

vanguardia in poetry, the influential genre of the short story, a contemporary film and introduce the prose of the *boom* and the *postboom*.

Course Objectives:

To help students develop an understanding of and appreciation for the literature of Spanish America from the earliest years to the present.

To introduce students to some fundamental concepts of literary criticism and to allow them to refine their skills in the analysis of texts.

To acquaint students with basic research techniques when appropriate and possible.

To develop further the five basic language skills in Spanish.

Other Required Readings:

Although we will not always have a chance to discuss all of these in detail in class, required readings will be assigned and **information from them will appear on the tests**. These essays have been selected because they will help you understand ideas and movements that run through the texts we will analyze in class.

Notes:

1) Daily preparation must be thorough. You must come to class **prepared and willing to show it** through **active** participation. Preparing for class means spending an appropriate amount of time reading the day's assignment and doing any written work. After this preparation, you will be ready to discuss the readings in class with the professor and your peers. Expect participation grades in the low 80s and below if you are prepared but passive.

2) This is a **conversation driven class** as opposed to a lecture based experience. One of our main goals is to give you the opportunity to formulate, express and debate your opinions and interpretations of literature and art in spoken and written Spanish.

3) Learn to take advantage of wordreference.com. It is an incredible resource.

4) Please come to class on time.

5) It is your responsibility to notify your instructor as soon as possible, preferably beforehand, if you have an excused absence. Work missed due to excused absences will be accepted within two days of the absence. Work missed due to unexcused absences cannot be made up.

6) The Instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus.

6) Students with disabilities who need academic accommodation should contact Disabilities Services at 294-2322. After this meeting, the student should meet with me.

This process needs to happen early in the term. The Office of Academic Assistance, a helpful resource for many students, is located on the ground floor of the library (x2110).

Participation

You can only make a solid contribution to class proceedings if you have done your out-of-class work. In addition to reading carefully, you should plan to articulate your thoughts (e.g. ideas, insights) and questions (e.g. doubts, confusions, hang-ups with difficult passages, etc.) with your colleagues. Effective class discussion will not only be your most valuable preparatory tool for your written assignments, it will be the most effective learning tool for the assigned literature. It is through the articulation of ideas and in listening to those of your classmates that you will learn. Moreover, participating actively and listening attentively is a remarkable way to sharpen your language skills (another goal of the course).

Whether working in groups or discussing items with the whole class, it is my expectation that you observe the following guidelines:

1. speak only in Spanish;
2. listen attentively to your colleagues' ideas;
3. contribute to class proceedings often, but never flippantly, that is, never speak without thought, purpose, or direction;
4. pose intelligent, meaningful questions;
5. stay on task in group work, even if you think I can't hear you;
6. be respectful of and courteous to others.

You will be assigned three grades that will reflect the quality and quantity of your daily participation and preparation for class.

Attendance:

All students are expected to attend every class session. If you do not come to class your participation grade will reflect it. **A student who has more than three (3) unexcused absences during the term will be dropped from the class roster and assigned a grade of "F."** It is the responsibility of the student to present evidence of illness (a note from the infirmary, for example) or any other type of absence which he or she believes the instructor may consider "excused." NOTE: A freshman (under 30 credit hours) absent from 15% of class meetings or other students (30 credit hours or more) absent from 25% of class meetings for any reason (excused or unexcused) will be in violation of the maximum established by the University (page 40 of the Furman University Catalogue) and will be dropped from the class with a grade of "F."