



Department of World Languages and Cultures  
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
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3103 Conversations on Hispanic Readings  
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Spring 2025 January 21 – May 9

### Contact Information

Instructor: Claudia Montoya  
Office: Bea Wood 100  
Office hours: M 12pm – 2:30pm, TR 2pm – 3:30pm  
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Class material: **You will not need a textbook for this class**, all the readings and activities will be on **d2i**. You will need the readings when you are in class, so please either print the material on your own or bring your computer to class. **A dictionary English/Spanish is required for the class**, please make sure it's **NOT** a pocket dictionary, those don't have enough vocabulary.

### Objectives:

This course is designed for students who have completed beginning and intermediate Spanish (four semesters) and are beginning advanced course work in Spanish. Students will read important literary works of the Hispanic World and use them to discuss different topics and write brief compositions about them. This is an engaging course that aims at developing students' communicative abilities in Spanish while improving vocabulary, grammar, and general expression while using their creativity.

### Grading components:

Vocabulary Quizzes on 2dl.....10%  
Presentaciones.....15%  
Speaking practice on d2l.....20%  
In class writings.....15%  
In class Participation ..... 30%  
Obra de teatro (Examen Final).. 10%

**Vocabulary Quizzes:** All your reading material will come with a list of vocabulary at the end, with both, Spanish and English meanings. On d2i as well, there will be a quiz programmed for you to answer right after you do the reading: we will read a

short story for Tuesdays and poetry for Thursdays for the most part, you need to complete the quiz BEFORE you come to class. Also, the quiz is programmed so that if you don't answer it, you can't advance to the next reading assigned. Please, make sure you do your homework ahead of time or you will fall behind from the beginning.

**Speaking Practice:** There will be three speaking practices for you to record on D2L. During the speaking practice I'll ask you about the content of the readings, but I will ask you as well to relate the readings to real life events. When you record on d2l you will do a video recording. After recording make sure the recording is good, because if by mistake there is no recording, you will receive a zero.

**In class writings:** since we are dealing with Literature, the writings are meant to be creative, the purpose is for you to exercise your expression in Spanish. Sometimes you will write your general thoughts about the reading, and sometimes you will be asked to write from the point of view of a particular character, for example. The writings will be collected by your professor at the end of the class. Sometimes the writings will be graded only for completion and sometimes they will be thoroughly checked for grammar, development of ideas, and vocabulary, but you will not know when this will happen, so please always write your best!

**In Class Participation:** The participation grade for this class is 30 percent. YOU NEED TO BE IN CLASS and actively participate in all the activities, so you can be successful in the class. Your professor will be recording daily participation; hence **attendance is mandatory**. For you to be able to participate and make your participation count, you need to do the readings BEFORE the class. The only reason you will be excused from missing class is if you have an official University Activity to attend: fraternity's and sorority's events for example DO NOT count as an official university activity. In class participation will be both, oral, and written.

**Obra de teatro:** Towards the end of the semester students will be asked to write their own play in class. It will be an original play and some in class time will be given in order to begin and correct the work. The plays will be read by the writers (all of you) during the day of the final exam. The writing and reading of the play will be graded separately and then averaged in order to obtain the Final Exam grade. **The Final Exam for this class, and the time to read your play is Tuesday, May 13 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm.**

### **Professor's Class Policies**

**Absences and tardiness:** you have the right to miss 3 classes during the semester, use this right wisely or you might be dropped from the course without further notification. Absences due to university events or serious illnesses will be dealt with on an individual basis, provided the student presents proper

documentation. More than 20 minutes late will be considered an absence, and it will not allow you to sign the attendance roll of that day. Attendance is taken every day at the beginning of the class.

**Make-up work:** There will not be any kind of make-up work; however, at the end of the semester, the two lowest grades on vocabulary quizzes will be dropped. Please, be aware that no grade will be dropped when it comes to In Class Participation. If you have to miss class due to illness, you can't make up your participation grade; however, participation grades will be given throughout the semester, so you will have plenty of opportunities to level up your grade.

**Distribution of assignments:** all the assignments are posted on d2l, but remember, you won't be able to see them until you have completed the correspondent vocabulary quiz for each reading.

**Professor's availability:** you can find me in my office BW100 during my office hours, posted at the top of this syllabus, but I'm also available on zoom upon request. If you are struggling with the readings, or you are going through personal stuff that it's causing you to get behind in the class, please contact your professor immediately, so she can help you to catch up. If you send me an email, I'm very good at answering within the next 24 hours.