

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

SPAN 4313-002: Topics in Latin American Culture (Biculturalism)

Spring 2016

TR 5:30-6:50 in Trimble Hall 202

Course website:

<http://christopherconway.linklab.domains/mestizaje/>

Instructor(s): Christopher Conway

Office Number: Hammond Hall 329.

Office Telephone Number: *Modern Languages faculty do not have telephones in their offices.* The number of the Modern Languages Department is 817-272-3161. *Please note that the best way to reach me or leave me a message is via email.*

Email Address: conway@uta.edu

Conway's UTA Mentis Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/christopher-conway>

Office Hours: Tuesdays at 4 PM and by appointment.

Section Information: (002)

Time and Place of Class Meetings: TR 5:30-6:50 in Trimble Hall 202

Catalogue Description: Among the topics are Spanish or Latin American music, television, radio, film, and literature as culture. May be repeated for credit as topic changes. Prerequisite: SPAN 3315 with a grade of C or better. Offered as MAS 4313 and SPAN 4313; credit will be given for MAS 4313 or SPAN 4313 but not both in a given semester.

Spring 2017 topic: Biculturalism:

This semester we use this special topics class to examine the following questions:

1. How does crossing from one culture into another affect a person's identity?
2. What are the differences between being monocultural and being bicultural?
3. Besides biculturalism, what other terms can we use to talk about the identity of people who grow up or who are transformed by contact with more than one culture? Which is best?
4. What kind of prejudices do some writers bring to the topic of mestizaje or biculturalism?
5. How do we connect the literature and films on these topics with our own experiences in the twenty-first century?

Student Learning Outcomes:

- To follow instructions properly.
- To show advanced command of reading and writing skills in Spanish, such as spelling and good sentence structure, and to practice these skills through advanced reading, writing, and conversation.
- To command major themes of key works of Spanish and Latin American literature in the original Spanish (*Naufragios*, *El Laberinto de la Soledad*, *La Frontera*, among others.)
- To apply critical analysis strategies to literature and film.
- To connect cultural artifacts (documents, films, stories, etc.) with cultural and historical problems relating to our individual and social lives.

Course Materials: The UTA Bookstore is carrying copies of the following books for rental and for purchase: *Naufragios* by Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca (Cátedra Edition), *El Laberinto de la Soledad* by Octavio Paz (Penguin Books), *La Frontera* by Gloria Anzaldúa.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

Assignment	Description and Purpose	Notes
Open notebook quizzes (7).	These are quizzes on assigned reading, or films, and on prior lectures by professor. Students are permitted to use their notebooks, or a print out from their laptops, but no screens are permitted.	The purpose of these pop quizzes is to verify that students are doing the assigned reading and work in the class. These are low danger assignments because students are permitted to use their notebooks. Each quiz will have one or more extra credit question to allow students who score less than a 100 to make up some lost points. The highest possible score on a quiz is 100.
Critical Papers (4)	Students write papers on topics covered in the class. For each paper, students will be able to choose from more than one topic or theme. Please see grading criteria below. Please review policy on late work.	These critical and somewhat creative papers will allow students to research, review, revise, and put their best work forward. Please see grading criteria below. Please review policy on late work.

Attendance:

My SPAN 4313-002 Policy: Students are permitted 3 absences without question. These absences are for family or medical emergencies. A 4th absence will constitute a final grade deduction of 6 points. A 5th absence will result in an 10 point deduction. A 6th absence is a 15 point deduction. A 7th absence is a 20 point deduction. Any student with 8 absences or more shall receive an F in the class, regardless of their performance on assignments, etc.

UTA Policy: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. 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. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Grading Criteria and Grade Calculations: Students must demonstrate the following on their assignments:

1. Follow all instructions properly.
2. Command Spanish spelling and grammar at the 4000 level, not at a lower level.
3. Show comprehension of topic or text being explored.
4. Analyze (when required by the assignment) or synthesize clearly and with relative accuracy (when required by the assignment.)
5. Write clearly and understandably.
6. Show precision in reasoning and/or presentation of ideas.
7. Not engage in plagiarism or dishonesty of any kind.

Grade Calculations

Papers (4) x 15 = 60

Quizzes (7) x 5.7 = 40

Make-up Exams or papers and Tardy Work: If a paper is less than 24 hours late, it will be accepted but it cannot receive a grade higher than a B (85), even if it's excellent in every other respect. If a paper is more than 24 hours late, I will not accept it and it will receive a 0. Students may make up one missed paper if they meet the following criteria: no quiz score below a 75, and all other papers are turned in on time. Make-up paper may be on a different topic and will not be assigned until end of the semester. One quiz may be made up as long as all other quizzes are taken as assigned. Make-up quizzes will only be given in final two weeks of semester.

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.

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 University Catalog. See:

<http://www.uta.edu/deanofstudents/student-complaints/index.php>

The best way to get started on the process is to have a frank and open conversation with me about your concern.

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/ao/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, which is out the door and down the hallway. 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. We will discuss this matter in class.

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.

Resources for Students

Academic Help

Academic Plaza Consultation Services library.uta.edu/academic-plaza

Ask Us ask.uta.edu/

Library Tutorials library.uta.edu/how-to

Subject and Course Research Guides libguides.uta.edu

Subject Librarians library.uta.edu/subject-librarians

Resources

A to Z List of Library Databases libguides.uta.edu/az.php

Course Reserves pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do

FabLab fablab.uta.edu/

Special Collections library.uta.edu/special-collections

Study Room Reservations openroom.uta.edu/

Course Schedule

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Christopher Conway

The course website, listed below, is the interactive hub for this course and overrules the following print schedule. Blackboard will be used for submission of assignments and gradebook only.

Cronología

17 enero: Introducción a la clase.

19 enero: **Mestizaje cultural en *Naufraios* de Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca.**

24 enero: continúa. Prueba de cuaderno abierto (PCA) 1.

26 enero: continúa.

31 enero: continúa. PCA 2.

2 febrero: continúa.

7 febrero: continúa. Entrega del primer ensayo en Blackboard.

9 febrero: **La identidad mexicana en *El laberinto de la soledad* de Octavio Paz.**

14 febrero: continúa. PCA 3.

16 febrero: continúa.

21 febrero: continúa.

23 febrero: continúa.

28 febrero: continúa. Entrega del segundo ensayo en Blackboard.

1 marzo: Paz y el cine.

7 marzo: continúa. PCA 4.

9 marzo: continúa.

Spring Break

21 marzo: Sesión virtual: se anunciará.

23 marzo: continúa.

28 marzo: **La visión crítica de Gloria Anzaldúa.** PCA 5.

30 marzo: continúa.

4 abril: continúa.

6 abril: continúa.

11 abril: continúa. PCA 6.

13 abril: continúa.

18 abril: continúa. Entrega del tercer ensayo en Blackboard.

20 abril: **Cantor de la negritud: Nicolás Guillén.**

25 abril: continúa.

27 abril: continúa.

2 mayo: continúa. Entrega del cuarto ensayo en Blackboard.

4 mayo: continúa. PCA 7.