example if you want to ask me a question regarding your degree plan, use email. If you need to ask me a question or make a comment about the course, use **ONLY** the “Message Center”.
4. The basic format of this course is summarized here:
 - Each week you will complete the reading for that week ON YOUR OWN. You can find the assignments for each week on the syllabus.
 - The quizzes or exams for this course will be given on Blackboard on the dates and times indicated on the syllabus. The exams will be available **only** at those times. See the instructions for taking exams found under the “Course Information” tab on the course page in Blackboard.
 - Book Reviews will be due at the time indicated on the course syllabus. You can access these by clicking on the “Assignments” tab on the course page in Blackboard. Please download and read the instructions for submitting written assignments which are found under the “Course Information” tab in Blackboard.
 - Class discussion topics will be posted about one week before the due date shown on the syllabus. You can find these by clicking on the “**Discussion Board**” button on the left side of the main course page. Once on the discussion board, you will find topics of discussion that you can respond to, or if you like, you can post your own topic or “thread”. A thread is a topic of discussion which any number of people can participate in. It is not in “real time” so you can contribute whenever you like as long as it is within the time period allotted for that set of topics. Your course participation grade will be determined primarily by the quantity and quality of your comments throughout the semester.

5. Information about your instructor, such as office hours and telephone number, can be found by clicking on the “**Your Instructor**” button.

NOTE:

The following is a policy concerning non-participation in web courses. You are responsible for the information contained in this policy.

Online Course Non-Participation Policy

Policies in effect for on-campus, traditional classroom instruction courses also apply to students enrolled in distance education courses, including Web-based and ITV courses. The University allows a maximum of 20% absences in a course before an instructor may drop a student for excessive absences. In Web courses, this policy is interpreted as not participating for more than 3 weeks in a long semester or 1 week in a summer session. Any student dropped for non-participation will receive an F in the course dropped. Inactivity may include the following:

- not logging on to the course
- not submitting assignments
- not participating in scheduled activities
- not communicating with the instructor by phone or email, and/or
- not following the instructor’s participation guidelines stated in the syllabus

ALL TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ONE OF THE RGC TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS BELOW:

Uvalde:

Mr. George Hernández
ghernandez2@sulross.edu

phone: 830-279-3045

Email:

Del Rio:

Mr. Francisco Rodríguez
frodriguez2@sulross.edu

phone 830-703-4818

Email:

Eagle Pass:

Mr. Juan Garza

phone 830-758-5010

Email: jgarza8@sulross.edu

If a technician is not available, call the SRSU Central Help Desk at 1.888.691.5071 This is a toll-free number.