



Sul Ross State University
Course Syllabus
- SPAN 4310
SPANISH AMERICAN LITERATURE I
Spring 2025

Spring 2025 Course

Course Number: SPAN 4310
Course Title: Spanish American Literature I
Type: Online Synchronous
Credit Hours: 3
Class meetings: Wednesdays 6:00pm to 8:45pm

Instructional Plan

This course will be taught online synchronous

Instructor Contact Information

Dr. Esther Daganzo-Cantens
Email: esther.daganzo-cantens@sulross.edu; estherdaganzo@gmail.com

Office Hours

T/TH 8:00am to 9:30 am and 10:45am to 12:30pm
Wednesdays from 4:00pm to 6:00pm online via TEAMS or by appointment

Course Description

This course aims to give an overview of the major literary trends in Spanish America from 1492 to 1830. It will introduce students to the diverse literary forms of those tradition. Through a close reading of selected texts and films, we will focus on problems of literary analysis as well as on the development of Spanish American writing within its historical context.

Instructional Materials

All materials in this course will be provided by the professor or accessible via the internet.

Student Objectives/Competencies

Students who complete this course will be able to do the following:

- To understand the evolution of Spanish American literature from 1492 to 1830.
- To study the relation between the literary genres and the rise of criticism.
- To envision Latin American literature within the political contexts in which it grows (The configuration of the Hispanic world, the colonies and the independence; the independence movements and cultural emancipation, Latin America reality within the independence movements, etc.)
- To write an analytical essay, formulating and expressing a hypothesis about the meaning of a text, assembling textual evidence, citing according to MLA style, and drawing convincing conclusions
- To build Spanish vocabulary, especially that used in literary criticism, and learn a wide range of literary terms in Spanish
- To introduce the students into the main techniques and concepts of philological analysis of present texts.
- To achieve the active participation of students and their progressive self-learning.
- To acquaint with the organization of reference sources about the subject.

Course learning Activities

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is required and is included in the final grade. Three (3) or more unexcused attendance will result in a 0 in the attendance grade.
2. **Participation:** Active student participation in Spanish is an essential element of the course. Students should come to class prepared to use Spanish to the fullest extent possible. Students will be expected to ask and answer questions in Spanish; to work in pairs in Spanish; and to listen carefully to other student responses and/or presentations. A student's failure to cooperate with the instructor or with other students will be reflected in his/her class participation grade. Moreover, a student who repeatedly displays inadequate preparation for the class, who does not pay attention in class and/or refuses to participate may lose the opportunity to earn class participation points. Each student's class participation will be evaluated on a 0-10-point scale. A student who is absent, will receive a 0. To make up for the absence, the students must talk to the professor.
3. **Oral Presentation:** Students will give an oral report (about 10-15 minutes) to the class. The topics will be assigned by the professor based on the biography of one of the writers studied in class and his/her historical period. (The presentations should have a biography of the author, major literary works, reference to the literary movement. It is encouraged to use the internet to access to videos, or any information on the author and his/her work). At the end of the presentation, the student will propose questions to the class for further class discussions.
4. **Homework:** Each reading we study in class will have some analysis questions. The homework will be in blackboard.
5. **Blog:** to assess the learning material of the course, each student will create a blog (using Google blogger <https://www.blogger.com/about/?bpli=1>) with information about very author we study in class. It is encouraged to use videos, photographs, media information, etc. about the authors. Every entry MUST have: a brief biography of the author, the literary movement pertaining his/her work, historical and political connection of his/her work, and a personal evaluation of the author. The blog is the assessment part of the

course (exam). The professor will evaluate the blog twice at semester: as a midterm and for the final.

6. **Final Paper:** Topics to be either chosen by the student or assigned by the professor. Final paper due THE LAST WEEK OF CLASS. However, papers turned in during the grace period will be subject to an automatic one-step reduction of grade (e.g., a grade of A will become an A-). No papers will be accepted after THE LAST MONDAY OF CLASS. All written work should be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman, 12pt. font, and grammatically accurate (including spelling and diacritical marks). No papers are accepted in handwritten form. For the paper, student will use MLA guidelines:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html or <https://www.easybib.com/guides/citation-guides/mla-format/>

Assessments

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Participation | 10% |
| 2. Oral Presentation | 20% |
| 3. Homework: | 20% |
| 4. Blog: | 25% |
| 5. Final Paper: | 25% |

Grading System

- 100- 90: A
89. - 80: B
79. - 70: C
69 - 60: D
59 - 0: F

Academic Honesty: Students enrolled in courses at Sul Ross State University are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic conduct. The professor will therefore be alert to any kind of cheating or plagiarism, i.e. presenting as one's own, the work of another. This includes unsigned articles on the internet, which will be closely monitored by the professor. Proof of academic misconduct according to the official rules and policies of the Academic Regulation guidelines under Academic Honesty for the parameters and consequences of academic dishonesty. Within this course, where academic misconduct has been established, a grade of 0 will be given for the assignment(s) in question, which may lead to failure in the course.

To access online to the Academic Honesty go to:

<https://www.sulross.edu/catalog/undergraduate-academic-regulations/#1605412215143-c8b265dc-3e01>

Class Schedule

THIS CALENDAR IS TENTATIVE. IT HAS TO BE TAKEN AS A GUIDELINE ONLY. IT MAY BE MODIFIED TO FULFILL THE NECESITIES OF THE CLASS

THE MAJORITY OF THE MATERIALS ARE IN SPANISH AND IN ENGLISH. HOWEVER, THE CLASS IS CONDUCTED TOTALLY IN SPANISH

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BLOQUE 1: El mundo pre-hispánico

- a. El mundo pre-hispánico. Mel Gibson fim *Apocalypto*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CetjkiH2x0>
- b. Poesía náhuatl y Poesía Quechua

BLOQUE 2: El descubrimiento y la colonización

- c. **Cristóbal Colón**, *Carta a Santangel*
 - In English:
<https://www.ushistory.org/documents/columbus.htm?srltid=AfmBOorS6Pohq2qPjgzILPOfnkLmP0Eih8NJlgBOuxqROzcbhI7A-RZn>
 - En español: <https://sites.berry.edu/dslade/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2016/01/Colon-Carta-a-Luis-de-Santangel.pdf>
- d. **Hernán Cortés**
 - Cartas

- e. **Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca**
 - Film by Nicolás Echevarría (1991):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DgV-ZntJtQ&t=3s>
- f. **Bartolomé de las Casas.** *Historia de las Indias*
 - Selección
- g. **Bernal Díaz del Castillo.** *Historia verdadera de la conquista de la Nueva España*
 - Selección

BLOQUE 3: El mundo colonial

- h. **El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega**
 - Selección
- i. **Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz**
 - Yo la pero de todas, film de Maria Luisa Bemberg (1990):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCzYyN0_ze8
 - Carta atenagórica. Carta a sor filotea. Respuesta a Sor Filotea. Hombres necios. Primero sueño. Sonetos.

BLOQUE 4: La independencia y la emancipación cultural

- j. **José María Heredia.** *Niagara*.
Versión en español: <https://biblioteca.org.ar/libros/11368.pdf>
Versión en inglés: <https://niagarapoetry.ca/2017/11/07/niagara-1825-jose-maria-heredia-translated-keith-ellis/>.
- k. **Esteban Echevarría:** *El matadero*.
Versión en español: https://www.cervantesvirtual.com/obra-visor/el-matadero-1871/html/ff17c72a-82b1-11df-acc7-002185ce6064_3.html
Versión en inglés:
<https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2096&context=nmq>
- l. **Domingo Faustino Sarmiento.** *Facundo* (primera parte, capítulo 1 y cap. 2: originalidad y caracteres argentinos. El rastreador, el banquero, el guacho malo, el cantor) https://www.bcn.gob.ar/uploads/Facundo_Sarmiento.pdf
Versión en inglés:
<https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2096&context=nmq>
- m. **Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda.** *Al partir. A el. SAB*.
 - Sab (español) <https://www.cervantesvirtual.com/obra-visor/sab--0/html/>
 - En ingles (*Sab* and autobiography)
<https://books.google.sh/books?id=iSgUVm1ceN4C&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false>