Spanish 3313: Spanish Language Through Film

**Winter 2015-2016**

# Instructor: Dr. Sonia Kania Office hours: M-F 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

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# Office: 323 HH Classroom: TH 21

# Dept. phone: 817.272.3161 Class schedule: M-F 8:00-11:45 a.m.

# Mentis: [https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/1577/](https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/1577/category/1)

**Catalogue Course Description:**

SPAN 3313 Topics in Hispanic Language, Literature, and Culture: Topics may include Peninsular or Latin American film, music, radio, politics, human rights movements, literature, language or Hispanic linguistics. May be repeated as the topic changes. Prerequisite: SPAN 2314 or SPAN 2315 with a grade of C or better.

**Description for Topic in Wintermester 2015-2016:**

In this class we will explore the Spanish language and culture as shown in five Spanish-language films. The films are among the most critically acclaimed in the past decades and take place in a wide variety of locales: *Chico y Rita* (Cuba), *El secreto de sus ojos* (Argentina), *Miss Bala* (Mexico), *También la lluvia* (Bolivia), and *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (Spain). We will see how language is a expression of culture in: the music of Cuba; the use of *vos* in Argentina; English-Spanish intermixing on the Mexican border; indigenous influences in global Spanish; and the distinct “Castilian” way of speaking. Students will expand their vocabulary, and improve their Spanish-language skills. Prerequiste: SPAN 2314 or SPAN 2315, with a grade of C or better.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the successful completion of the course, the student will:

* expand his/her vocabulary related to film and to the topics addressed in the specific films viewed
* improve Spanish-language listening comprehension skills
* improve Spanish-language reading comprehension skills
* improve Spanish-language skills in speaking
* improve Spanish-language skills in writing
* demonstrate an understanding of topics related to the varieties of Spanish spoken globally

**Required text:**

Cámara, Noemí, and Cecilia Bembibre Jacobo. *Vamos al cine*. Cambridge University Press, 2014. Print.

**Evaluation:**

Attendance and participation 15%

Group discussions/oral assignments 20%

Listening comprehension prompts 10%

Reading comprehension prompts 10%

Writing prompts 10%

Reflection paper 15%

Group presentation 20%

**Grading scale:**

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = < 60

**Attendance and participation:** Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions; their participation should reflect having done the assignments and completed the assigned readings for the class period. Students will receive a daily participation grade that ranges from 0-3. Students are allowed one (1) absence during the semester. For any absence above one (1), a grade of zero (0) will be averaged into the student’s participation grade. Moreover, 5% will be deducted from the final grade.

**Group discussions/oral assignments:** On film discussion days, the class will be divided into groups of five students. Each group will have a director, whose is responsible for stimulating and maintaining active discussion in Spanish. Another student will have the role of secretary; this person will take notes during the discussion to synthesize and present the opinions of the group. Each student in the group will be responsible for finding articles **in Spanish** about the film (printing them out and bringing them to class) and will share what he/she found with his/her group.

**Listening comprehension prompts:** There will be five graded listening comprehension prompts during the course. No make-ups will be offered.

**Reading comprehension prompts:** There will be three to five graded reading comprehension prompts during the course. No make-ups will be offered.

**Writing prompts:** There will be two to three graded writing prompts during the course. No make-ups will be offered.

**Reflection paper:** Students will write a brief (~2 pp.) paper in Spanish reflecting on the course content and its implications for their Spanish-language skills and future studies/career. (Details forthcoming.) No late work will be accepted.

**Group presentation**: For the final evaluation for the course, students will participate in a *festival de cine* that we will stage in class. Each group will present on one film. (Details forthcoming.) No make-ups will be offered.

***The student is responsible for reading the notices related to Class Policies and Academic Integrity. See documents in the “Syllabus” section on Blackboard.***

***N.B.:*** *The course components may be slightly altered during the semester, depending on various factors. Any change will be announced in a timely fashion. No late work will be accepted, nor will there be opportunities for make-ups.*

**Programa del curso:** (páginas de *Vamos al cine* indicadas)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Fecha: | Tema/Actividad de clase | Más temas/actividades |
| 21 dic. | **Introducción al curso. Unidad 1: *Chico y Rita***  pp. 17-32 | Tema lingüístico/cultural:   * El español cubano * La música cubana |
| 22 dic. | *Chico y Rita* (cont.) |
| 4 enero | **Unidad 2: *El secreto de sus ojos***  pp. 67-82 | Tema lingüístico/cultural:   * El uso de *vos* |
| 5 enero | *El secreto de sus ojos* (cont.) |
| 6 enero | **Unidad 3: *Miss Bala***  pp. 135-150 | Tema lingüístico/cultural:   * El cambio de código entre el inglés y el español |
| 7 enero | *Miss Bala* (cont.) |
| 8 enero | **Unidad 4: *También la lluvia***  pp. 165-180 | Tema lingüístico/cultural:   * Los indigenismos |
| 11 enero | *También la lluvia* (cont.) |
| 12 enero | **Unidad 5: *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios*.** pp. 151-164 | Tema lingüístico/cultural:   * El castellano vs. el andaluz |
| 13 enero | *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (cont.) |
| 14 enero | **Festival de cine**  Presentaciones en grupo |  |

Entrega del **Trabajo de reflexión:** el jueves, 14 de enero para las 8:00 a.m. (por SafeAssign)

**Official University Policies:**

**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/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT 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), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).** Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

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.

**Title IX:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*. For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. 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.

**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, which is located toward the right as you exit the classroom. 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 individuals with disabilities.

**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).

**More information:**

Attendance:At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the attendance policy described above (see “Attendance and participation”), to wit: I take attendance on a daily basis, and students are assigned a daily participation grade, which is factored in the “Attendance and participation” portion of the final grade. Any absence above one (1) will negatively impact this portion of the grade. Moreover, 5% will be deducted from the final grade.

Grading: The final grade for the course will be calculated by adding the average grade the student receives in the categories mentioned above in “Evaluation”: Attendance and Participation (15%), Group discussions/oral assignments (20%), Listening comprehension prompts (10%), Reading comprehension prompts (10%), Writing prompts (10%), Reflection paper (15%), Group presentation (20%).

E-Culture Policy:

Email may be used for the following reasons in this course:

* For the professor to inform and remind students of assignments, deadlines, events, and activities
* For the professor to deliver class assignments and exercises
* For students to set up a face-to-face appointment with the professor if they wish to ask questions regarding course materials, clarification, or concerns about their progress in the course
* For students to inform the professor of absences

Please do not use email for the following:

* To request class notes from the professor or that s/he email students course handouts
* To ask the professor what students missed in class

When sending email messages, please consider the following:

* Use salutations at the beginning and signatures at the end of the messages.
* Try to use proper punctuation and capitalization (email and texting are different!).
* Be courteous.

Classroom Comportment Policy**:** Students should come to class prepared with their textbooks or assigned reading and maintain a respectful disposition toward the learning process. Sleeping during class, texting, and otherwise disrupting class (e.g. getting up and leaving while class is in session) is not acceptable behavior in a University environment.

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

**COURSE CONTRACT**

**SPANISH 3313**

**­­­­­­­­­­­Dr. Sonia Kania**

**Fall 2015**

**Note to the Student**: please acknowledge your understanding of the information contained in the course syllabus by initialing and signing the following items.

**Print your name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge having read and understood the policies contained in this syllabus pertaining to grades and absenteeism.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge having read and understood the Academic Integrity section of the syllabus, as well as the “Academic Integrity” document on Blackboard (in the Syllabus section).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that borrowing language and ideas from a website, a published article, a book, or another person without properly indicating my source is considered plagiarism. Discipline for this offense may include academic probation, suspension, or expulsion from the University.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge the stipulation that submission for credit of work attributable to a computer program, such as electronic or Internet translators, is also academic dishonesty.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge having read and understood the classroom comportment policy, as well as the “Class Policies” document on Blackboard (in the Syllabus section).

**Your Signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_