



**Sul Ross State University**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Spanish 3311**  
**Reading in Spanish**  
**Spring 2017 - Web Course**

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**Instructor:** Ana Sylvia Acevedo, Ph.D  
**E-mail:** asa15xt@sulross.edu

**Phone:** (830) 703-5031  
**Office #:** D-202  
**Office Hours:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Tuesday - Thursday  
and **by appointment**

**Course Description:**

This course is a survey of Spanish Literature from the 19th century to the present. Anthologized works representing the various genres and literary periods will be evaluated and discussed in both oral and written form.

**Addition Description:**

The main purpose of this course is to provide students with a panoramic view of the major writers and literary movements in Spain from the 19th through the Twenty-first century. The students will gain an understanding of the major characteristics of Spain's literary movement, as well; they will discover why these movements emerged and how this phenomenon relates to other cultural and historical events of the time period.

**Course Text:**

Méndez, Harpring, and Ballesteros (eds.) *Voces de España, 2ª ed.* Thomson-Heinle. ISBN #9781285053837

**Expected Learning Outcomes:** The students will

- Apply literal reading skills for understanding written materials, including stated main idea, topic sentence, and sequence of events, supporting details, and summarized information.
- Demonstrate advance understanding of the geographical features of Spain, and how regional geography influenced historical developments.
- Understand of 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.
- Discuss literary works using the proper terminology and apply knowledge of idiomatic usage, including distinctions among the possible interpretations of words and phrases in different idiomatic contexts.

**Program Learning Objectives:**

The student graduating with a degree in Spanish will:

    PLO 1: demonstrate advanced level proficiency in reading Spanish.

    PLO 4: demonstrate awareness and understanding of the cultural characteristics of the Spanish speaking world.

## 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. 4 Short Reflections on readings (discussion blogs) (10 %)**

There will be four (4) short essays or reflections about one topic of a specific reading (300 words). These reflections will help you to interpret the texts within its cultural and literary context. The goal of these exercises is to develop your critical abilities to analyze these texts 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.

**2. 2 Academic Essays & Bibliography MLA Style (30 %)**

There will be two essays ("Comentarios analíticos") in which you will analyze the meaning of one aspect about one or two texts read in class. These essays must have a minimum of 1200- 1500 words (approximately 5 pages each). Guidelines and evaluation rubrics are provided in Blackboard under the course reader.

Our task is to think about the ideas and meanings of these texts and the ways their authors communicate them. We also need to pay attention to the dialogues of a particular text with others (intertextuality), and how these texts portray their societies and individuals.

In an academic essay, you will need to think about all these aspects and provide your own reading and analysis of these texts. For this level of studies, consultation of secondary sources (i.e. academic articles, books, book chapters) is encouraged, but you must cite your sources properly. See the Section "Materiales para la escritura" in Blackboard on how to cite your sources, organize your essay and work on the revisions. There is also a model of an academic essay in the course reader.

**3. Homework assignments (10 %)** Every week will be a list of literary terms to define and questions to answer related to the assign readings.

**4. Reading quizzes (20%)**

**5. Midterm exam (15%)**

**6. Final Exam (15%)**

The midterm and the final exam will test the comprehension of the stylistic and formal aspects of the assigned readings. They will include questions about the characteristics of the literary movements, identification of characters, places, symbols, fragments of texts and short essays.

The reading quizzes will be to verify that the students are comprehending the assigned readings. There will be Five throughout the semester. Please always check your course calendar.

\*\*\* Please do not hesitate to see me 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

B: 80 – 89

C: 70 – 79

D: 60 – 69

F: 0 - 59

## Procedures:

Since this course will be delivered over the Internet, there is no class meeting time as such. The assignments, discussions, quizzes and exams will take place via the Blackboard course. Further instructions can be found on this page once you have logged in. The exams, quizzes, assignments and essays will be given on the Blackboard site according to the course calendar.

### 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

### Make-up policy

- **\*\*No make-ups exceptions; therefore, plan ahead**

### Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for one's own work, being individually accountable, and demonstrating intellectual honesty and ethical behavior. Ethical behavior and independent thought are essential for the highest level of academic achievement. It is the aim of the faculty of Sul Ross State University – Rio Grande College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

### 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 INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPN 3311 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 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 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 several times a week just to be sure.
- For all matters pertaining to this course, I will use the “**Message Center**” in Blackboard, so please check your messages **daily**. If you need to ask me a question or make a comment about the course, use **ONLY** the “Message Center”. 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.
- 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 reading quizzes and the two major 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.** Once you begin taking the exam, you will have a maximum amount of time to complete it. You **will not** be able to restart the exam if you decide to stop before completing it. 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 “**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 allotted for each topic. Your course participation **grade will be determined primarily by the quantity and quality of your comments throughout the semester.**



**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY  
RIO GRANDE COLLEGE**  
*A Member of the Texas State University System*

**Department of Student Services**  
2623 Garner Field Road  
Uvalde, Texas 78801

**(830) 758-5006**  
**(830) 279-3003**  
**Fax: (830) 279-3016**

**Disability Services Procedures**

Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, a Member of the Texas State University System, supports equal employment and educational opportunities for all persons. No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored by Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College on any basis prohibited by applicable law, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.

The university is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Disability Services Coordinator assists students with disabilities in gaining opportunities for full participation in programs, services and activities. The Disability Services Coordinator is the Director of Student Services 830-758-5006 in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Services available to all SRSU RGC students include consultation, information and referral as well as personal counseling and academic advising. A student is eligible for disability services if s/he has been admitted to Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College and has a documented physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Qualified students with disabilities who need academic adjustments, auxiliary aids or services or other accommodations to ensure equal access must register with Disability Services. It is the student's responsibility to bring disability documentation with them to an appointment with the Disability Services Coordinator to discuss their individual needs at this time. Each request is considered on an individualized, case-by-case basis. As considerable time may be involved in obtaining complete and adequate documentation and arranging for qualified service providers, prospective and current students should request services in a timely manner. These services should be requested well in advance of the anticipated need.

Recent disability documentation from appropriate qualified professionals must be provided by the student to establish current functional limitations and the impact of the disability. Any recommendations for specific accommodations may be helpful in making determinations and these will be considered as part of the documentation review process. Documentation of disability status and other related information is handled in a confidential manner and is maintained in files separate from a student's educational record.

In compliance with applicable laws, unless Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College can demonstrate that an academic requirement is an essential component of a degree or program, the University will make reasonable adjustments to requirements to ensure that the requirements do not discriminate against qualified students with disabilities. A student with a disability may request a course substitution or a modification of a degree or program requirement through the following process.

**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](mailto:ghernandez2@sulross.edu)

**Del Rio:**

Mr. Francisco Rodríguez                  Phone: 830-7034818    Email: [frdriguez2@sulross.edu](mailto:frdriguez2@sulross.edu)

**Eagle Pass:**

Mr. Juan Garza                                Phone 830-758-5010    Email: [jgarza@sulross.edu](mailto: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>**