



Course Syllabus: Spanish American Literature I
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
SPAN 3533 Section 101
Semester and Course dates

Contact Information

Instructor: Philip Allen, Ph.D.

Office: Bea Wood Hall 105

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am – 10:50am or by appointment.

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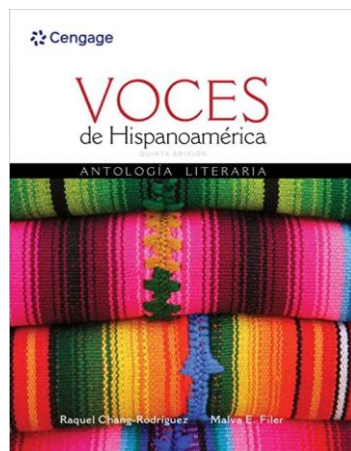
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Instructor Response Policy

You are welcome to stop by my office hours or call me at the office at any time without prior appointment during my office hours (see above). Please allow 24 hours for email responses during the week and 48 hours on weekends and holidays.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

1. Chang-Rodríguez, Raquel and Malva E. Filer, eds. *Voces de Hispanoamérica: antología literaria*, 5ª ed. Boston: Cengage, 2017. ISBN: 978-1-305-58448-8. You are required to have access to the textbook in each class meeting, either by bringing the hard copy to the classroom or by accessing it online on a laptop computer or tablet (**not on a cell phone**).



2. You must have regular access to a computer with high-speed internet capabilities.

Chromebooks are not recommended as they are not compatible with D2L.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

1. A Spanish dictionary – NOT a bilingual English/Spanish dictionary, but a dictionary that provides definitions in Spanish.

Example: Larousse *Diccionario de la Lengua Española Esencial*.
ISBN: 978-9702209959

Course Description

A history and general survey of the literature of Spanish America from Pre-Columbian times up to the 20th century. Practice in critical analysis and language skills through class discussion, papers, and examinations.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

SPANISH AMERICAN LITERATURE I is a course on the literature of Latin America from pre-European contact until the late 19th/early 20th centuries. Throughout the semester we will read a wide variety of texts from many different genres including, but not limited to, letters, chronicles, poems, short stories, theater, and excerpts of novels in order to better understand the cultures which produced these works of literature, as well as the historical contexts in which they were written. Additionally, students will develop good critical reading habits and practice the skills necessary for the analysis and study of these texts. This course is designed to further develop your cultural competency, oral, written, and reading comprehension skills in Spanish. Oral discussions and written assignments are two of the principal objectives of this course, and class attendance and participation are always expected from students. All readings, written assignments, and class discussions will be in Spanish after the first day of class.

SKILLS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

While the central focus of the course is for students to become familiar with some of the most essential foundational works of early Latin American literature and ways in which to analyze these works, the overall objectives are more ambitious; for example, by the end of the semester students will be expected to have gained:

1. Factual knowledge: Students will be able to read and analyze key works of Latin American literature, both poetry and prose, establishing **connections** between these works and the cultures that produced them.

2. Understanding of and appreciation for intellectual/**cultural** activity in Latin America. Students will become familiarized with, understand, and be able to **communicate** their analyses of significant literary works from Latin America via written and oral expression.
3. The ability to **compare** and **contrast** different perspectives, practices, and literary products through the works studied in the course.
4. A more profound comprehension of the historical and multi-cultural influences that constitute modern Latin American **communities** and literary traditions.
5. Improved skills in expressing, analyzing, and critically evaluating ideas, arguments, and points of view in Spanish.
6. Experience in working **collaboratively** with classmates to create and deliver an oral presentation completely in Spanish.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-22](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading/Assessment

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Category	Percent of Final Grade
Daily Class Participation	10%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	10%
Exams	60%
Exam 1 (15%)	
Exam 2 (20%)	
Final Exam (25%)	
Oral Presentation	10%

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Percentage Range
A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	59 and below

Daily Class Participation (10%)

We will be reading and analyzing a lot of different texts throughout the semester and discussing your thoughts, reactions, and questions about the material exclusively in Spanish are vital components to your comprehension of the required readings and success on assessments (such as exams). As such, your active participation in each class meeting will be monitored and tracked by your professor according to the attached rubric. You can earn a maximum of 10 participation points each week (5 per class meeting).

Note: Although you must be present in class to participate, attendance alone is not participation!

Homework (10%)

Habitual reading and critical reflection on the material are important components to meeting the outlined course objectives. You will be assigned a series of comprehension/analysis questions for each class reading (approximately one set of questions per class), which you will be expected to complete before the following class meeting. You will turn in your assignments at the beginning of the following class for your professor to read and score. We will use the assigned questions as points of departure for our in-class discussions and analyses and the questions will help you to be better prepared for upcoming quizzes and exams.

Quizzes (10%)

You can expect at least one quiz per week (either in class or on D2L). The quizzes are designed to ensure retention of factual information (names, dates, concepts, etc.) that accompany the readings and homework assignments. The format of the quizzes will vary from week to week, but they will be administered as multiple-choice, short-answer, and/or essay-type questions.

Exams (40%)

There will be an exam at the end of each of the content units of the course. Exam 1 will test your factual knowledge, comprehension, and analysis of the reading from Unit 1. Exam 2 will test your factual knowledge, comprehension, and analysis of the reading from Unit 2. Roughly twenty percent of the content of the exams will consist of matching, true/false, and/or multiple-choice sections

and the remaining sixty percent will consist of essay and short-answer sections. Each exam will contribute 20% to your final grade. You will have the entire 70-minute class period to complete your exams on the scheduled exam days.

Oral Presentation (10%)

At the end of the semester, students will work in collaboration to prepare and deliver an oral presentation in Spanish about a Latin American author or literary work not previously studied in the units of the course. You may choose an author or work from the required textbook that we did not study as part of this course, or you may select one who is not included in our anthology. Any authors chosen must have been died before 1900 and any literary works chosen must not have been originally published after 1900. Presentations will be completed in pairs or small groups of no more than 3 students and should discuss aspects of the author's life, the importance of his or her literary contributions, the contents of the literary works chosen, salient aspects of the work or works, and the cultural impact made by the author or literary work chosen. For pairs, the duration of the presentation should be between 8-10 minutes and for small groups of three the duration will be from 10-12 minutes. Students are not allowed to complete the oral presentation alone. Visual aids are mandatory and should only be used to provide supplemental material to the audience (follow the 7 X 7 rule for text). You and your partner(s) will be required to submit an "abstract" (brief summary including the title of your presentation and a 6-10 sentence paragraph explaining what you will be talking about) of your presentation topic before the beginning of class on Wednesday, October 12, 2022.

Final Exam (20%)

The Final Exam will be comprehensive in nature, although 70% of the content will deal strictly with the readings from Unit 3. There will be matching, multiple-choice, and/or true/false sections of the exam as well as short-answer and essay questions. The final exam will be administered during finals week —Monday, December 5, 2022 at 3:30PM— and you will have two hours to complete the exam.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit planned for any student in this course. If at any time during the semester you feel concerned about your performance in this class, please consult with me as soon as possible to discuss strategies to help you improve your grade before the end of the semester approaches.

In the event that an opportunity for extra credit arises, it will be available to all students enrolled in the course, announced in class, and posted to the D2L course home page.

Late Work

No late work will be allowed for this course. Please be mindful of the weekly deadlines outlined in the Course Schedule below and plan ahead.

Make Up Work/Tests

No make-up assignments will be allowed for this course. Please be mindful of the weekly deadlines outlined in the Course Schedule below and plan ahead. If you know you will miss an evaluative event —exam, presentation, etc.— due to an official university function, you must speak with your professor and provide documentation of the absence before a make-up exam can be scheduled.

Absences from evaluative events should be avoided when at all possible and will be managed on a case-by-case basis between the student and the instructor as long as proper procedures are followed and any necessary documentation (medical, etc.) has been submitted.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: August 25, 2022. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Deadline to file for graduation: September 26, 2022 Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" October 24, 2022 by 4:00pm. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

You are expected to be in class during every meeting in order to stay on track with learning the material presented and actively participate in each session. I will be taking attendance for every class meeting as I track your progress through participation. You must be present in class in order to receive participation points for that day, which will be calculated into your weekly grade. In the event of an excusable absence (university-sponsored sporting event, illness, religious observance, etc.), you must present proper documentation to your instructor as soon as you become aware of the absence in order to avoid losing participation points. If you will be missing class for a religious observance, you have until the end of the business day on the last day of the second week of classes to alert your professor of the absence in writing (Friday, September 2, 2022 by 5:00PM). If the excused absence is completely unpredictable, you have one (1) week following the missed day(s) to submit the documentation to your instructor.

If you accrue six (6) unexcused absences over the course of the semester and your professor finds your irregular attendance not to be academically feasible, you may be dropped from the course.

Instructor Class Policies

Speaking in front of others in class discussions and presentations can be a daunting task, especially when you are acquiring new skills such as literary analysis. Mistakes are natural and necessary to the learning process. There will be zero tolerance for any remarks or attitudes that do not contribute to a constructive, respectful, and supportive environment, both to your classmates and to your instructor.

Mobile phones and other devices should be silenced and put away during class unless permission is given to use them for an educational purpose. Text messaging, making phone calls, and being off task during class time in any other way will not be tolerated.

Eating and drinking —with the exception of bottled water with a secure lid— is not allowed in the classroom.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "*Run. Hide. Fight.*" which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: "[Run. Hide. Fight.](#)"

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.