TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES
HISP 204 Spanish and Spanish American Literature in Translation
Fall 2013

Dr. Richard Curry
ACAD 200
MWF 3:00-3:50
r-curry@neo.tamu.edu
http://hisp.tamu.edu/people/curry/index.html

Office hours: MWF 11:00 - 12:00
and by appointment

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Course Description: This course surveys literature from the Spanish-speaking world from the first literary manifestations in Middle Age Spain to the present. Studied are English translations of masterpieces of literature representing multiple genres and the many literary and cultural movements which compose the development of Hispanic culture from Spain and Spanish America, including the United States. Prerequisite: ENGL 104.

Learning outcomes: As a result of this course, student will be able to: 1) describe important literary works of Spanish and Latin American cultural history, 2) list some important contributions made by Spanish and Latin American literature to world literature, 3) describe themes and styles relevant to Spanish and Spanish American literature in terms of their relationship to a determined historical-cultural period, and 4) analyze Hispanic literature in terms of general themes and styles.

Texts: (Readings due the first class day of each week)


A required anthology prepared by the professor includes all other assignments to be read throughout the semester.

Grading: The student's final course grade will be determined by performance in the following areas and according to the following weighted values:

mid-term exam: 100 points
class participation (including small group): 50 points
quizzes: 100 points
comprehensive final exam: 150 points
Scale: Final course grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A - 400 - 360  B - 359 - 320  C - 319 - 280  D - 279 - 240  F - below 240

Attendance & Participation:

This course requires the student’s active participation. In order to participate, a student must be present. For that reason, excessive absence (defined here as more than three absences without a University-approved excuse) will negatively affect the final grade in the form of a 4-point reduction of “class participation” for each absence beyond three. For more information regarding student absence, you may consult http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07. “Participation” itself means not only the student’s physical presence in the classroom, but her/his active contribution with the instructor and classmates. It is a balance among the quality of a student’s contribution to class discussions and the quality of her/his analyses, the equitable contribution to small group activities, and the frequency of those contributions. A student who always attends class and meets with her/his small group and never or rarely contributes, though her/his gestures and non-verbal communication show involvement, can only aspire to 35 to 39 points for class participation. On the other hand, a student who always attends class and always meets with her/his small group, frequently asks good questions, frequently answers the instructor’s questions well, and contributes to group success, can expect 45 to 50 points for class participation. Participation evaluated at between 40 and 44 points falls somewhere in between the previous two descriptions, while participation of 30 to 34 points reflects a lack of verbal or non-verbal involvement and/or a lack of responsibility to small group work. And fewer than 30 points for class participation reflect a general lack of engagement by the student.

Course organization: The three weekly sessions of the course will be organized according to this general plan, following which is a more detailed course outline with activities and assignments included.

1st and 2nd sessions: lectures and presentations by professor
3rd session: small group discussion/analysis of readings, quizzes, periodic small group presentations

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given in small group sessions every other week. Each will be about the literature studied the previous days. There are no make-up quizzes for work missed due to unexcused absence.

Course outline: Weekly Breakdown of Readings and Class Discussions

WEEK ONE + WEEK TWO: Origins. Middle Ages

Introduction; Read: Poem of my Cid [fragment]; Gonzalo de Berceo [fragment]; The Book of Good Love [selections]; Romances (Ballads) [selections]; Jorge Manrique [fragment]; The Celestina [selections]

WEEK THREE: Golden Age. Poetry

Garcilaso; Fray Luis de León; San Juan de la Cruz; Góngora; Quevedo

WEEK FOUR: Golden Age. Poetry + Narrative

Sor Juana; Picaresque [Lazarillo de Tormes]

WEEK FIVE: Golden Age. Narrative
Cervantes: don Quijote [selections] + Exemplary Novels [selection]
Picaresque

**WEEK SIX:** Golden Age. Theater

Lope de Vega [The Sheep's Well]; Calderon de la Barca [Life is a Dream]

**WEEK SEVEN:**

Mid-term exam

**WEEK EIGHT:** Independence and the Nationalist Period. Romanticism

Esteban Echeverría, El matadero; Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, Clorinda Matto, Leopoldo Lugones, Baudomero Lillo, Horacio Quiroga, Pedro Henríquez Ureña, José Carlos Mariátegui [selections]

**WEEK NINE:** Independence and the Nationalist Period

Gaucho literature; José Hernández *Martín Fierro* [selections]; Ricardo Palma

**WEEK TEN:** Realism

Galdós [selection]

**WEEK ELEVEN:** 20th Century. Generation of '98 and Modernism

Unamuno [*The Tragic Sense of Life*]; José Martí; Rubén Darío

**WEEK TWELVE:** 20th Century. Poetry

Nicoás Guillén; Pablo Neruda; Delmira Agustini; Gabriela Mistral; Alfonsina Storni; César Vallejo; Vicente Huidobro; García Lorca; Jorge Guillén, Vicente Aleixandre;

**WEEK THIRTEEN:** 20th Century. Poetry and Native

Miguel Ángel Asturias; Jorge Luis Borges [selected short stories]
Camilo José Cela [*The Family of Pascual Duarte*]

**WEEK FOURTEEN:** 20th Century. Narrative

García Marquez [*100 Years of Solitude*];

**DEAD WEEK:**

Last Day of Class = Review.

*Final Exam* 12/11, 3-5 p.m.