

(PEAL 262) LATIN AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES
PROGRAM OF ARGENTINE AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
UNIVERSIDAD DE BELGRANO

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Contact Hours: 60
Semester

Course Description

This course focuses on aspects of Argentine and Latin American culture with an emphasis on popular culture, both written and visual. Based on the study of diverse texts (literature, newspapers, comics, murals, photographs, fiction films and documentaries, podcasts), the course will reflect on the idea of culture and consider it from a very broad perspective, including the distinction between "high" and "low" culture. Students will refine their oral and written skills while deepening their reading comprehension and enriching their understanding of contemporary Latin American culture.

Course requirements, attendance and punctuality

Student should have 75% attendance to class in order to avoid losing. The attendance control system is electronic. The professor also keeps track of attendance, since it is part of the course grade (see Grading policy). Lack of punctuality (arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving class early) will be considered a half absence. If they do not attend class, it is the students' responsibility to contact their classmates to find out and complete the homework for the next class. Being absent from a class does not justify not completing the homework.

Participation and work in class

Students must actively participate in classes and make oral presentations. During semester, students will have homework and assignments for each class, which the are part of the final grade. Delay in the delivery of the assignments negatively affects the grade. A high level of student participation is expected. The professor will evaluate the students' personal commitment, curiosity and contribution.

Plagiarism

Presenting words, ideas or any information as if they were own is plagiarism and constitutes intellectual theft. The student who commits an act of plagiarism will not receive credit for the class.

Oral presentations

Oral presentations must be made in the students' own words; they cannot be read, although they may be supported by notes (the professor will evaluate the relevance of the "notes" in each case).

Grading Policy

Class participation	10 %
Oral presentations (5)	30 %
Mid- Term exam	20 %
Final exam	20 %
Essay	10 %
Fila presentation	10 %

Required Textbooks

Course Reader, Digital copy.

Academic Calendar

- Week 1** Introduction and reading of the program.
Unit 1: Migratory movements in Latin America TED Talk: Poetry, music and identity - Jorge Drexler and the tenth. Do we write verses in Spanish?
- Week 2** Viewing of chapter 1 of the series: Winds of water by Juan José Campanella.
Reading: "La representacion del otro: Vientos de agua" (The representation of the other: Winds of water") by Belén Moreno Garrido
Choice of song for presentation.
- Week 3** "International migrations and democracy: new challenges for inclusive citizenship in Latin America" by Giaconda Herrera Oral presentations: research on songs about identity and migration
Listen to "Everyone returns" episode of a Radio station. Preparation of report: "Stories of migrants"
- Week 4** **Unit 2:** Latin American myths and figures Che, Eva Perón, Maradona.
Viewing fragments of the series "Maradona: Sueños benditos" (Blessed Dream) by Alejandro Aimetta.
Reading: "Superdios" (supergod): the construction of Maradona as a lay saint" by Gabriela Saidón.
Choosing a character to create the short Reading: "Delirios de grandeza" (Delusions of grandeur) by Claudia Soria.
- Week 5** Fragments of "Motorcycle Diaries" by Walter Salles Analysis of the figure of Che.
Reading: "Motorcycle diaries: what Ernesto Guevara's eyes told Walter Salles", Guillermina de Ferrari.
- Week 6** Reading: "Today your face is on all the t-shirts" by Laura Malosetti Costa. <https://www.revistaanfibia.com/hoy-tu-cara-esta-en-todas-las-remeras/>. Group production of short film about selected character.
Class discussion on ways to make a short documentary. Basic guide to making a documentary:
<http://web.udlap.mx/lpm2021/2013/10/28/guia-basica-para-realizar-documental/>

Week 7 Oral presentations of the short film prepared with subsequent screening and debate.

Week 8 Mid – Term written exam

Unit 3: Feminist movements in Latin America "Ni una menos" (Not one less)

Reading and analysis of texts "#Nosotras paramos": notas hacia una teoría política de la huelga feminista" ("We go on strike": notes towards a political theory of the feminist strike) by Verónica Gago

"Soy feminista" (I'm a feminist) by Marta Dillon.

Oral Presentation.

Reading about the campaign #LeamosAutoras

Choice of stories and author for the presentation of week 9. Select an author and a story from the books on this list or choose another author, with prior agreement with the professor:

- Ampuero, María. "Sacrificios".
- Colanzi, Liliana. "Rezo por vos".
- Giaconi, Vera. "Survivor".
- Schweblin, Samanta, "Un hombre sin suerte".

Week 9 Movement "Ni una menos" (*Not one less*)

What aspects to analyze of the chosen stories?

Oral presentations about an author and a chosen story

Week 10 Unit 4: The Latin American dictatorships represented in the film

"Nostalgia de luz" by Patricio Guzmán

Reading: "On Nostalgia for Light"; by Michael Chaman

Documentary viewing "Latin American Dictatorships" tv channel Encuentro.

Week 11 Documentary viewing "Latin American Dictatorships" Canal Encuentro. "Argentina 1985" by Santiago Miter

Reading: "Reality and fiction of the film Argentina, 1985: successes, historical errors and omissions", by Matías Bauso.

<https://www.infobae.com/sociedad/2022/10/15/realidad-y-ficcion-de-la-pelicula-argentina-1985-aciertos-errores-historicos-y-omisiones/>

Week 12 Preparation of an essay on the films worked on.

Unit 5: Paper cities: How is the identity of a city built?

Documentary Buenos Aires by Eduardo Lazzari

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XthAy798Ok0> Porteños:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvFJnN5Csu4>

Week 13 Selection of literary texts about Buenos Aires: Girondo, Storni, Arlt, Enriquez.

"Buenos Aires Hipster" by Alan Pauls.

"Aviones sobrevolando un monstruo" (Planes flying over a monster) by Daniel Saldaña Paris.

Week 14 Final presentation: presentation with photos taken of a neighborhood or an aspect of the City of Buenos Aires.

Review for the final exam

Week 15 Final Exam.

Delivery of final grades, signing of the situation sheet (attendance is mandatory)

Bibliography

Unit 1

- Herrera, Giaconda. "Migraciones internacionales y democracia: nuevos desafíos para una ciudadanía inclusiva en América Latina" en *Mirando al Norte: Algunas tendencias de la migración latinoamericana*- San José, Flacso, 2012
- Moreno Garrido, Belén. "La representación del otro: el caso de Vientos de agua" XI Congreso Internacional de la Asociación de Historiadores de la Comunicación, 2010

Unit 2

- Saidon, Gabriela. "Superdios: la construcción de Maradona como santo laico" en: <https://www.infobae.com/cultura/2021/10/08/adelanto-de-superdios-la-construccion-de-maradona-como-santo-laico-de-gabriela-saidon/>
- Ferrari, Guillermina. "Diarios de motocicleta: lo que los ojos de Ernesto Guevara le contaron a Walter Salles"
- Pons Cristina y Claudia Soria. *Delirios de grandeza/ Los mitos argentinos: memoria, identidad, cultura*. Rosario: Beatriz Viterbo, 2005.

Unit 3

- Dillon, Marta. "Soy feminista" en <https://www.pagina12.com.ar/93003-soy-feminista>
- Gago, Victoria. "#Nosotras paramos": notas hacia una teoría política de la huelga feminista" en *8M: Constelación feminista*. Buenos Aires, Tinta Limón, 2018.

Optional:

- Ampuero, María. *Pelea de gallos*. España, Páginas de Espuma, 2018 Colanzi, Liliana. *Nuestro mundo muerto*. Buenos Aires, Eterna Cadencia, 2017.
- Enriquez Mariana. *Las cosas que perdimos en el fuego*. España, Anagrama, 2016
- Giaconi, Vera. *Seres queridos*. España, Anagrama, 2017

Unit 4

- Bauso, Matías. "Realidad y ficción de la película Argentina, 1985: aciertos, errores y omisiones"
- <https://www.infobae.com/sociedad/2022/10/15/realidad-y-ficcion-de-la-pelicula-argentina-1985-aciertos-errores-historicos-y-omisiones/>
- Chaman, Michael. "Sobre Nostalgia de luz" en <http://lafuga.cl/nostalgia-de-luz/586>

Unit 5

- Selection of poems by Oliverio Girondo y Alfonsina Storni.
- Enriquez, Mariana. "Pablito clavó un clavito" *Las cosas que perdimos en el fuego*. España, Anagrama, 2016
- Pauls, Alan. "El Buenos Aires hípster" en https://www.latam.com/vamos/es_un/experience/el-buenos-aires-hipster-del-escritor-alan-pauls#!%2F
- Saldaña Paris, *Aviones sobrevolando un monstruo*, Editorial Anagrama, 2021