SPAN 3315-003  
M/T/W/TH; TH 23  
Composition through Literature  
Department of Modern Languages  
University of Texas Arlington  

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Office Hours: M/T/W 12:30-1:00  
Summer 2014  

SPAN 3315 COMPOSITION THROUGH LITERATURE (3-0) 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. 

Course Objectives: 

1. To improve the grammar points studied in SP3303, SP3314 or SP3305 (e.g. the differences between preterit and imperfect, the rules of accentuation, uses of ser and estar) through writing exercises. 

2. To analyze literary texts and identify themes, symbols, stylistics, along with relevant cultural aspects to aid in a better understanding of literature. 

3. To put into practice the skills related to academic writing, with an emphasis on the rules of the Modern Language Association (using proper citation, developing a bibliography, developing a thesis, etc.) 

4. To improve written and oral expression in Spanish through the critical analysis of literary texts. 

5. To receive the fundamental tools of critical and analytical written expression for advanced courses in Spanish, especial those at the 4000 level (literature, linguistics and culture). 

6. To increase the development of reader competence through literary texts in Spanish. 


Recommended Texts: 

Spanish-Spanish dictionary Spanish-English dictionary 

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Grading: 

1. Midterm Exam= 25% This exam will assess the student’s understanding of the themes, history, and cultural context of the literary works covered in class up until the date of the midterm. The format of the exam will be term identification, quote identification, and short essay. The test will cover the course readings, as well as the material from PowerPoints, lectures, and discussions in class. There will be no make-up examinations given, unless there it is a university-excused absence. 

2. Final Exam= 20% This exam will assess the student’s understanding of the themes, history, and cultural context of the literary works covered in class from after the Midterm to the Final. The format of the exam will be term identification, quote identification, and short essay. The test will cover the course readings, as well as the material from PowerPoints, lectures, and discussions in class. There will be no make-up exams given, unless there is a university-excused absence.
3. **Compositions** = 30%  
Students will write 2 compositions (minimum 700 words; Times New Roman, 12 pt., double spaces) throughout the term. All compositions must adhere to the MLA format. No late compositions will be accepted. Each composition is an exercise in literary analysis based on the sophisticated understanding of the text, convincing and logical reasoning, a clear presentation of an argument, use of textual evidence, and an efficient organization of ideas.

4. **Response Papers** (5%) = 15%  
The response papers (“tareas breves”) are the responsibility of the student. These short writing exercises are textual commentaries in the form of a short essay, typed double spaced (400 words) that provide answers to questions or reading prompts. The purpose of these exercises is to prepare the student for understanding and analyze the assigned reading. These response papers should be well written and will be evaluated both the quality of grammar and style, as well as for the quality of the content and analysis. No late response papers will be accepted.

5. **Attendance and Participation:**  
Class attendance is mandatory since you must attend class in order to participate. If a student misses more than THREE (3) days, he/she will be penalized for each absence above that limit. Punctuality is essential, especially since many important announcements happen in the beginning of the class. Late arrivals or leaving the class during the class period will affect your final attendance and participation grade.

It is the student’s responsibility to come prepared for class. To do this, the student must check the syllabus and read Blackboard announcements daily. Active participation is a fundamental part of the class. It is expected that the student complete all his/her homework, written exercises, and assigned work for each day of class.

**Nota bene:** This syllabus may be modified throughout the term, depending on the needs of the students.

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

**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:**
The University has adopted a single drop date for all undergraduate students. **For Summer 2015, the last drop date is Tuesday, August 4,** which occurs at the end of the tenth week of classes. As usual, students are allowed to drop until 5:00p.m. CST on that date. Undergraduate students who drop a course on or before the Last Drop Date will receive an automatic grade of “W” regardless of whether they have completed assignments or not. Students seeking to drop a course will be advised to speak with the instructor of record and then, if deemed appropriate, proceed to the Academic Advisor for their major (or designee) who will complete the drop in the MyMav system. A “W” will be placed on the student record automatically by MyMav when the drop is entered.

**Americans With Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),** pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is
renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All 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.*

Instructors 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.

*The submission for credit of work attributable to a computer program, such as electronic or Internet translators is also academic dishonesty.*

**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 www.uta.edu/resources.

**E-Culture Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.
Grade Complaints: Students should first speak to their instructor. If a student is not satisfied after this conversation, he or she should see the Head of the Spanish section of the Department of Modern Languages (the instructor can provide this contact information.) If after speaking with the Head of the Spanish section, the student should speak to the Chair of Modern Languages. Ignoring this chain of command will result in the student being forced to follow it subsequently. The most time efficient way for a student to pursue a concern about your grade is to follow the instructions in this paragraph.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a 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.

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 is not acceptable behavior in a University environment. **By staying in this course, students acknowledge that they have received, read, understood and accepted the terms of this syllabus.

Nota bene: This syllabus may be modified throughout the term, depending on the needs of the students.

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**PROGRAMA DEL CURSO**
| Lunes 20 | Luis de Góngora “Soneto CLXVI” (184-185)  
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz “A su retrato” (186-187) |
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| Martes 21 | José de Espronceda, “Canción del pirata” (192-194)  
Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer, “Rima LIII” (198-200) |
| Miércoles 22 | José Martí, “Si ves un monte de espumas” (200-201)  
Vicente Huidobro, “Arte poética” (219-220) |
| En clase: Tarea breve #2 |
| Jueves 23 | Intro al drama (252-265)  
Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra “El juez de los divorcios” (292-299) |
| SEMANA 3 |
| Lunes 27 | Federico García Lorca: *La casa de Bernarda Alba*: Acto 1 (335-347)  
Entrega: Composición #1 (500 palabras)  
En clase: Repaso para el Examen 1 |
| Martes 28 | Federico García Lorca: *La casa de Bernarda Alba*: Acto 2 (348-359) |
| Miércoles 29 | Federico García Lorca: *La casa de Bernarda Alba*: Acto 3 (360-371)  
EXAMEN 1 |
| Jueves 30 | El cine como género, sus características, unos términos claves  
Cine: *Volver* (España) |
| Agosto |
| SEMANA 4 |
| Lunes 3 | Introducción a la narrativa (10-19)  
Don Juan Manuel, “Lo que sucedió a un mozo que casó con una muchacha de muy mal carácter” (42-46) |
| Martes 4 | Ricardo Palma: “La camisa de Margarita” (46-50)  
Anteproyecto para la Composición #2 (700 palabras)  
LAST DAY TO DROP |
| Miércoles 5 | Emilia Pardo Bazán, “Las medias rojas” (50-53)  
Teresa de la Parra, “Blanca nieves y compañía” (53-58) |
| Jueves 6 | Julio Cortázar, “La noche boca arriba” (61-68)  
Repaso para el Examen parcial #2  
Entrega: Composición #2 (700 palabras) |
| SEMANA 5 |
| Lunes 10 | Jorge Luis Borges, “El etnógrafo” (59-61)  
Mario Benedetti “El hombre que aprendió a ladrar,” “El Otro Yo” (73-76) |
| Martes 11 | Augusto Monterroso: “El paraíso imperfecto,” “La rana que quería ser rana auténtica,” “El mono que quiso ser mono auténtico” (76-79)  
En clase: Repaso para el Examen 2 |
| Miércoles 12 | Cine: *El laberinto del fauno* (España 2006) |
| Jueves 13 | EXAMEN 2 |