THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS
Course Outline

Title: Latin American Literature: Late 19th Century to the Present
Abbreviation and Number: SPAN357 AB Paper No.: 13-95
School: Communication and Creative Arts
Department: Foreign Languages
Credits: 3

<table>
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<th>Course Sequence</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<td>Lecture</td>
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Pre-requisite(s): SPA 258 or permission of Chair/Instructor
Co-requisite(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores Latin American Literature from the late 19th century to the present. Students examine the development of literary movements such as Realism, Modernism, and Magical Realism in representative works. They also analyse literary texts with reference to their historical, political, cultural and philosophical contexts.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to
1) discuss the major literary movements in contemporary Latin American literature;
2) examine the historical, political and socio-cultural landscape that influenced the nature of the literary productions;
3) evaluate literary techniques and elements in works from this period; and
4) critique selected contemporary Latin American literary texts.

COURSE CONTENT
I. Overview
   A. Latin America and the struggle for independence
   B. Post-colonialism and Latin American identity
   C. The emergence of literary culture
   D. The conceptualisation of a Latin American literature

II. Political Background
   A. Mexican Revolution
   B. Populism, Peronism and dictatorship in Argentina
   C. Cuban Revolution and Socialist dictatorship
   D. Salvador Allende’s government and Pinochet’s dictatorship in Chile

III. Literary Elements
   A. Setting
   B. Characterisation
   C. Perspective/s
   D. Style
   E. Plot
   F. Structure
IV. Major Literary Movements
   A. Modernism
   B. Regionalism
   C. Realism
   D. Avant-garde
   E. The new narrative
      i. The Boom
      ii. Post Boom

V. Movements and Themes
   A. Modernism
      i. Rejection of overt message or teaching
      ii. Attainment of beauty as the highest goal
      iii. New areas of experience
      iv. Movement from traditional forms
      v. Determinism
   B. Regionalism
      i. Literature as an agent of national integration for divergent people and areas
      ii. Recognition of Latin American racial mixtures and landscapes as a new reality
      iii. New values for a new type of civilisation
      iv. Exposure of injustice
      v. Regional linguistic variants and concerns
   C. Realism
      i. Nature
      ii. Social protest
      iii. Social problems as a consequence of political instability
   D. Avant-garde Poetry
      i. Exaltation of freedom
      ii. Surrealism
   E. The New Narrative
      i. Focus on urban novel
      ii. Experimentation in structure and language
      iii. Assimilation of irrational and oneiric elements from surrealism
   F. Antecedents of the “Boom” and the “Boom” Novel
      Elements of the “Boom” novel
      a) Magical Realism: reality and fantasy
      b) Socio-cultural and political focus on Latin American societies
   G. Feminism and the Post-boom Novel

ASSESSMENT
Assignments........................................... 30%
Oral presentations.................................. 20%
Essays/short papers.................................. 20%
Final research paper................................. 30%
Total....................................................100%
REQUIRED TEXTS

Course packet.
A minimum of four texts will be chosen by the instructor reflecting diversity as regards genre and national origin and gender of the authors. The following is a sample of novels, poems and plays, which are representative of the literary periods covered in the course.

### Novels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolaño, Roberto</td>
<td>Estrella distante.</td>
<td>Barcelona: Editorial Anagrama, 2000</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<tr>
<td>Borges, Jorge Luis</td>
<td>Ficciones. PA: Franklin Library, 1985</td>
<td>Print</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cortázar, Julio</td>
<td>Blow Up and Other Stories.</td>
<td>New York: Pantheon Books, 1985</td>
<td>Print</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>---. Los premios. Florida: Santillana USA Publishing Company, 2004</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<tr>
<td>García Márquez, Gabriel</td>
<td>Crónica de una muerte anunciada.</td>
<td>New York: Longman, 1996</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>---. Cien años de soledad. New York: Vintage Español, 2009</td>
<td>Print</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Menchú, Rigoberta and Elizabeth Burgos Debray</td>
<td>Me llamo Rigoberta Menchú. Habana, Cuba: Casa de las América, 1983</td>
<td>Print</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paz, Octavio</td>
<td>El laberinto de la soledad.</td>
<td>New York: Manchester University Press, 2008</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rulfo, Juan</td>
<td>Pedro Páramo.</td>
<td>Barcelona: Editorial Anagrama, 2006</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<td>Sarmiento, Domingo Faustin</td>
<td>Facundo: Civilización y Barbarie.</td>
<td>Buenos Aires: Stock Cero, 2003</td>
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### Poems

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<th>Author</th>
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<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guillén, Nicolás</td>
<td>Donde nacen las aguas: antología.</td>
<td>México, DF: Fondo de cultura economica USA, 2002</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neruda, Pablo</td>
<td>Antología poética.</td>
<td>Santiago de Chile: Fundación Pablo Neruda, 2006</td>
<td>Print</td>
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### Plays

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<th>Author</th>
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<th>Publisher</th>
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<th>Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gambaro, Griselda</td>
<td>Teatro: los paredes, el desatino y los siameses.</td>
<td>Buenos Aires, República: Ediciones de la Flor, 2004</td>
<td>Print</td>
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<td>Piñera, Virgilio</td>
<td>Una caja de zapatos vacíos.</td>
<td>Miami: Ediciones Universal, 1996</td>
<td>Print</td>
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Anthology

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS/MATERIALS

JOURNALS
Afro-Hispanic Review
Confluencia
Hispania
Latin American Literary Review
Palara

WEBSITES
http://lcweb2.loc.gov/hlashome.html. (The Handbook of Latin American Studies - an annotated bibliography that is coordinated by The Library of Congress, and is updated weekly.)
www.academicinfo.net
www.modernworld.com
www.bitannica.com
www.donquijote.org/spanishlanguage/literature/library/quijote
www.spanishromance.com/spanish-language/literature
www.hispanicabiline.com/literature.htm