



Department of Foreign Languages

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/foreignlanguage>

Students are responsible for downloading, printing, and bringing this syllabus to class the first day of instruction

FALL 2008

- I. **SPANISH 4402/01:** Contemporary Culture
CRN: 10679
- PREREQUISITE:** SPAN 3304 or 3305
- II. **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ernesto Pierre Silva
OFFICE: PS 140
HOURS: TR 5-6 PM, and by appt.
E-MAIL: esilva@kennesaw.edu
- III. **CLASS MEETINGS:** TR 6:30-7:45 PM
LOCATION: University College 225
- IV. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** An examination of the historical, social, and political contexts of the contemporary Hispanic experience through the analysis of different cultural representations such as film, media, plastic arts, music, and literature. Readings and discussion in Spanish.
- V. **CAVEAT SPECTATOR:** The films and reading materials used in this course are part of the current curriculum on representations of Hispanic culture on film. However, they may contain images, information, ideas, etc. that may be offensive to your personal beliefs or taste. The materials are intended for mature audiences ONLY. If you think it is possible that you may be offended by any of the materials in this course, please talk to me at your earliest convenience.
- NOTE:** The purpose of watching the films as part of class activities is intended for students to benefit from the explanations from the instructor who, in turn, will talk about themes that will appear in the exams and may also be used for writing the final essay. Consequently, watching films alone in the FLRC or from rental outlets is strongly discouraged. In case of missing a class meeting, please talk to me ASAP.
- VI. **REQUIRED TEXTS:**
1. Fabiana Sacchi, Silvia Pessoa, and Luis Martín-Cabrera. *Más allá de la pantalla: El mundo hispano a través del cine*. First Edition. Boston: Thomson & Heinle, 2006.
 2. Ramon García Palayo y Gross. *Diccionario Larousse del español moderno*. New York: Signet, 1983.
 3. Aaron Alboukrek, Gloria Fuentes S. *Diccionario de sinónimos, antónimos e ideas afines*. Mexico: Larousse, 2002.
- VII. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** This course will contribute to the attainment of the following general (GSLO) and specific (SSLO) student learning outcomes of the B.A. in Modern Language & Culture (ML&C):

GSLO ML&C 1: LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS, & COMPARISONS

Learners are proficient in using the target language, are familiar with the target language system, and seek opportunities to further develop their skills and knowledge. *(Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes)*

SSLO ML&C 1.a.: Demonstrating Language Proficiency.

Learners demonstrate a high level of proficiency in the target language, and they seek opportunities to strengthen their proficiency. *(Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes)*

To address this outcome, learners will read assigned book chapters to deepen their level of cultural understanding as they watch and discuss the selected films in the target language. Students are expected to speak in connected discourse using a variety of time frames and vocabulary appropriate to the topics discussed.

Assessment: in-class participation and final presentation based on topics discussed and developed by each student with the aid of internet resources, as well as with resources from the FLRC.

GSLO ML&C 2: CULTURES & LITERATURES: Learners know the literature and culture of the target language countries. They use this knowledge to interpret and reflect upon the perspectives of the target culture in relation to its practices and products. *(Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes)*

SSLO ML&C 2.a.: Demonstrating Cultural Understandings.

Learners demonstrate that they understand the connections among the perspectives of a culture and its practices and products. *(Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes)*

To address this outcome, learners will study concepts from various cultural theories; read critical essays on the relation between culture/arts/politics in Contemporary Hispanic America; analyze ideas and critical issues of contemporary Hispanic America via selected movies, paintings/posters, songs, poems and short-stories; write essays analyzing cultural perspectives through oral/audio/visual/written representations.

Assessment: Write a final research essay, including bibliographical references, on a topic previously approved by the instructor.

SSLO ML&C 2.b.: Demonstrating Understanding of Literary and Cultural Texts and Traditions: Learners recognize the value and role of literary and cultural texts and use them to interpret and reflect upon the perspectives of the target cultures over time. *(Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes)*

To address this outcome, learners will read critical essays on the history of Spain and Hispanic America in the twentieth century; read critical essays on the history of art and literature of Spain and Hispanic America in the twentieth century; watch/listen to audio/video material on Spain and Hispanic America in the twentieth century.

Assessment: Write three critiques, midterm and final exams.

VIII. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

1. ATTENDENCE IS MANDATORY. Students are expected to attend all classes throughout the entire semester. All absences, excused or unexcused, will be counted as absences. Each absence will result in your final grade being lowered by TWO points. If you must be absent from class, it is your responsibility to find out what the assignment was for that day and to turn your homework in on time. Should you be absent, find out what transpired in class by contacting a classmate:

NAME: _____; PHONE: _____; E-MAIL: _____

NAME: _____; PHONE: _____; E-MAIL: _____

2. Because of the inherent requirement of watching a film, classes will start on time. If for some reason you find it necessary to arrive late, you will be responsible for all the information, including announcements about changes in the syllabus, etc. Your opinion matters, so does the opinion of each and every one of your peers. Exercise patience by welcoming the opinion of others, even if you may be in disagreement with what is being said. Any behavior deemed disruptive by the instructor will result in your being asked to leave class at once. Such an event will be counted as an unexcused absence, and the student may be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action.

3. Class time will be used to develop all four basic skills (listening comprehension, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing). There is also an essential cultural component. However, special emphasis will be placed on speaking; thus, you must be willing to participate in class discussion in Spanish. You are expected to study and practice what you learn at home as part of your daily preparation. For best results, you should study Spanish at least one hour daily.

4. All assignments, whether written or oral, are to be finished individually before class begins. No late homework will be accepted. No make-ups of any kind will be given for any assignments or exams. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. Come to class prepared.

5. Before class begins, be sure to turn OFF and PUT AWAY all electronic equipment, including computers, beepers, cell phones, MP3s, iPODS, video games, and so on. Put away books and homework from other classes. No IM-ing or texting will be tolerated under any circumstances. No food will be allowed in the classroom.

- IX. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one-semester suspension requirement.
- X. DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR:** It is the purpose of the institution to provide a campus environment, which encourages academic accomplishment, personal growth, and a spirit of understanding and cooperation. An important part of maintaining such an environment is the commitment to protect the health and safety of every member of the campus community. Belligerent, abusive, profane, threatening and/or inappropriate behavior on the part of students is a violation of the Kennesaw State University Student Conduct Regulations. Students who are found guilty of such misconduct may be subject to immediate dismissal from the institution. In addition, these violations of state law may also be subject to criminal action beyond the University disciplinary process. The University has a stringent policy and procedure for dealing with behavior which disrupts the learning environment. Consistent with the belief that disruptive behavior can interrupt the learning of others, behavior which fits the University definition of disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
- XI. HUMAN DIGNITY:** The University has formulated a policy on human rights which is intended to provide a learning environment which recognized individual worth. The activities of this class will be conducted in both the spirit and the letter of that policy.
- XII. KSU DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT:** It is our vision to create a strong multicultural and diverse educational environment at KSU in order to increase student satisfaction and to promote an

understanding and awareness of people from various backgrounds upon graduation. In this way, KSU students will be educated for, and can effectively compete in the global society. (*KSU 2008-2009 Undergraduate Catalog*, 268)

XIII. DISABILITY POLICY: Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons identified as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. A number of services are available to help the disabled. Students must visit the Office of Disabled Student Support Services or call 770.423.6443 to arrange an individual assistance plan. In some cases, certification of disability is required. All discussion will be kept confidential.

XIV. SCHEDULE: (Subject to change)

SEMANA 1	C 4: LA BOCA DEL LOBO
SEMANA 2	C 4: LA BOCA DEL LOBO
SEMANA 3	C 2: EL SILENCIO DE NETO/SON DE MAR
SEMANA 4	C 2: EL SILENCIO DE NETO/SON DE MAR
SEMANA 5	C 6: BREAD AND ROSES
SEMANA 6	C 6: BREAD AND ROSES
SEMANA 7	C 7: MARTIN (HACHE)
SEMANA 8	C 7: MARTIN (HACHE)/MIDTERM
SEMANA 9	C 9: CAMILA/LA MUJER DE MI HERMANO
SEMANA 10	C 9: CAMILA/LA MUJER DE MI HERMANO
SEMANA 11	C 10 LOS OLVIDADOS
SEMANA 12	C 10 LOS OLVIDADOS
SEMANA 13	C 13: JOHNNY CIEN PESOS
SEMANA 14	C 13: JOHNNY CIEN PESOS
SEMANA 15	DISCUSIÓN DE ENSAYO/FERIADO DE OTOÑO
SEMANA 16	DISCUSIÓN DE ENSAYO

EXAMEN FINAL: TUE, DEC 4, 8-10 PM/ENTREGA DE ENSAYO FINAL

LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY: FRI, OCT 10

XV. FINAL GRADE:

2 Exams (Midterm & Final)	40%
3 Critiques of Film/Cultural Events (10 points each)	30%
Final Essay	20%
Participation/Homework	10%
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TOTAL	100%

NOTE: Although students are expected to attend a total of FOUR film/cultural events during the semester, only THREE written critiques are to be submitted.

WARNING: Failure to take the final exam or turn in the final essay will result in a final course grade of "F."

XVI. GRADE SCALE: A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 0-59%

XVII. ASSIGNMENTS:

MIDTERM & FINAL: Each of these exams is geared towards the assessment of knowledge and understanding of the materials covered in class. They will only cover the filmic texts discussed up to the moment of the exam. More information about the format and how to study for the exams will be given in class. No make-up tests will be given.

CULTURAL EVENTS: Students are required to attend a total of TWO cultural events. Each week I will invite the class to participate in a number of cultural events taking place on campus or beyond it. It is NOT mandatory to attend ALL the events, but students MUST make an effort to attend at least TWO as part of class requirements.

CRITIQUES: After attending a cultural event or a film screening, students MUST turn in a typed, double-spaced, two-page critique of the event written in Spanish. These critiques are due no later than ONE WEEK after attending the cultural event or film screening. The format and specific content of the critiques will be explained in class. Please notice that the total number of critiques to be written and turned in for this class is THREE.

INTERVIEW: Students will be asked to come to my office a week after the midterm to discuss ideas for the completion of their final essay. For that purpose, having a general idea about what to focus on is essential. After the interview, students should have a clearer understanding about their final essay, as well as how to go about obtaining information for its completion.

PARTICIPATION: As part of your final grade for participation, you will be asked to attend TWO film screenings from the Center for Hispanic Studies Film Series on Immigration. The location of these screenings will be at KSU; the room number will be given as soon as it becomes available.

FINAL ESSAY: Students must write an 8-10-page, double-spaced research essay, which must include at least 5 bibliographical entries. For this purpose, students must become familiar with MLA-style conventions about collecting and reporting information in a scholarly fashion, as well as about plagiarism. Specific details about format and other general expectations will be discussed in class as well as on individual cases. This work will be an ongoing process. The details about the topics for this assignment will be discussed in class. The research essay is due the last day of class.

NOTE: The final essay is to be written only by the student. Receiving help from other people is considered a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The use of dictionaries is allowed and encouraged (except during exams). The use of spell-check programs or any writing assistance programs, such as *Atajo*, is permitted in the writing process. However, the use of translation software is prohibited. Asking for someone else for help in writing assignments for this class other than the tutors from the FLRC is restricted, and it can only be done by permission. Before allowing your friends, relatives, neighbors, or anyone else to proofread your writing, ask your instructor for permission.

Criteria for Evaluating the Final Essay:

CONTENT (thesis, ideas, length, focus, creativity)

VOCABULARY (range, spelling, appropriateness)

ORGANIZATION (cohesion, interest, punctuation)

MORPHOSYNTAX (time, tenses, aspect, complexity)

KSU STATEMENT ON PLAGERISM & CHEATING: No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. (*KSU 2008-2009 Undergraduate Catalog*, 272)

XVIII. MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION STYLE: Courses in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts follow a specific bibliographical style when citing sources of information while doing research. Most film and literary analyses are written in the present tense, for example. This style is known as MLA and its general characteristics can be found in *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. Sixth Edition, by Joseph Garibaldi (2003), or check the following Websites:

1.
<http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html>
2.
<http://library.osu.edu/sites/guides/mlagd.php>
3.
http://www.lib.usm.edu/help/how_do_i_faq/help_faq/how_do_i_learn_more_about_style_guides/how_do_i_get_help_using_mla.html
4.
http://citationmachine.net/index.php?win_size=l&callstyle=f&source=12&all=
5.
<http://www.easybib.com/#sourceList>

XIX. WRITING CENTER: The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process (on concerns such as topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics) although assistants cannot edit or proofread your paper for you. Appointments are strongly encouraged. For more information or to make an appointment, stop by Room 242 in the English Building or visit:

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter>

NOTE: Although the help you may get is about English compositions, people at the KSU Writing Center will be able to guide you in arranging your ideas and formatting your work. In addition, they will help you with questions about MLA-style configurations.

XX. FOREIGN LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTER: Should you feel the need for additional assistance in studying or practicing Spanish please do not hesitate contacting the FLRC. They have a team of outstanding Spanish tutors ready to assist you. Also, the FLRC is an excellent place to meet and practice Spanish with people with similar interests. The FLRC is located in the Pilcher Building, room 134. If you need additional information or guidance, contact Ms. Patricia Tilbian, FLRC Coordinator, at 678.797.2197. Hours of operation for the FLRC are posted on their Webpage:

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/foreignlanguage/flrc.html>

NOTE: The FLRC houses a substantial collection of films and resources in print as well as in other mediums that will prove invaluable when writing the Final Essay. Most materials are available to students during hours of operation as well as for check out.

You can do it; I will help you! Let us have a great semester!