

## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

CRN 16671 (3 credits )

SPA 403-01

SPRING 2015

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Office # FH A-2

**M.Th., FH#405, 4:30 - 5:45 PM****Mandatory Course Material**

- **By Teresa Méndez-Faith, Panoramas Literarios: América Hispana, second edition. (Paper copy)**
- **FILMS (must watch and analyze one of the approved films. See guidelines, under Film Project)**

**Supplemental material and resources**

Hand-outs or complementary assigned reading

Class textbook online resources

Word reference. <http://www.wordreference.com>Diccionario de español de la Real Academia. <http://www.rae.es/rae.html>

Non-academic activities: Students are invited to take part in conversations at the *Mesa Española* (Spanish Table) and to attend Spanish other cultural events in the course of the semester. Students are encouraged to join the Foreign Language Club (ICALA) and to participate in other cultural activities that may be planned from time to time.

**I. TITLE: Survey of Spanish-American Literature (SPA 403)****Prerequisites:**

Prerequisite: SPA 302 and SPA 301 or 306.

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

SPA 403 Survey of Spanish-American Literature (3). A panoramic study of the literature of Spanish America from pre-Columbian times to the present.

**III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will:

- Become familiar with different literary genres.
- Acquire a comprehensive view of the literary production taking place in Latin America throughout different periods.
- Gain a better understanding of modes of representation through the critical analysis of diverse texts.
- Develop cultural awareness
- Refine their oral and written expression in Spanish, and continue working on reading and oral comprehension.

**IV. CONTENT OUTLINE**

This course is designed to introduce students to the vast literary production of Latin America; a panoply that includes an array of works. In addition to acquiring an overall knowledge of Latin American literature, students will be exposed to different literary genres.

Through textual analysis and films, students will explore ideas and cultural aspects, of the past and of the present, and will continue developing their linguistic proficiency in Spanish.

**Students are expected to be able to express themselves in Spanish at an advanced level, both orally and in writing.**

#### V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

This is an **intense reading and writing** course, conducted entirely in **Spanish**. It requires considerable amount of time preparing for every class period: reading, analyzing, interpreting.

When not knowing a word, students should first look at the context and cognates to see if they can make an educated guess; they should also use a thesaurus, or a Spanish dictionary. Using a translator or a bilingual dictionary is discouraged, for often the final product makes no sense. Translation should be the last resource; expressions do not translate exactly from one language to the other, particularly when used in idiomatic expressions (ex. the word “acaso”—“por si acaso”).

A class may start with a short introduction or lecture and will be followed by open discussions of the readings assigned. Oral discussions may be accompanied by written tasks. Students are required to actively participate in class discussions. On occasions, students will be the ones presenting a selected topic.

Literature is part of a bigger picture, which is society as whole. Therefore, discussions may involve not only literary aspects but the overall context from which a text emerges and its universal aspects.

**VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:** See VII. Resources.

**VII. TEXT AND RESOURCES:** See front page.

#### VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES

**All written works must use font Times New Roman, size 12, and be double-spaced.  
Every source used must be cited at the end of a paper or as a footnote, according to MLA style.**

- (15 %) Class participation: Participation is more than showing up. All students must engage in class discussions, demonstrate familiarity with the material assigned for the day, and volunteer to introduce the readings. (This grade may fluctuate weekly, depending on your performance)
- (10 %) Written tasks, pre-assigned or not (grade taken as an average)
- (10 %) Essay I: 600 words literary commentary (H0<sup>1</sup>)
- (20 %) Film project: Oral Presentation and Essay II. This is an analytical and critical reflective project. (See guidelines)
- (10 %) Literature project: This is an oral individual/pair presentation. (See guidelines)
- (20%) Mid term exam, content from weeks 1-6.
- (15 %) Final cumulative exam

**There are no make-up assessments. If you miss an exam/quiz, your grade for it will be zero.**

Percentage categories will be averaged and added to be assigned a letter grade.

A	900-1000 pts.
B	800- 899
C	700-799
D	600-699
E	Less than 599

## IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY AND CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy (*MSU Undergraduate Bulletin*). Daily attendance and punctuality are required.

- Class attendance and participation are mandatory. Class starts and ends at the time designated by the teacher. Students are allowed one unexcused absence. Beyond that absence, grade for participation will be reduced by 2% for each absence. In addition, the final grade will be reduced by 2%. **Excused** absences are those that can be **documented**. They result from a **very serious matter**, such as hospitalization or an illness. A student who misses class should find out from another classmate what he/she missed.
- **Good manners, sense of humor and good class behavior contribute to the learning experience or everyone in the classroom.** During class students are expected to stay on task and be engaged in the topic of the day.
- No food is allowed in the classroom.
- Unless indicated or previously approved by the teacher, electronic devices may not be used in class (no laptops, tablets). Phones should be turned off before entering the classroom.

**Any personal concerns should be brought to my attention outside the class period, during office hours or immediately after class. **Do not wait until the end of the semester to raise your concerns.****

## X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

**All assignments must be your own work. Refrain from using automatic translators. Instead, use Word Reference or a Spanish dictionary.**

**If you still need extra help, you may seek assistance from the tutoring available on campus or come and see me during office hours.**

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

### Violations of Academic Honesty include:

**Cheating** - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

**Fabrication and Falsification** - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

**Multiple Submission** - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

**Plagiarism** - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

**Electronic translators** – The use of electronic translator are considered cheating.

**These violations have serious consequences, including expulsion.**

**If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.**

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly

or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days.

Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Policy Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

## **XI.- NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

### **Policy Statement**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).

## **XII.- OTHER REQUIRED DEPARTMENTAL OR COLLEGIATE COMMITTEE INFORMATION**