

SPAN 4334.CONTEMPORARY HISPANIC CULTURE: CUBA

Fall 2016

Instructor(s): Dr. Sonja S. Watson, Associate Professor of Spanish & Director of Women's & Gender Studies

Office Number: University Hall (UH) 223

Office Telephone Number: 817-272-3131

Email Address: swatson1@uta.edu

Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/sonja-watson>

Office Hours: MW 11-12 MW

Section Information: 89535-002

Time and Place of Class Meetings: MW 10:00AM - 10:50AM; Fridays (online)

COBA 139

Description of Course Content:

An introduction to contemporary Spanish and/or Latin American culture, with special emphasis on globalization and current events affecting the Spanish-speaking world. Prerequisite: SPAN 3315 with a grade of C or better.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Through the use of documentaries, literary texts, articles, and speeches, students will gain an understanding of how Cuba of the past continues to affect the present.
2. Students demonstrate the ability to discuss 19th century Cuban nationalism and the Cuban wars of independence
3. Students discuss the development of the concepts of race and nationalism in 19th and 20th century Cuba and its effect on the present
4. Students will understand the concept of socialism in Cuba and its relationship to Fidel Castro
5. Students will successfully apply advanced writing skills in Spanish in their exploration of Cuban culture and politics

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: *Memoria del silencio de Uva del Aragón, (versión en español)*

All other readings will be provided on Blackboard.

Hybrid: This is a hybrid course. We will meet during our regular scheduled class time on Mondays and Wednesdays. Class on Fridays will be online. Hybrid days are highlighted in yellow.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

Group Project: In groups of 3, students will develop an oral presentation on a topic that centers on Cuban politics, literature, culture and/or economy.

Tourism Guide (Individual): Each student will write a letter to potential tourists describing Cuban society, politics, culture, and economy.

Grading*:

Quizzes (2): 10%

HW (3): 11%

Test 1 20%

Test 2 20%

Tourism Guide to Cuba (Individual): 10%

Group Oral presentation: 9%

Final Exam 20%

*Please read the attendance policy below

Attendance:

Attendance to class is required and will be taken during every class session. It is required that students attend class and participate in any class discussions. After **two (2)** absences, the student's final grade will be dropped by 2 points for each subsequent absence:

3 absences=2 points
4 absences=4 points
5 absences=6 points
6 absences=8 points
7 absences=10 points

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.

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://www.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). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. 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 or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: *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.*

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*

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 in their courses by 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. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

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>.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is

required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, 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. 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.

Students should also be encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at <https://mavalert.uta.edu/> or <https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php>

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, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

Librarian to Contact: Diane Shepelwich, dianec@uta.edu; 817-272-7521

Fecha	Tema	Lecturas	Actividad	
29 de agosto	Introducción al curso	"Cuba, a Country Frozen in Time" http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/16/opinion/cuba-a-country-frozen-in-time.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FCuba&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection		
31 de agosto	Siglo 19	Siglo 19 Guerras de Independencia (no hay lectura)		
2 de sept. En línea	Siglo 19	Siglo 19 Guerras de Independencia (no hay lectura)		
5 de sept.		No hay clase		
7 de sept.	José Martí	"Nuestra América" de José Martí		
9 de sept. En línea	José Martí	Documental: <i>Legado de Libertad, José Martí</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-T5fj7gg1k		
12 de sept.	José Martí	Discusión de "Nuestra América" y "José Martí, the National Poet" http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/22/opinion/jose-marti-the-national-poet.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FCuba&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=4&pgtype=collection		
14 de sept.	Raza y nación en Cuba	Siglo 19: Raza y nación en Cuba "Myths of Racial Democracy: Cuba 1900-1912" Alejandro de la Fuente	Prueba #1	
16 de sept. En línea	Raza y nación en Cuba	Documental: <i>Blacks in Latin America: CUBA</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ygms7GCXIKY	Tarea #1 18 de sept.	
19 de sept.	Discusión de raza y nación en Cuba	1. For Blacks in Cuba, the Revolution Hasn't Begun - The New ... http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/24/opinion/sunday/for-blacks-in-cuba-the-revolution-hasnt-begun.html?_r=0 2. Cuba Says It Has Solved Racism. Obama Isn't So Sure. http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/24/world/americas/obamaurges-raised-voices-incubas-husheddiscussions-ofrace.html 3. A Lesson From Cuba on Race http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/17/a-lesson-from-cuba-on-race/		
21 de sept.	Transculturación	Fernando Ortiz: <i>Contrapunteo del tabaco y el azúcar</i>		
23 de sept. En línea	El hip hop en Cuba	Orishas –"537 CUBA" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2eV20UhkQk		
26 de sept.	El hip hop en Cuba	"Cuban Hip-Hop Goes Global: Orishas <i>A lo Cubano</i> "		
28 de sept.	1902-1959	Capítulo 2 Política y sociedad, 1902-1958 "¡Revolución, Si; Golpe Militar, no!		
30 de sept. En línea	1902-1959	Capítulo 2 Política y sociedad, 1902-1958 "¡Revolución, Si; Golpe Militar, no!		
3 de oct.		Repaso		
5 de oct.		Examen 1		
7 de oct.	Fidel Castro	Documental: <i>Fidel Castro - The Making of a</i>		

En línea		Leader https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGHibQGgeu0		
10 de oct. En línea	Fidel Castro	Documental: <i>Fidel: The Untold Story</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ao6VpoZ-Am0	Tarea #2 10 de octubre	
12 de oct.	Fidel Castro	¿Quién es Fidel Castro? “¡Dentro de la Revolución, todo; contra la Revolución, nada!”		
14 de oct. En línea	Che Guevara	Documental: <i>El Che: Investigating a Legend</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axvxshYPa5s		
17 de oct.	Che Guevara	¿Quién es el Che? (no hay lectura)		
19 de oct.	Campaña nacional de alfabetización	“Cuba: Territorio libre de analfabetismo” Documental: <i>Maestra</i>		
21 de oct. En línea	“La crisis de los misiles	“La crisis de los misiles de Cuba veinte años después” Documental: “The Cuban Missile Crisis” http://search.alexanderstreet.com.ezproxy.uta.edu/view/work/523417		
24 de oct.	La situación de la mujer en Cuba	“La participación de la mujer en Cuba: balance y perspectiva”	Prueba #2	
26 de oct.	Los cubanos en Miami	Los cubanos en Miami/EE.UU. (lectura TBD)		
28 de oct. En línea		Trabajo individual: Guía turística de Cuba		
31 de oct.	Novela	<i>Memoria del silencio</i> de Uva de Aragón Capítulos 1-4		
2 de nov.	Novela	<i>Memoria del silencio</i> de Uva de Aragón Capítulos 5-8		
4 de nov. En línea		Trabajo individual: Guía turística de Cuba		
7 de nov.	Novela	<i>Memoria del silencio</i> de Uva de Aragón Capítulos 9-13 “Cuban Reconciliation: The Search for Community in Uva de Aragón’s <i>Memoria del silencio</i> ” de Lori Celaya		
9 de nov.	Discusión	“On the Open Road, Signs of a Changing Cuba” http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/07/world/on-the-open-road-signs-of-a-changing-cuba.html?_r=0		
11 de nov. En línea		Repaso		
14 de nov.		Examen 2		
16 de nov.		No hay clase a las 10; Obligatorio: Dra. Gabriela Cano, Colegio de México Título: “Se llamaba Elena Arizmendi” Dallas Mexican Consulate Speaker 12-1 Location TBD		
18 de nov. En línea	El período especial	“1992: El año uno del período especial”		
21 de nov. En línea	La política y la economía en Cuba	“After Fidel” “The Promise Besieged”		

		"Economic Illegalities and the Underground Economy in Cuba"		
23 de nov. En línea	Relaciones entre EE.UU y Cuba	"President Obama's Full Speech in Cuba" http://www.nytimes.com/video/us/politics/100000004286903/president-obamas-full-speech-in-cuba.html	Tarea #3 27 de nov.	
28 de nov.	Presentaciones	Presentación de los proyectos finales		
30 de nov.	Presentaciones	Presentación de los proyectos finales		
2 de dic. En línea		Trabajar en los proyectos finales		
5 de dic.	Presentaciones	Presentación de los proyectos finales		
7 de dic.	Presentaciones	Presentación de los proyectos finales		

Examen final: lunes, 12 de diciembre 8-10:30AM COBA

Guía turística: 12 de diciembre por Blackboard

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. Non-emergency number **817-272-3381**