**SPAN 3315: Composition through Literature**

Fall 2013

**Instructor(s):** Christopher Conway

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**Office Hours:** TR 4-5 PM and by appointment.

**Section Information:** SPAN 315.003

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** UH 321/ TR 11-12:20 PM.

**Catalogue Description of Course:** Practice in original composition and critical thinking through the study of selected literary and cultural texts. Of special interest to students who wish to improve their reading comprehension and their writing skills. Prerequisite: SPAN 3305 or SPAN 3314, with grade C or better.

**Cultural Values and Learning Statement:** This course has no specific political, religious or cultural agenda. It is designed to critically examine a topic or learn specific skills, as stated in other parts of this syllabus. Therefore, students are required to maintain a dispassionate, analytical demeanour while studying the subject matter of the class. No exemptions from specific assignments will be provided on the basis of cultural, religious or political objections to a given subject.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students identify key movements, contexts and concepts used to analyze literature and culture.

Students demonstrate the ability to think critically about literature and make arguments about its interpretation.

Students demonstrate command of written Spanish, including vocabulary, spelling, agreement and syntax.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials (UT Arlington Bookstore):**

*Aproximaciones al Estudio de la Literatura Hispánica* (séptima edición.) [Available for purchase and for rent.]

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

Lengthier descriptions of each of these assignments will be provided to students on Blackboard in advance of their due dates.

**“Tareas”** are short homeworks, each worth 5% of final grade. There are 4 of them. 20% of each student’s final grade.

The **Midterm** and **Final**, each of which are worth 25% of the final grade, will measure retention of key aspects of lectures and assigned readings, as well as ability to think critically and creatively. Taken together they are 50% of the final grade.

**“Ensayos”** refer to formal essays of literary analysis, each worth 10% of the final grade. 20% of the final grade.

**“Anteproyectos”** are optional outlines of papers in progress. Students who wish feedback on their work-in-progress are encouraged to submit these assignments on the assigned due dates below. 0% of the final grade. I strongly encourage students to be wise and do these assignments, because they will certainly help prevent performance problems in the **Ensayos.**

**Participation** is worth 10% of the final grade.

**Attendance:** There are no separate penalties for lack of attendance. If a student wishes to not attend the class that he or she has paid for, that is their decision. However, I will require students to take responsibility for their actions when this decision impacts their ability to perform at a high level in the class.

**Other Requirements:** The professor requires that students show consideration by not being tardy on a regular basis.

**Grading**: I will grade students through 3 broad criteria: 1) Following instructions, 2) Quality of their written Spanish and 3) Analytical, qualitative content of their work. I will post grading criteria for each assignment in advance and use those criteria to grade student work. It is the student’s responsibility to be attentive to these criteria. I will provide students with an EXCEL spreadsheet to keep track of their grades, as well as use the Blackboard gradebook.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**Make-up Tests**: Students are allowed to make up assignments (homeworks or tests). Tests: students will be asked to complete a different test during regular University hours (before 5 PM.) It is up to the students to make the appropriate arrangements to meet this condition. Late assignments will be accepted for up to a period of 24 hours. However, no homework turned in late may receive an A. It’s highest grade will be an 85. Assignments that are not turned in within 24 hours after the deadline will not be accepted. The professor will provide a separate make-up for the assignment for the student and reserves the right to make the assignment different than the original. Once a deadline for the make-up has been set, no late make-up will be accepted.

**Incomplete Policy:** Only students who have completed a minimum of 70% of course assignments will be permitted to receive an incomplete.

**Grade Grievances**: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. For UH321, students should exit the front door of the class, which is the door containing the swipe card mechanism. Upon exiting through this door, students should take a left and follow the hallway until they reach office 336, at which point they should turn right and exit through the doors marked exit and proceed down the stairwell to the first floor. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

**CRONOLOGÍA/SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

As your instructor, I reserve the right to make adjustments to this schedule during the semester. – Christopher Conway

**Clave:**

1. La rayita / separa los martes de los jueves en una línea que contiene un listado de lecturas.
2. [;] indica fin de un texto, para ser continuado con otro.
3. *Enfoque* se usa para indicar el marco o tema que organiza el material de la semana.
4. (S) es un Suplemento que no se encuentra en el libro de la clase.
5. Las demás lecturas mencionadas aparecen en el libro *Aproximaciones al estudio de la literatura hispánica*.
6. T se refiere a una tarea por entregar, en este caso Tarea tipo cuestionario o ensayo corto.
7. AP se refiere a una tarea por entregar, en este caso un Anteproyecto (outline).
8. EN se refiere a una tarea por entregar, en este caso se refiere a ensayo.

**Agosto 22:** *Enfoque:* *Introducción a la clase*. *Taller sobre microcuentos:* “El Otro Yo” de Benedetti.

**27/29:** *Enfoque:**Taller sobre microcuentos, continúa:*Los siguientes relatos de Augusto Monterroso:“El paraíso imperfecto”, “La rana, que quería ser una Rana auténtica”; “El, mono, que quería ser escritor satírico” **Tarea 1./** “Lo que sucedió a un mozo que casó con una muchacha de muy mal carácter” del Conde Lucanor.

**Septiembre 3/5:** *Enfoque:* *Narrativa:* “La camisa de Margarita” de Ricardo Palma; “Las medias rojas” de Emilia Pardo Bazán **Tarea 2.**/ Cuento de Gerardo Piña, se anunciará (S)

**Septiembre 3/5:** *Enfoque: Narrativa:* “La noche boca arriba” de Julio Cortázar/ “La mujer del juez” de Isabel Allende. **Tarea 3**.

**10/12:** *Enfoque: Narrativa:* Cuento corto de Gerardo Piña (S) **AP #1**./ *Enfoque: La novela corta: San Manuel Bueno, Mártir* de Miguel de Unamuno. Entrevista a Gerardo Piña por Video SKYPE.

**17/19:** Continúa.

**24/26:** **EN #1.** Continúa.

**Octubre 1/3: Examen Parcial/** *Enfoque: Teatro:* Las obras de Marcelino Dávalos (S).

**8/10:** Continúa. **Tarea 4.**

**15/17:** *Enfoque: Teatro*: *La casa de Bernarda Alba* de Federico García Lorca **AP #2** / No hay clase.

**22/24:** Continúa.

**29/31:** *Enfoque: Poesía:* **EN #2.** “El enamorado y la muerte” (anónimo); Soneto XXIII” de Garcilaso de la Vega/ “Soneto CLXVI”; “A su retrato”; “A una rosa” de Luis de Góngora; “Canción del Pirata” de José de Espronceda, “Si ves un monte de espumas” de José Martí.

**Noviembre 5/7:** *Enfoque: Poesía: Los siguientes poemas de Pablo Neruda:* “Me gustas cuando callas,” “Esta noche puedo escribir,” “Tu risa” (S) **Tarea 4.**/ Lectura se anunciará.

**12/14:** *Enfoque: Ensayo:* “Los obreros y yo” de Eva Perón; “Y las madres, ¿qué opinan?” de Rosario Castellanos/Lectura se anunciará.

**19/21:** Película en clase.

**26:** Discusión sobre la película.

**Diciembre 3:** Repaso final.

**EXAMEN FINAL 10 Diciembre 11-1:30.**