



New Courses: ENGL 328 Latin American Literature

3 hours 3 credits

Course Description

This course provides an overview of Latin American literature , with emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries, focusing its study on major literary works that have shaped the cultural and literary horizons of generations of readers, and that are representative of the most important literary trends in Latin American literature . A special effort will be made to put the texts to be studied in their historical, social and cultural contexts ,in order to give students the opportunity to interpret the texts from a Latin American perspective . An important objective of the course is to give students the necessary theoretical tools to analyze the texts to be studied from a literary point of view. Priority will be given, to facilitate such objective , to the generic context of the texts, although, within a particular genre, attention will be paid to historical development.

PREREQUISITES: ENGL 211, ENGL 212, PHIL101 ,SPANISH 101 & 102

FREQUENCY: Alternate semesters

EFFECTIVE DATE: FALL 2001

STUDENTS TO BE SERVED: All students interested in Literature, Latin American culture, and Particularly , students pursuing a major in English .

ANTICIPATED ENROLLMENT: 20 students

RATIONALE

This course fulfills an important aspect of the proposed cross-cultural literature concentration of the English major. It will serve , also, to fulfill one of the elective requirements for students who pursue an AA or a BA degree in English.

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Objectives

This course has to main objectives: to familiarize students with Latin American literature and culture, and to study major representative works of LA literature from a multi-cultural perspective. Additionally, students will become familiar with the particularities of the development of the main literary genres in LA literature.

Instructional activities

Students will read , analyze and discuss major works of Latin American Literature. In addition to a midterm and a final examination, students will write three short papers (5 to 8 pages) on texts selected from those studied in class. Given the fact that an important objective of the course is to provide a cross-cultural perspective pn literature, an effort will be made to include out of class cultural activities that take advantage of the vast opportunities the city offers for the study of Latin American literature and culture.

Prerequisites

English 211 and 212

Philosophy 101

Spanish 101 and 102

Required texts:

Foster, David William, and Virginia Ramos Foster, eds. *Modern Latin American Literature*. 2 vols. New York: Frederick Ungar Publishing Co., 1975

Anderson Imbert, Enrique. *Spanish American Literature: a History*.

Asturias, Miguel Ángel. *El Señor Presidente*

Borges, Jorge Luis. *Ficciones*

García Márquez, Gabriel. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

Rulfo, Juan. *El Llano en Llamas*

Course requirements

Midterm and Final Examinations

Three short papers (5 to 8 pages)

Frequent quizzes to verify that students have read the assigned texts

Class participation is an essential part of students' activities

Class Schedule

Week 1

Overview of course objectives: Peninsular and Latin American Literatures.

The principal trends in Latin American literature before the Independence Revolutions.

The XIX century. The Modernist revolution.

Week 2

The first modernist writers. Selected poetry and prose by Jose Marti and Jose' Asuncion Silva. Ruben Dario. His influence on Spanish and Spanish American poetry. Selections from *Prosas Profanas* and *Cantos de Vida y Esperanza*.

Week 3

Ruben Dario and the transition to Avangarde poetry. The Vanguardia in Latin America. The first poetry of Jorge Luis Borges. The poetry of Cesar Vallejo: selections from *Los Heraldos Negros* and *Trilce*.

Week 4

The poetry of Pablo Neruda : selections from *and Veinte Poemas de Amor y una Cancion Desespera*. The poetry of Nicolas Guillen: Selections from *Songorocosongo* and *El Son Entero*.

Week 5

Short fiction in Modern Latin America. The Latin American short story before and after Borges.

Week 6

A genre dilemma : *Borges Ficciones*.

Week 7

Short fiction and Latin American revolutions : Juan Rulfo's *El Llano en Llamas*.

Week 8

Midterm Examination

An introduction to the Latin American Novel. The novel and the political reality of Latin America at the mid – century. Literature and the military dictatorship : Miguel Angel Asturias *El senor Presidente*.

Week 9

El Senor Presidente

Week 10

Magic Realism : a revolution in Latin American Fiction . Gabriel Garcia Marquezs Cien anos de Soledad.

Week 11 Cien anos de Soledad

Week 12

Other major figures of Latin American fiction : selections from works by Juan Carlos Onetti, Julio Cortazar , Jose Emilio Pacheco, and others .

Week 13

General overview of the Latin American Essay .

Week 14

Theater in Latin America before and after the Independence Revolutions.