

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
www.mlcs.ualberta.ca

**2015-2016 SPANISH 320 A1:
INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY ANALYSIS**
(Fall Term)
M W F 10:00 – 10:50
HC 2 29

Office: *Arts 242-D*

Office Hours: M W F 11:00 to 1:00, 2:00 to 3:00, or by appointment

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Instructor Web-site: <http://www.humanities.ualberta.ca/MLCS/staff-bortolussi.htm>

PRE-REQUISITES: SPAN 300 or 306 or consent of the Department.

COURSE-BASED ETHICS APPROVAL

N/A.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING COMPONENT

None.

PAST OR REPRESENTATIVE EVALUATIVE COURSE MATERIAL

N/A. Documents distributed in class.

ADDITIONAL MANDATORY INSTRUCTIONAL FEES (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes

No

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

Numerous benefits ensue from the reading of fiction, as evidenced by research in the psychology of reading; besides enjoyment, some of these include enhanced cognitive performance, greater empathy, and increased pro-social behaviour. Hence reading fiction is good for you. But the benefits can only ensue if the text is processed productively. In this course students will master the tools required for skilful reading. We begin by examining some prominent communication theories, and a range of conventions and strategies of written discourse. In an interactive work environment, we then apply the analytical tools learned to the selected texts. Readings consist of intermediate-level Spanish and Latin-American texts representing fictional and non-fictional genres, including journalistic prose, poems, short stories, and plays.

By the end of the course, students will: a) notice a marked improvement in their oral and written Spanish, and b) have the skills required to both master senior literature and culture courses and enjoy reading fiction in the future.

TEXTS:

Journalistic Prose:

- Anon. - “Próxima estación: el pasado” (available in e-class)
- Rosa Montero - “Vergüenza”, “Maldición”
http://elpais.com/elpais/2014/05/19/opinion/1400517614_716304.html
http://elpais.com/elpais/2013/12/23/opinion/1387803923_360523.html
- Primera, Maye - “Detenidas en La Habana Berta Soler y Más de 60 Damas de Blanco”
http://internacional.elpais.com/internacional/2014/05/24/actualidad/1400890754_580577.html

Poems: (in public domain, made available in e-class)

- José Martí - “Cultivo una rosa blanca”
- Nicolás Guillén - “Negro Bombón”, “Búcate Plata”, “Mulata”
- Anónimo - “Abenamar”
- Antonio Machado - “XXIX” (Caminante)
- César Vallejo - “A Mi Hermano Manuel”
- Pablo Neruda - “Oda al Día Feliz”
- Ernesto Cardenal - “Somoza”
- José Bergamín - “Ecce España”
- Juan Ramón Jiménez - “El Viaje Definitivo”

Short Stories: (all but * in public domain, made available in e-class)

- Augusto Monterroso - “El eclipse”
- Don Juan Manuel - “Lo que sucedió a un mozo que casó con una muchacha de muy mal carácter”
- Leopoldo Lugones - “Yzur”
- *Amparo Dávila - “Detrás de la reja” (available in Reserve Room, Rutherford)
- Rosa Montero - “Como la vida misma”
- Ana María Matute - “Pecado de omisión”
- Julio Cortázar - “Continuidad de los Parques”

Theater: (must be purchased, U of A Bookstore)

- Federico García Lorca - *Bodas de Sangre*
- José Triana - *La Noche de los Asesinos*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Analytical Assignments: (5 X 10) - 50% (see e-class for dates)
(1 Journalism, 2 Poetry, 2 Short Story)
- Mid-Term - 15% (Oct. 19)
- Final Exam - 25% (Dec. 15, 9:00 a.m.)
- Class Participation - 10%
- 100%

ANALYTICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

Practice is the key to mastering textual analytical skills. Short practice assignments (“tareas”) have been designed with the following goals in mind: i) to help reinforce the genre-specific concepts and tools learned in class; ii) to help develop writing skills, in particular the ability to articulate informed responses to texts; and iii) to expand vocabulary. All assignment topics and evaluation criteria are available in e-class.

Assignments are due at the beginning of the first day in which the corresponding work is studied in class (see e-class for daily schedule).

For the poetry assignments, students are to apply the “Método de Análisis Poético”. **NB: The Martí , Guillén, Machado and Martí poems are NOT eligible.**

MID-TERM EXAM

This exam will focus mainly on the theory and concepts learned in class.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam is cumulative, but will be more heavily weighted in favor of the drama component of the course.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Attendance to class is not included in the class participation component of the grade; only active, positive contributions to class discussions will count. To obtain the full 10%, students must contribute to every class, thus absences will reduce class participation opportunities. Given the interactive nature of this course, students are expected to think about the readings, take notes at home, and be prepared to make consistent, positive oral contributions. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior will lead to a reduction in the class participation grade (e.g., sustaining conversations with classmates while instructor and/or students are talking).

E-MAIL POLICY

Students are encouraged to ask their questions during class, and to discuss concerns during the instructor’s office hours. Please note that although all e-mails will be acknowledged, questions for which answers have either been answered in class or are available in the course syllable or e-class materials will not be answered.

MLCS Grading Scale

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Very good
B	75-81%	3.0	Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	Good
C+	66-69%	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Please consult one of the following sites:

[http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6\(3\)](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6(3))

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that the discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.”

Students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Policy for Late Assignments:

The penalty for late assignments is 1 mark per day. Students who consult in advance

with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course, with no penalty.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please inform your instructor during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; email ssdsrec@ualberta.ca; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca).