



Sul Ross State University

Course Syllabus-Summer II-16 Spanish 4303 – The Spanish American Novel web Course

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Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the modern novel in Spanish America through an in-depth study of representative works, their authors, and the pertinent literary criticism of the novels. This course will follow a lecture format with adequate attention given to online discussions of the works to be read.

Course Texts:

Ernesto Sábato (1911-2011)

El túnel (1948)

ISBN-13: 978-8432216428 / ISBN-10: 8432216429

JUAN RULFO (1917-1986)

Pedro Paramo (1955)

ISBN-10: 1937482960 / ISBN-13: 978-1937482961

Jorge Ibarquengoitia (1928-1983)

Estas ruinas que ves (1974)

ISBN-10: 9682710030 / ISBN-13: 978-9682710032

CARMEN BOULLOSA (1954-)

Antes (1999)

ISBN-10: 9707100338 / ISBN-13: 978-9707100336

Expected Learning Outcome:

In this course, the students will

- Apply literal reading skills for understanding written materials, including stated main idea, topic sentence, sequence of events, supporting details, and summarized information.
- Apply interpretive reading skills for understanding written materials, including

implied the main idea or theme, cause-effect relationships, outcomes, and conclusions.

- 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.
- 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.
- Apply knowledge of idiomatic usage, including distinctions among the possible interpretations of words and phrases in different idiomatic contexts.
- Humanities Statement:
Students graduating from Sul Ross State University should be able to think critically and demonstrate an understanding of the possibility of multiple interpretations, cultural contexts, and values.

Program Learning Objectives:

The student graduating with a degree in Spanish will:

PLO 1: demonstrate advanced level of proficiency in reading Spanish.

PLO 2: demonstrate advanced level of proficiency in writing Spanish.

PLO 3: demonstrate advanced level of proficiency in speaking Spanish.

Assessment:

The expected learning outcome for this course will be assessed through a series of assessment tools. In order for the student to demonstrate awareness and knowledge of distinctive cultures and subcultures, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, class, political systems, religions, languages, or human geography. The student's success will be evaluated according to the following plan:

1. Homework- Book reviews (30%) The student will prepare written reviews of three of the books read in this course. These book reviews¹ are to be **the student's own response**, both esthetical 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.

¹ Definición

La reseña, en una extensión de tres a cuatro cuartillas, contiene el resumen y el comentario valorativo realizado sobre un libro, un artículo u otro texto publicado. El juicio que se emite sobre el objeto a reseñar puede ser negativo o positivo, esto dependerá del criterio del reseñador.

El reseñador debe expresar su opinión respecto a lo que leyó o vio; en otras palabras, se emite un juicio de valor. En algunos casos, un trabajo de este género también intenta comandar al lector de hacer algo.

2. **Articles-summaries- Assignments (10%).** Each book will have from one to two analytical articles. The student will have to analysis one and write a (reseña) critical reflection (300 words). The goal of this exercises is to develop your critical abilities to analyze this type of text and to put your ideas in writing. You will have the opportunity to express your ideas without being intimidated, but you must present evidence from the text. The reflections will be evaluated for 1) the quality of the analysis of the text, 2) the organization, and 3) the quality of the language and grammar with which you write this assignment.
3. **Exams (40%)** will be assigned every Friday under the "**Exámenes**" tab on Blackboard.
4. **Final Academic Essay- Research paper from 5 to 7 pages (20%):** You will complete a final project in this course. This project should further your learning and will correspond with the topics/themes covered in the course combined with your **personal research interest**.

*** Please do not hesitate to send me an e-mail during the semester about questions you may have regarding the material or any other relevant information. I will be very happy to provide you with whatever assistance you may need.

*Written work will be evaluated for completeness, coherence, original insights, and appropriate level of Spanish.

Grading

A: 90 – 100

C: 70 – 79

F: 0 – 59

B: 80 – 89

D: 60 – 69

Format:

Since this course will be delivered over the Internet, there is no class meeting time as such. The assignments, exams and the academic research will take place via the **Blackboard** page: <http://www.sulross.edu/bb>. Further instructions can be found on this page once you have logged in.

Other essential information on course procedures can be found in this syllabus. The student is responsible for all information contained in this syllabus, and that which is available on the course web site.

All written work, including homework assignments and quizzes, is to be done individually without assistance from or collaboration with others. The University's policy on Academic Honesty, as published in the Student Handbook, will be strictly adhered to in this course. An excerpt from this policy can be downloaded under "Course Information" on the main course page.

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

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.

NOTE:

Students with any disability which would affect their performance in this course are encouraged to inform the instructor so that methods and materials may be altered in such a way as to insure an equal opportunity for success.

If you have difficulties with this course and need to consult with me, please call my office phone above, or for faster response, send me a message through the Message Center in Blackboard.

General Instruction for SPN4303 on the web

Please Note:

If you do not have reliable access to a computer with an 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 Rio Grande College computer labs. Please be advised that the RGC computer labs are only open Monday through Thursday from 8am to 9pm and Friday 8am to 5pm. As of this writing, there are no lab hours during the weekends at RGC. You may access the internet at the SWTJC labs, however.

- 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.

- 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 every day just to be sure.
- Some of the course documents you will access in this course are in **PDF format**. The PDF format is used by Adobe Acrobat Reader which allows you to view and print out any document, independent of the word processing or image viewing software you are using. In order to view these documents, your computer must have Acrobat Reader installed on it. All the computers at SRSU-Rio Grande College already have this program installed. If you are using a computer at home that does not have the Acrobat Reader, you can download a free copy by going to <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> and following the instructions.

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 exams for this course will be given on Blackboard on the dates and times indicated on the syllabus. Once you begin taking the exam, you will have a maximum amount of time to complete it. You **will** be able to restart the exam if you decide to stop before completing it, however, you will automatically resume where you left off, and you will not be able to see previously answered questions. The time limit applies even if you log out and get back in, so don't waste time off line. Be sure to use a reliable computer to avoid such problems as drop offs, freezes, etc. I suggest using the computers in one of the Rio Grande College computing labs. Finally, **don't wait** until the last minute of the exam period to begin your exam.
- Class discussion topics will be posted frequently and will be announced under the "Announcements" on the main course page. You can find activity this by clicking on the

NOTE:

ALL TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ONE OF THE RGC TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS BELOW. THIS INCLUDES QUESTIONS ON HOW TO LOG ON TO BLACKBOARD, HOW TO OBTAIN AND USE A SUL ROSS EMAIL ACCOUNT, HOW TO USE EMAIL ATTACHMENTS, ETC.

Uvalde:

Mr. George Hernandez Phone: 830-279-3045 Email: ghernandez2@sulross.edu

Del Rio:

Mr. Francisco Rodriguez Phone: 830-7034818 Email: frodriguez2@sulross.edu

Eagle Pass:

Mr. Juan Garza Phone 830-758-5010 Email: jgarza@sulross.edu

IF YOU CANNOT GET HELP FROM ONE OF OUR LOCAL TECHNICIANS, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON THE ALPINE CAMPUS USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWIING RESOURCES:

LoboTechnologyAssistanceCenter Support Staff

Phone: 432-837-8888 (ext. 8888/8765)

Online: [Lobo Technology Assistance Center \(LTAC\)](#)

For Service Requests: <https://techassist.sulross.edu>