Latin American Literature in English Translation

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Office: Conklin 426

Spring 2020 – Tuesday 2:30 to 5:20 PM  
Hill 106  
Office hours: Tuesday 5:30 to 6:00 PM

Course Description
In this class we will study works by some of the most important contemporary writers from Latin America and Latino US. Theoretical and historical background will help students understand and appreciate these texts. This course is taught in English and meets the literature portion of the core curriculum history and literature requirement.

Course Goal
The goal of this course is to explore major literary themes in relevant literature from Latin American authors while experiencing elements from Latin American society, culture, and landmark historical events.

Learning Outcomes
1. Students will discuss course readings within the context of appropriate literary theories (e.g. feminist theory, post modern theory, psychoanalytic theory).
2. Students will identify characteristic of Latin American society and culture within the context of the readings.
3. Students will develop critical thinking by engaging in oral and written analysis of character development and literary style in the readings.
4. Students will produce written essays that reveal their ability to analyze the readings using elements from all the previous objectives listed.
5. Students will increase their proficiency in writing, reading, speaking, and listening.

Class Attendance Policy
Students are expected to be in attendance for all sessions, to be familiar with the assigned reading materials at a level that enhances class discussions, and to share their insights with the class as a whole. Excessive absences (more than two class sessions) may negatively impact the student’s performance in the course.

Special Needs Learners
If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Services (ODS) as early as possible in the term.

Diversity Statement
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is committed to creating a community that affirms and welcomes persons from diverse backgrounds and experiences and supports the realization of all human potential. All candidates are expected to demonstrate recognition and valuing of culture, language, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, exceptionality, and other forms of difference as assets in teaching and learning. For more information please visit https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/disability-services.
Grading and Explanation of Requirements

**Participation**
15 points (discuss at least one scene during each class; qualitative)

**Quizzes**
25 points (given at the beginning of each class; approximately 5 minutes)

**Midterm Exam**
30 points (10 March 2020, 2:30 PM)

**Final Exam**
30 points (12 May 2020, 3:00 PM)

Assignments

*Participation – ongoing*
Students are expected to verbally participate during class discussions of the readings in order to demonstrate their familiarity with the material. Participation will be evaluated at the end of each class session. Students can earn up to 7 points by midterm and the remaining 8 by the end of the semester.

*Quizzes – during the first 2 minutes of each class meeting*
At the beginning of each class meeting for which a reading is assigned, a brief, objective quiz will be administered in order to assess the student’s familiarity with the material. The quizzes cannot be made up due to tardiness or absence.

*Midterm Exam – due 10 March 2020 by 2:30 PM via course BlackBoard*
The Midterm Exam is posted in the “Assignments” section of the course BlackBoard and can be submitted anytime before the deadline. Students are encouraged to share drafts of the exam with the instructor ahead of the deadline in order to receive feedback.

**Grading Criteria:**
- All questions are answered completely, concisely, and thoroughly
- Answers include a sufficient amount of textual evidence to support the argument
- The discussion flows in an organized and coherent manner
- Paper does not contain grammatical issues or typos and follows MLA format

*Final Exam – due 12 May 2020 by 3:00 PM via course BlackBoard*
The Final Exam is posted in the “Assignments” section of the course BlackBoard and can be submitted anytime before the deadline. Students are encouraged to share drafts of the exam with the instructor ahead of the deadline in order to receive feedback.

**Grading Criteria:**
- All questions are answered completely, concisely, and thoroughly
- Answers include a sufficient amount of textual evidence to support the argument
- The discussion flows in an organized and coherent manner
- Paper does not contain grammatical issues or typos and follows MLA format

**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. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/)
Required Texts (available in bookstores)


Class Schedule

NOTE: All readings should be completed before the class period for which they are assigned and during which they will be discussed. There will be a short, objective quiz before each class period. Class schedule and topics are subject to change.

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<th>21 January</th>
<th>Introduction</th>
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<td>28 January</td>
<td><em>The Storyteller</em></td>
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<td><em>The Storyteller</em></td>
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<td>11 February</td>
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<td>3 March*</td>
<td>Film: Central Station</td>
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<td><em>Final Exam</em></td>
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**FINAL EXAM:** Tuesday, 12 May 2020, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM