

SPW 3130 - Spanish American Literature  
Fr 2:00-4:50 pm (GC 278B)  
Fall 2009

## Syllabus

**Dr. Santiago Juan-Navarro**  
navarros@fiu.edu  
Office Hours: Fr 1:00-2:00pm; 5:00- 6:15pm (DM499B)

### Goals and Objectives

The course aims to give an overview of the major trends in Spanish American literature from the time of discovery and conquest to the 20th century and to introduce students to the diverse literary forms of that tradition. Through a close reading of selected texts, we will focus on problems of literary analysis as well as on the development of Spanish American writing within its historical context.

### Required Texts

Santiago Juan-Navarro. *Spanish American Literature: An Anthology*, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-1413047592 (FIU Bookstore).

OR

Raquel Chang-Rodríguez and Malva Filer. *Voces de Hispanoamerica: Antología literaria*. Heinle (any edition).

### Recommended Texts (FIU Library):

Carlos Fuentes, *El espejo enterrado/The Buried Mirror*  
Jean Franco, *An Introduction to Spanish American Literature*  
*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*

### Grade

15% Attendance/Participation/Classwork/Web

15% Oral Report

45% Tests

25% Final Paper (5-6 pp)

### Course Requirements

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance is required and is included in the final grade.

**BULLETIN BOARD:** Every week before the class, students will have to post a one-paragraph personal commentary on each of the works to be discussed in class. Postings will be done via the course bulletin board (FORO DE DISCUSION). With the only exception of the first author (Cristóbal Colón), no commentaries will be accepted after the works have already been discussed in the class.

**ORAL REPORT:** Students will give a brief oral report (about 10 minutes) to the class. Topics will be assigned by the professor based on the daily assignments. Use of MS Power Point is encouraged.

**TESTS:** Scheduled tests per syllabus. **NO MAKE-UP TESTS.** A missing test means "0" in 15% of the final grade (i.e. an average of 100/100 in the course (A+) would turn into a B if one of 3 the tests is missing, a B will turn into a C, and so on and so forth). Tests will consist of 2-3 page essays about the literary works covered in class during the previous week. Expect general questions asking you to compare several (if not all) of those works. **LAST TEST: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11-- NO MAKE-UP TEST.**

**FINAL PAPER:** Topics to be either chosen by the student or assigned by the professor. Final paper due **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4.** There will be a grace period of one class meeting immediately following the official due date (i.e., until **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11**). However, papers turned in during the grace period will be subject to an automatic one-step reduction of grade (e.g., a grade of A will become an A-). No papers will be accepted after **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11.**

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**WEEK 1: AUGUST 29**

Introduction: Spanish American literature: An overview

"La configuración del mundo hispanoamericano: las raíces, la colonia, la independiencía"  
Cristóbal Colón, "Carta a Luis Santángel"

**WEEK 2: SEPTEMBER 4**

From Discovery to Independence

Bernal Díaz del Castillo, *Historia verdadera de la conquista de la Nueva España*  
Hernán Cortés, *Cartas de relación* (Web Site)

**WEEK 3: SEPTEMBER 11**

From Discovery to Independence (cont'd)

Bartolomé de Las Casas, *Historia de las Indias*  
El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, *Comentarios reales*

**WEEK 4: SEPTEMBER 18**

**EXAM 1:** Colón, Cortés, Díaz del Castillo, Las Casas, Garcilaso de la Vega

**WEEK 5: SEPTEMBER 25**

From Discovery to Independence (cont'd)

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, *Respuesta de la poetisa a la muy ilustre Sor Filotea de la Cruz*, "Hombres necios que acusáis," "Este que ves engaño colorido"

José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi, *El Periquillo Sarmiento*

WEEK 6: OCTOBER 2

The 19th Century: Romanticism

"Búsqueda de la emancipación cultural (1825-1882)"

Esteban Echeverría, "El matadero"  
Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, *Facundo*

WEEK 7: OCTOBER 9

The 19th Century: Realism, Naturalism, and 'Modernismo'

"La realidad americana y la renovación literaria (1882-1910)"

José Martí, *Versos sencillos, Nuestra América*  
Rubén Darío, "Sonatina," "El cisne," "A Roosevelt," "El velo de la reina Mab"

### **FINAL PAPER PROPOSAL DUE**

WEEK 8: OCTOBER 16

The 20th Century

"Continuidad y ruptura: hacia una nueva expresión (1910-1960)"  
César Vallejo, "Los heraldos negros," "Voy a hablar de la esperanza," "Piedra negra sobre una piedra blanca"  
Pablo Neruda, "Poema 20," "Walking Around," "Alturas de Macchu Picchu," "Oda a los calcetines"

WEEK 9: OCTOBER 23

**EXAM 2:** Sor Juana, Lizardi, Echeverría, Sarmiento, Martí, Darío, Vallejo y Neruda

WEEK 10: OCTOBER 30

The 20th Century (cont'd)

Jorge Luis Borges, "Borges y yo," "El sur"

WEEK 11: NOVEMBER 6

The 20th Century (cont'd)  
"Consolidación y expansión (1960-)"  
Carlos Fuentes, "Chac Mool"

WEEK 13: NOVEMBER 13

Julio Cortázar, "La noche boca arriba"; "Continuidad de los parques" (web site)

WEEK 14: NOVEMBER 20

Gabriel García Márquez, "Un señor muy viejo con unas alas enormes" (web site)

WEEK 15: DECEMBER 4

Review

**FINAL PAPER DUE**

FINALS WEEK: DECEMBER 11

**EXAM 3:** Borges, Cortázar, Fuentes, García Márquez