‘SÉ TODOS LOS CUENTOS’
An Introduction to Spanish Literature

SPANISH 207
SPRING 2020
TUE & THU 4:00 – 5:20 PM
CONKLIN HALL 446

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Office Hours: TUE & THU 12–2 PM
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Objectives: The goals of this course are twofold: to introduce students to the history of Spanish (Peninsular) Literature, since the Middle Ages to the twenty-first century, as well as to literary analysis. It is a course designed to foster critical thinking. Literature is something that can be enjoyed by anyone, without any special training. Literary analysis, however, is an activity for which skills, knowledge, and preparation are needed. Spanish majors are supposed not only to be able to read in Spanish, but to read critically: to be professional readers.

This course is, also, highly practical in the sense that it is only by doing that students can learn how to do things such as how to analyze a poem, a short story, or how to decide whether context is relevant to text, etc. Literary analysis is a craft that can only be properly learned by practicing it. Therefore, the class participation and preparation will count for a high percentage of the grade. Accordingly, this course will be very demanding of students.

The focus of this course is Spanish Peninsular Literature. In addition to becoming familiar with the development of Spanish culture and history, as we progress through the course you will have the opportunity:

- To comprehend theoretical approaches about Spanish literature, cultural production, identity development, politics and cultural criticism;
- To apply those theoretical approaches to any cultural artifact about which you are reading;
- To gain knowledge and appreciation of Spanish culture in its diverse manifestations;
- To gain the tools for analyzing the social, cultural and political issues that shape Spanish communities;
- To grapple with historical and social dilemmas that require sensitive, careful critical commentary.
- To practice the skills/capabilities listed above.

As a General Requirement, the course is also designed to help you develop the reading, writing, oral and critical analysis skills you will need for proceeding through the university.

Clear and effective writing: This course will help you to improve your ability to express yourself clearly on paper. It will provide you with the opportunity to practice revising your written work in order to improve the organization and presentation of your ideas. In writing, you will work toward being able to use evidence appropriately in order to deal with and apply complex ideas accurately.

Conscious and critical reading: We will discuss effective reading strategies (to find “main arguments” or identify evidence, for example). We will explore a range of text types that you may encounter at the university level and your everyday life, and we will practice effective reading approaches to these various forms.

Critical thinking: In writing or speaking, you will learn to cite evidence appropriately, accurately represent and attribute complex ideas, and apply theoretical material to various situations.

Self-assessment: You will work on becoming conscious of the strengths and learning skills you already have, and you will set goals for improving your skills. At various points during the semester, you will evaluate your progress in improving your learning skills by reviewing the work you have completed thus far during the term.

Required texts

There are two REQUIRED BOOKS for this class. There exist multiple editions of these texts: PLEASE USE THE SPECIFIED EDITIONS, available at the university bookstore (Barnes & Noble, 42 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ), or online at Amazon.com and other vendors.


All other readings are available as a COURSE PACKET available for purchase at Affordable Copies Center, 55 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ (across the street from the university bookstore).

You must bring the text assigned for the class in its physical format (see my policy on electronic devices)

You must acquire a copy of a physical Spanish DICTIONARY and/or an English-Spanish one, if you don’t possess one already. Physical (but not online) dictionaries will be allowed during the exams.
Good online dictionaries (www.diccionarios.com, http://dle.rae.es) might also be useful.

Avoid automatic translators online at all costs!!!

**Evaluation**

- Participation 20%
- Daily quizzes 20%
- 4 exams 60% (15% each)

**Participation** during class discussions will be evaluated according to the following scale: D: Passive participation (listening in silence). C: Low participation (very occasional remarks). B: Average participation: A: Good participation (systematic and insightful engagement).

There will be **daily quizzes** at the beginning of each class, using personalized Plickers (“paper clickers”). The quizzes are short series of multiple-choice questions that will cover the readings of the day, asking basic questions about them. They are designed to control that you have done the assigned readings. The final grade for quizzes will be evaluated according to the following scale: A: 85-100% of correct answers. B: 70-84%. C: 55-69%. D: 40-54%. F: below 39%.

The **exams** will cover the materials read in class and the explanations offered by the professor in the classroom. Each exam will cover a part of the course (for example, the second exam will cover the readings of days 16 through 21). Each exam will consist of three sections: 1: short definitions (20%) 2: textual analysis (30%) 3: brief essay (30%). You must bring a blue book (see below) and your physical dictionary to the exam (no electronic devices will be allowed).

**Rewriting**: students will work to rewrite either the textual analysis or the brief essay of each exam in an attempt to improve the writing (both in terms of grammar, orthography, etc., as in terms of argumentation, use of evidence, etc.). Language (grammar, syntax, orthography) will not be taken into account for the grade of the original exercise, but will count for the grade of the rewriting. The grade of the rewriting will replace the original grade for that particular exercise.

All exams and rewritings must be written in letter-size blue books (available at the university bookstore) leaving the margins and a blank space between written lines that I can use for my own notes and corrections. You must buy the blue books before the exam. You will use the same blue book until filled, and you can use it to measure your improvement. You will have to buy more than one blue book for the entire class.

**Policy on electronic devices**
The use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets, cellphones, etc.) will **not** be allowed during the course, unless expressly specified by the instructor.

**Office hours**
If you have questions or concerns about this class, come and talk to me during my office hours. Please do not send email inquiries related to your absence or class materials. It is your responsibility to find out about the subjects covered in your absence and study them.

**Attendance and absences**
Regular attendance is expected. Absences must be justified with proper documentation (a doctor’s note, for instance, or emergency notification from the dean of students or advisor). A personal email explaining the absence does not count as a justification. More than three unjustified absences will be penalized at the rate of 3% of the final grade per absence.

Persistent and significant lack of punctuality might eventually be penalized as absences.
If for any family or medical reason you find it absolutely necessary to miss an examination, you must contact me before the exam and have my consent to your absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment. With the exception of extreme cases there will be no early or make-up exams! You must contact me in advance should an extreme emergency arise.

**Food and drink**
The only food allowed in class will be coffee, tea, soda, water, etc. and/or any kind of small pastry, NOT other kind of food.

**University Senate Policies**
“Please note that for undergraduate courses, one credit is defined as equivalent to an AVERAGE of three hours of learning effort per week (over a full semester) necessary for an AVERAGE student to achieve and AVERAGE grade in the course. For example, a student taking a three credit course that meets for three hours a week should expect to spend an additional six hours a week on course work outside the classroom. This should not be considered a maximum amount, but rather an average amount.”

According to the college-wide policy determined by the University’s Faculty Senate:

**A** achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.

**B** achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.

**C** achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.

**D** achievement that is worth of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements

**F (or N)** represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either

(1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or

(2) was not completed and there was not agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I (incomplete).

**IN** (Incomplete) Assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances, e.g. hospitalization, a student is prevented from completing the work of the course on time.

**Rutgers University-Newark Academic Policies**

- **Academic integrity:** As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community.

  - **Academic integrity policy:** [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/)

- **Disability Services:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must complete an intake meeting, and submit appropriate documentation. If your request for reasonable accommodations is approved, you will receive a Letter of Accommodations (LOA), which you should present privately to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations are not retroactive and are effective only upon submission of the LOA to the instructor. Please begin the process by completing and submitting the Registration Form, Applying for Services, which is available at the website below.

  - **Applying for Services:** [http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/applying-for-services](http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/applying-for-services)
  - **Documentation Guidelines:** [http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines](http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines)
  - **Office of Disability Services (ODS):**
    Suite 219, Paul Robeson Campus Center
    (973) 353-5375
    odsnewark@rutgers.edu
Religious Holiday Policy: Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work of exams according to an agreed-upon schedule.

Learning resources

- Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)
  Room 140, Bradley Hall
  (973) 353-5608
  http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/rlc

- Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops)
  Room 126, Conklin Hall
  (973) 353-5847
  nwc@newark.rutgers.edu
  https://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter

Note
This syllabus is subject to amendment or change at the discretion of the instructor, and students will be notified of any changes.
1. Jan. 21 (Tu)  Presentation

EDAD MEDIA (HASTA EL SIGLO XV)
2. Jan. 23 (Th)  Poesía popular:  Poesía medieval: moaxaja árabe, canción occitana, romance castellano (s. XI-XV)
3. Jan. 28 (Tu)*  Poesía culta:  Jorge Manrique, Cópulas a la muerte de su padre (ca. 1476)

“SIGLO DE ORO”: RENACIMIENTO Y BARROCO (SIGLOS XVI-XVII)
4. Jan. 30 (Th)  Poesía culta:  Garcilaso de la Vega, soneto 23 (En tanto que de rosa y azucena...) (ca. 1530)
5. Feb. 4 (Tu)  Novela picaresca:  Lazarillo de Tormes (1554), prólogo y cap. 1
6. Feb. 6 (Th)  Lazarillo, cap. 2
7. Feb. 11 (Tu)  Lazarillo, cap. 3
8. Feb. 13 (Th)  Lazarillo, caps. 4-7
9. Feb. 18 (Tu)*  EXAMEN 1 (days 2-8)
10. Feb. 20 (Th)  Teatro barroco:  Lope de Vega, El perro del bortelano (ca. 1613) (video, 105 min.)

ILUSTRACIÓN/NEOCLASICISMO (SIGLO XVIII)
11. Feb. 25 (Tu)  Teatro ilustrado:  Leandro Fernández de Moratín, El si de las niñas (1801) (video, 126 min.)

ROMANTICISMO (MEDIADOS DEL SIGLO XIX)
12. Feb. 27 (Th)  Cuento gótico:  Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer, “Los ojos verdes” (1861)
13. Mar. 3 (Tu)  Poesía regionalista:  Rosalía de Castro, Cantares gallegos (1863), prólogo y selección de poemas

REALISMO (FINALES DEL SIGLO XIX)
15. Mar. 10 (Tu)  EXAMEN 2 (days 10-14)

SIGLO XX (HASTA LA GUERRA CIVIL)
16. Mar. 12 (Th)  Poesía popular:  Poesía y música flamencas

*** Spring Recess ***

17. Mar. 24 (Tu)  Poesía culta:  Federico García Lorca, Romancero gitano (1928)
19. Mar. 31 (Tu)*  San Manuel Bueno, mártir (ii)

GUERRA CIVIL Y FRANQUISMO (1936-1975)
20. Apr. 2 (Th)  Memoria histórica (i):  Antonio Altarriba y Kim, El arte de volar (2009), páginas 13-115
21. Apr. 7 (Tu)  Fascismo:  Rafael García Serrano, La fiel infantería (1943), fragmento
22. Apr. 9 (Th)  EXAMEN 3 (days 16-21)
23. Apr. 14 (Tu)  La emigración:  Miguel Delibes, Viejas historias de Castilla la Vieja (1964) I-III y XVII

LA ESPAÑA DEMOCRÁTICA (1976-2018)
25. Apr. 21 (Tu)  La movida:  Pedro Almodóvar, Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios (1986) (video, 85 min.)
26. Apr. 23 (Th)  Rock urbano:  Extremoduro, Deltoya (1992) (texto y audio, 47 min.)
28. Apr. 30 (Th)  Memoria histórica (ii):  Altarriba y Kim, El arte de volar, páginas 116-207

✓ FINAL EXAM (days 23-28) May 13 (Wednesday), 3:00-6:00 pm, in our regular classroom

* Last day for dropping (without a W grade):  Jan. 28
* Last day for adding:  Jan. 29