

(PALAS 372) Latin American Literature
Dr. Alejandro Manara
Program of Argentine & Latin American Studies
Universidad de Belgrano
Course Syllabus 2014

Course Information

TTH 2:30-4:00 PM

Contact Information

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Course Description

This course explores Latin American literature from pre-Columbian times to the present. The prescribed texts include letters, poems, short stories, critical articles and novels by acclaimed authors such as Octavio Paz, Juan Rulfo, García Márquez, José María Arguedas and Borges. Many of them belonged to the Latin American Boom of the 1960s and 1970s, when the Latin American novel became known throughout the world. The course examines literary responses to complex cultural, social and historical problems: conquest, nation building and national identity formation; acculturation, avant-gardism, nationalism and cosmopolitanism; or populism and authoritarianism.

Course Requirements

Following UB policy, students need a minimum of 75% of attendance to be in good standing for the final exam. Sliding the ID card is the only way to track record of attendance. Classes missed for national holidays will not be recovered. Students are expected to do close readings, participate in class, and do at least one oral presentation. During the semester, students will write two short position papers. The requirements also include a midterm and a final exam. In addition to this, each student will be expected to make a significant contribution to the classroom dialogue. Any students caught plagiarizing will be given a "no credit" for all courses taken in the semester.

Grading Policy

In-class Participation	10 %
Oral Presentation	20 %
Short Papers (2)	30 %
Midterm Exam	20 %
Final Exam	20 %

For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading:
check the conversion table for the numerical scale (in orientation kit
packet)

Required Textbooks

The Slaughteryard by Esteban Echeverría (Taller 4)

Regarding Roderer by Guillermo Martínez (Taller 4)

The kingdom of this world by Alejo Carpentier (Taller 4)

Chronicle of a Death Foretold, by Gabriel García Márquez (Taller 4)

Course Reader, ed. Alejandro Manara (Taller 4)

Academic Calendar

Week 1: 3/11-13

Tuesday: Introduction. The chronicles of the conquest. Literature and history. Cultural contact between America and Europe. *Origin of the Aztecs* by Anonymous. *Omens Foretelling the Conquest*, by Anonymous.
Thursday: "Marvelous Possessions" (52-85) by Stephen Greenblatt.

Week 2: 3/18-20

Tuesday: Cracking the Maya Code (documentary)

"The Spaniards entry into Tenochtitlan," by Bernal Díaz del Castillo.

"Battles of Tenochtitlan and Tlatelolco," by Anonymous.

Thursday: "The origin of the Incas," by Garcilaso de la Vega

"Atahualpa and Pizarro," by John Hemming

Week 3: 3/25-27

Tuesday: "The defense of the Indians," by Fray Bartolomé de las Casas.

"Cabinets of Transgression," Anthony Alan Shelton (177-203)

"The Uncertain Impact," J.H. Elliott (1-27)

Thursday: Thursday: *Aguirre The Wrath of God*, film by Werner Herzog;

Short paper 1 assigned

Week 4: 4/1-3

Tuesday: "Kidnapping Language" (86-118) by Stephen Greenblatt.
From "The Conquest of America" by Todorov

Thursday: "On Men's Hypocrisy," by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

"Yo, la peor de todas"...(film) Bemberg.

Week 5: 4/8-10

Tuesday: XIX Century: Romanticism and Nation Building:

Facundo, by Domingo Faustino Sarmiento: chapters 1, 5 & 14

Thursday: *The Slaughteryard* by Esteban Echeverría

Turn in short paper 1

Week 6: 4/15

Tuesday: *Far away & long ago*, (Chapter 7) W.H. Hudson and *The Voyage of the Beagle*, Charles Darwin (Chapter 6) OP on English Travelers. from *Rough notes taken during some rapid journeys across the Pampas*, "The Pampas Indians" & "The Town of Buenos Aires" by Francis Bond Head. OP on English Travelers.

Week 7: 4/22-24

Tuesday: *Camila*, (film) María Luisa Bemberg
Thursday: *The kingdom of this world* by Alejo Carpentier

Week 8: 4/29

Tuesday: *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.
"García Márquez's COADF as metafiction," by Jorge Olivares

Week 9: 5/6-8

Tuesday: **Mid-term Exam**
Thursday: *Los olvidados* film by Luis Buñuel
Short paper 2 assigned

Week 10: 5/13-15

Tuesday: "The Murderers of Mexico" by Alma Guillermoprieto
"Identity Hour," by Carlos Monsivais and "The sons of the Malinche,"
from *The Labyrinth of Solitude* by Octavio Paz
Thursday: "Modesta Gómez" by Rosario Castellanos & "When Women Love Men" by Rosario Ferré.

Week 11: 5/20-22

Tuesday: "The Masacre of Chan Chan," by Carleton Beals, *Featherless Vultures*, by Julio Ramón Ribeyro. "The Pongo's Dream" by José María Arguedas
Thursday: "Tell Them Not to Kill me", "No Dogs Bark" & "Anacleto Morones", by Juan Rulfo. "The Turbulent Flow: Stream of Consciousness Techniques in the Short Stories by Juan Rulfo" by Paul Borgeson jr.
Turn in short paper 2

Week 12: 5/27-29

Tuesday: *También la lluvia* (Film 2010) by Iciar Bolaín.
Thursday: "The South," by Jorge Luis Borges

Week 13: 6/3-5

Tuesday: Cuba: *Salut les Cubains* (film) by Agnes Varda.
Thursday: *Nuestra America* by José Martí & *Biography of a Runaway Slave* by Miguel Barnet

Week 14: 6/10-12

Tuesday: *Regarding Roderer*, Guillermo Martínez

Thursday: *Domesticity & The End of Household Objects*, A. Manara

Week 15: 6/17-19

Tuesday: **Final exam**

Thursday: Final Grade Sheet and signature of Hoja de situación
(**attendance is mandatory**).

N.B.: *Timelines and content are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*

Bibliography

Bemberg, María Luisa. *Camila* (film)

Bioy Casares, Adolfo. *The Invention of Morel*. Trans. Ruth Simms.
New York: NYRB, 1992

Carpentier, Alejo. *The kingdom of this world*. Trans. Harriet de Onís.
New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.

Echeverría, Esteban "The Slaughteryard," Trans. Norman Thomas di
Giovanni, London: Friday Books, 2010.

Elliott J.H. "The Uncertain Impact" *The Old World and the New: 1492-
1650*. Cambridge UP, 1970. 1-27

Foster, David William & Daniel Altamirana. *Spanish American
Literature: A Collection of Essays*. New York / London: Garland,
1997.

García Marquez, Gabriel. *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*. Trans.
Gregory Rabassa. New York: Vintage International, 1982.

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Marvelous Possessions: The Wonder of the New
World*. Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 1991.

Herzog, Werner. *Aguirre The Wrath of God* (film).

Joseph, Gilbert and Timothy Henderson, ed. *The Mexico Reader:
History, Culture, Politics*. Durham: Duke U Press, 2002

Martinez, Guillermo. *Regarding Roderer*

Nouzeilles Gabriela and Graciela Montaldo, ed. *The Argentina Reader:
History, Culture, Politics*. Durham: Duke U Press, 2002

Olivares, Jorge. "García Márquez's *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*
as metafiction," JSTOR.

Resnais, Alain. *Last Year in Marienbad* (film).

Sarmiento, Domingo F. *Facundo*. Trans.

Shelton, Anthony Alan. "Cabinets of Transgression." *The Cultures of
Collecting*. Ed. John Elsner and Roger Cardinal. Cambridge:
Harvard UP, 1994. 177-203