

**SPANISH 220**  
**SELECTED WORKS OF HISPANIC LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

**BULLETIN INFORMATION**

SPAN 220 - Selected Works of Hispanic Literature in English Translation (3 credit hours)

**Course Description:**

Selected major works, especially contemporary works, in all genres of Hispanic literature in English translation.

**SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course explores key examples of 20th/21st century Latin American cultural production and its connection to social and political issues in the region. Students will examine a variety of themes present in literature, film, and art. In addition to primary texts, students will read and discuss a number of secondary sources in order to become familiar with the critical reception of Latin American artistic production. Themes include revolution, identity, autonomy and dependency, race, gender, sexuality, etc.

**ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Upon successful completion of Spanish 220, students will be able to:**

1. Demonstrate a deeper understanding of the cultural production of Latin America and many of the social and political issues that impact artistic output
2. Create and defend critical arguments and give explanations of literary conventions in class discussions, presentations, and written papers
3. Examine and interpret primary sources (books, short stories, poetry, art, and film), and secondary materials (chapters, articles, lectures), to gain an understanding of the use of symbols, imagery, tropes, and to place artistic production within social and political paradigms

**SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS**

1. Most of the materials in this course will be posted to Blackboard or made available on reserve at the Thomas Cooper Library.
2. In addition, there will be some films shown in class. We will also read Manuel Puig's novel, *Betrayed by Rita Hayworth*, which can be found in the library or ordered online.

**SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAM**

1. **Presentation:** Students will give a 10 minute original presentation on an author, text, or film related to the course. Students are expected to explain and defend a critical position by connecting ideas offered in the articles and lectures to the primary work(s) of their choice. The presentation will be assessed according to the criteria specified in

the rubric, but students will be graded according to the originality and validity of the thesis, cogency of argument, and organization, among other factors.

2. **Midterm and Final exams:** Both the midterm and the final exams will be essay question exams. Students will be asked to choose two of four questions on the midterm and three of five on the final. Both exams are in class, and students will be asked to bring a blue book or two to class on the exam days. Further explanation and review will be given prior to the tests. **Neither the midterm nor the final exam can be made up if missed!**
3. **Final Paper:** Students will turn in a term paper of 5-7 pp., typed, double spaced, TNR 12 point font. The paper will be a critical interpretation of a work by an author read in class. Students may not choose a story or novel already discussed in class. Students are expected to formulate and substantiate a thesis and give a thorough explication of the topic. Paper topics should be suitable to length restrictions. Students are expected to provide proper citations and references according to MLA standards. All papers, exams, class discussions, and presentations are done in **English**.

#### **SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS**

- Class 1:** Introduction to course  
HW: Reading on Bb: Naomi Lindstrom, "Autonomy and Dependency in Latin American Writing"
- Class 2:** Discuss Lindstrom chapter. HW: Reading on Bb: Augusto Monterroso, "Mr. Taylor"
- Class 3:** Discuss "Mr. Taylor" HW: Reading on Bb
- Class 4:** **Art and Identity:** José Martí, "Our America" HW: Reading on Bb Rubén Darío, "To Roosevelt,"
- Class 5:** **Modernism and "Creolism":** Class discussion
- Class 6:** Rubén Darío, "The Ruby" HW: Reading on Bb
- Class 7:** Horacio Quiroga, "The Dead Man"
- Class 8:** **Presentations**
- Class 9:** **Cuba: Revolution and its impact on Latin American art and culture**
- Class 10:** Begin film: *The Last Supper*.

- Class 11:** Continue film: *The Last Supper*
- Class 12:** Discussion of film. HW: Reading on Bb
- Class 13:** Nancy Morejón, “Rebirth,” “Black Woman,” “The Supper”
- Class 14:** **Testimonial Lit: Discussion:** Lindstrom, “Testimonial Narrative: Whose Text?”
- Class 15:** Selection: Miguel Barnet/Esteban Montejo, *Biography of a Runaway Slave*
- Class 16:** Selection: Rigoberta Menchú, *I, Rigoberta Menchú*
- Class 17:** **Presentations**
- Class 18:** “**The Boom**” Class Discussion
- Class 19:** Carlos Fuentes, “The Doll Queen”
- Class 20:** Julio Cortázar, “The Island at Noon”
- Class 21:** Jorge Luis Borges, “The South”
- Class 22:** Review for Midterm
- Class 23:** **Midterm**
- Class 24:** **Magic Realism:** Class Discussion. HW: Bb readings
- Class 25:** Gabriel García Márquez: “Big Mama’s Funeral”
- Class 26:** García Márquez continued
- Class 27:** Isabelle Allende, “Eva Luna”
- Class 28:** Alejandro Carpentier, “Journey to the Seed”
- Class 29:** **Presentations.** HW: Reading on Bb. Begin Reading *Betrayed By Rita Hayworth*
- Class 30:** **Women’s Voices/Questioning Gender:** Lindstrom, “Women’s Writing and Gender Issues”
- Class 31:** Maria Luisa Bombal, “The Tree”
- Class 32:** Rosario Castellanos

- Class 33:** Luisa Valenzuela
- Class 34:** **Film:** *Strawberry and Chocolate*
- Class 35:** *Strawberry and Chocolate* cont.
- Class 36:** Discussion of the film. HW: reading on Bb
- Class 37:** **Presentations**
- Class 38:** Introduction of Puig novel, discussion of assigned reading
- Class 39:** Begin discussion of Puig novel, ***Betrayed by Rita Hayworth***
- Class 40:** ***Betrayed***, cont.
- Class 41:** ***Betrayed***, cont.
- Class 42:** **Last day of classes, review for final exam. FINAL PAPERS DUE!**

**Final Exam according to university exam schedule**