

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2017-18

SPANISH 326 A1: HISPANIC CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
(Fall 2017)

Instructor: Dr. M. Bortolussi

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Office Hours: M W F 10:00 to 12:30 or by appointment

Time: M W F 1:00 to 1:50

Place: HC L1 10

Course Prerequisite: SPAN 300 or 306 or consent of the Department

Course-based Ethics Approval

Not needed.

Community Service Learning component

None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

No

Course Description and Objectives:

Children's and young adult literature occupies a privileged role in the Hispanic world, attracting many prominent writers of adult fiction, as well as a host of talented new authors and illustrators. In this course students will develop their Spanish language proficiency while exploring award winning children's stories, novellas, and poems from Spain and Latin America. We begin with an overview of the evolving concepts of childhood and the function of children's literature. We then examine a variety of prize-winning contemporary works in the light of some theoretical approaches to children's literature with a view to identifying prominent issues and trends.

Assignments are designed to help students acquire the expertise to competently assess children's fiction while developing their aural, oral and written communication skills. In particular, they will learn to write professional book reviews (which they will be encouraged to post on-line), curate a children's book exhibit, recognize and describe the pictorial conventions of storybook illustrations and their relation to the verbal text, and improve their text analytical skills. Education students will become familiar with a wide variety of quality literary materials for classroom use, as well as relevant pedagogical methods.

Texts: (Items marked * are available in Reserve Room, Rutherford Library)

Short Stories:

Martí, José. “Nené Traviesa”; “Bebé y el Señor don Pomposo” (in e-class, pdf downloaded from web)

Poetry:

Walsh, Elena María. *El Reino del revés* 1965/ 2013

Albums:

Argueta, Manlio. 1990. *Los Perros Mágicos de los Volcanes* (in e-class; pdf downloaded from web)

*Buitrago, Jairo. 2008. *Camino a Casa*

*Campanari, José. 2008. *¿Y yo, qué puedo hacer?*

*Gómez Cerdá-Teo Puebla, 1988. Alfredo. *La Princesa y el Pirata*

*Kurusa, Monika Doppert. *La Calle es Libre* 1981/2014

*Rohmer, Chow, Viduare. *The Invisible Hunters/Los Cazadores Invisibles*

*Skármeta, Antonio. *La Composición* 1979/1999/2014 (in e-class; pdf downloaded from web)

*Schujer, Silvia y Weiss, Mónica. 2006. *Hugo Tiene Hambre*

* Tafolla, Carmen & Teneyuca, Sharyll. *That’s Not Fair! / ¡No es Justo!* 2008

*Vargas Llosa, Mario. *Fonchito y la Luna* 2010/2015

*Winter, Jonah. *Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx/ La Juez que Creció en el Bronx* 2009

Young Adult Novels:

Lindo, Elvira. *Manolito Gafotas* 1994

Martín Gaité, Carmen. *Caperucita en Manhattan* 1990

Moure, Gonzalo. *El Síndrome Mozart* 2003 (can be borrowed from Spanish Resource Center, Woodcroft School)

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Aural/writing Assignment	- 15% (Sept.13)
Book Review	- 10% (Oct.6)
Curating Project	- 15% (*Nov. 19)
Seminar	- 5% (Dec. 4 & 6)
Essay	- 20% (Dec.8)
Final Exam	- 25% (Dec. 19, 2:00 p.m.)
Class Participation	<u>- 10%</u>
	100%

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

[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))

Explanatory Notes on Writing Assignments:

Double-space all written assignments, and provide a cover page that includes the word count. Only hard copies will be accepted (no e-submissions). **NB:** Grading criteria for all assignments are provided in e-class, in folder “Tareas”.

Aural/Written Assignment

To enhance oral comprehension and begin thinking about contemporary issues in the study of children's literature, this assignment requires listening to a short video and then providing a written summary of the main arguments. See e-class specs for video URLs and summary specifications (Tareas-Tarea Aural).

Book Review (Reseña)

Following the book review writing model learned in class students are to write a book review of 500 -750 words on one picture book ("album). See e-class for specifications (Tareas-"Reseña").

Curating Project

This is a multi-stage project, the final stage of which must be completed by Nov. 19. Students are to work in groups of 5 to showcase a selection of books at the Coutts Education Library for Edmonton teachers of Spanish and members of the various Hispanic communities. Basically students would have to chose a thematic focus for their exhibit, arrange the selected books in showcases provided by the Coutts library, and prepare a poster containing relevant information. *Requirements and dates for the different stages of this project are in e-class (Tarea-"Proyecto Exposición").

Seminar

During the last few classes, students are to present their book curating work to fellow students in a power-point presentation. See specifications in e-class (Tareas-Seminario). All students are strongly encouraged to ask questions of the presenters; this is a good way to earn participation marks.

Essay

The final essay is designed to help students better understand and appreciate theoretical approaches to children's literature. It requires the application of a critical approach/perspective to at least 2 young adult novels studied in class. At least 2 peer-reviewed, critical works from the bibliography provided in e-class must be used. Double spaced, approximately 1,500 words. Select any academic format (APA, MLA, Chicago, and use consistently. Complete list of essay topics is available in e-class (Tareas-Ensayo). Please include a title page with word count.

Final Exam

The final exam will be cumulative, and cover everything taken throughout the semester.

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. Therefore students are encouraged to take notes on the readings and come prepared to make their oral contribution by answering questions on the readings and sharing their ideas and opinions with the class. To obtain the full 10%, students must participate in 100% of the classes. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior will lead to a reduction in the class participation grade.

Policy for Late Assignments

The penalty for late assignments is 2 marks per day. Students who notify the instructor in advance of the due date regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be given an extension of up to three days, after which the assignment will no longer be accepted. Retroactive excuses will **not** be accepted under any circumstances.

E-mail Policy

Students are encouraged to ask their questions during class, and to discuss other concerns during the instructor's office hours. Please do not e-mail instructor for which answers have either been answered in class or are available in the course syllable or the materials provided in e-class.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

Required Notes: “Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) 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 www.governance.ualberta.ca) 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 direct 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 [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the Student Conduct and Accountability Office 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 languages 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. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course 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 [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) 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.

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 [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).