Department of Languages, Cultures, and Communication
Spanish 435.001 – Fall 2017
Stories of War in Central American Narrative
Dr. José Neftalí Recinos

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MW: 1:00-2:15 p.m.
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Course Description: Social instability, political turmoil, armed conflicts, repression, torture, boycotted democratic projects, are only a few topics that are depicted in Central American Literature throughout the twentieth century. This course aims to study how this historical reality permeates the creative process, as well as how universal intellectual history is filtered and articulated in the work of important writers in the region.

Student Learning Outcomes: 1) To participate effectively in group discussions with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding. 2) To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking in writing and speaking. 3) Apply formal methods of literary analysis in reading and writing. 4) To construct a cohesive argument in writing about the interpretation of a literary work, and visual texts.

Program Learning Outcomes for Majors: 1) Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in effective oral communication with native speakers of the target language. 2) Students will analyze and summarize authentic texts in the target language. 3) Students will write effective, original compositions/research papers demonstrating the ability to analyze, persuade and/or defend an opinion in the target language. 4) Students will apply critical thinking skills in comparisons of the cultures studied and their own. 5) Students will, if seeking teacher certification, demonstrate mastery of professional skills necessary to teach the target language. 6) Students will demonstrate mastery of linguistic and cultural skills necessary to pursue graduate study and/or careers.

Course Structure: The course is organized thematically according to the following schedule: Sistemas represivos (week 1-4), Guerras civiles (week 5-7), El Sur también existe (week 8-9), La posguerra (week 10-13), Presentaciones (week 14).

Required Texts:

All reading assignments will be made available to you by the instructor in D2L. Students must be familiar with D2L.
Recommended:


Films Available at the Language Resource Center


*Voces inocentes.* Dir. Luis Mandoki, 2005.


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<tr>
<th>GRADING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Synopsis (5x4%)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Oral and Written Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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Grades will be calculated according to the following scale. Grades are not curved. (100-90%) A, (89.9-80%) B, (79.9-70%) C, (69.9-60%) D, and (59.9% and below) F. *Every assignment grade is posted in D2L.*

**PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is mandatory. Your final course grade will be affected negatively based on lack of attendance, participation and preparation for each class meeting. **Perfect attendance does not constitute a good grade.** A high participation is required from every student, even if they are very timid. It is necessary to prepare materials before coming to class and be ready to interact with your professor and classmates.

**Film Synopsis:** Students will write an overview of the film, depicting essential information and identifying crucial historical events, cultural aspects and literary components. 200 words typed. 12 font. Double space.
Quizzes: You will be presented with a series of pop-quizzes testing you on the latest reading(s) assignment(s). Be ready!

Final Oral and Written Presentation: Specific information and description on this assignment will be given at a later date. Instructor will be modelling oral and written presentation.

Exams: There will be two exams: a midterm and a final exam. The exams’ format will be as follows: multiple-choice questions, question-answer format, a section on culture/history, and a response to a question(s) (short essay format).

Recommended Films: Movies will be available to watch in the Language Resource Center (LRC). I encourage you to read the information provided in the Movie Database (www.imdb.com). If you are sensitive to the themes portrayed in these films, let me know in advance so I can find an alternative assignment.

ABSENCES: Students are allowed 2 absences at their discretion. These absences could be for university-sponsored events, a religious observance, illness or family related events or emergencies. However, once the two absences are surpassed for any of the reason stated above, students lose 1.5 percentage points of participation and attendance —respectively— per absence for a total of 3 % of your final grade, unless other arrangements are made with Dr. Recinos immediately. If you must miss class for any reason, you will still be responsible for all assignments due.

CLASS CONDUCT: There is a University policy that forbids any eating and drinking in the classroom. These activities interfere with the normal functioning of the class, and should be avoided. Electronic devices: Please SILENCE all electronic devices before entering class.

• Acceptable Student Behavior: Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to attend all classes, laboratories, and other activities on a regular and punctual basis. Attendance policies will be stated in the course
**syllabus.** For those classes where attendance is a factor in the course grade, an accurate record of attendance will be maintained.

**Excused Absences** Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences.

Students missing classes, other than university-sponsored trips, may contact the **Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) and request that an absence notification be sent to the instructor(s).** The notification is not an excuse, and is not evaluated by OSRR. The notification is only provided as a courtesy to the student and the student’s instructor(s).

Students remain responsible for providing documentation in a timely manner to the instructor for each absence. The instructor determines whether such documentation is satisfactory.

If participating in university-sponsored events, announcements in mySFA constitute official notification. Faculty members sponsoring activities that require their students to be absent from other classes must submit to the provost and vice president for academic affairs an explanation of the absence, including the date, time, and an alphabetical listing of all attending students. If approved by the provost and vice-president for academic affairs, this information will be posted on mySFA.

Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

**Cross Reference:** General Bulletin; Student Handbook and Activities Calendar; Military Service Activation (6.14); Tex. Educ. Code §§ 51.911-.9111; 19 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 4.4, .9

**The AARC and The LRC**

**Walk-in Tablea and Tutors:** The students at SFA are privileged to have access to an excellent free tutoring service for Spanish through the AARC and at the LRC. Although I strongly urge any student having difficulty to see me for help, the AARC and the LRC can offer assistance as well.

**When can I use the on campus tutoring service?** For assistance with workbook exercises. Your tutor cannot give you responses directly but may point you in the right direction. For assistance with 131, 132 and 231 level web activities. For help reviewing for tests and general review. For input on assignments already graded by instructor. You may NOT however seek assistance on graded assignments that you
will turn in again for points in the class.

**When can I not use the AARC or LRC?** For assistance in portfolio writing or typed compositions. · For assistance with presentations. For assistance with oral portfolios. Note that it is YOUR responsibility and not that of any tutor or native speaker to know when you can and cannot seek their assistance. Remember, all assignments must be 100 % your own. In any other instance this will be treated as academic dishonesty. If you are unclear on these policies, please see your instructor.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1) Original Implementation: Unpublished**

**Last Revision: January 31, 2017**

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

**Penalties for Academic Dishonesty**

Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.
Procedure for Addressing Student Academic Dishonesty

A faculty member who has evidence and/or suspects that academic dishonesty has occurred will gather all pertinent information and initiate the following procedure:

1. The faculty member will discuss all evidence of cheating or plagiarism directly with the student(s) involved.

2. After consideration of the explanation provided by the student(s), the faculty member will determine whether academic dishonesty has occurred. The faculty member may consult with the academic unit head and/or dean in making a decision.

3. After a determination of academic dishonesty, the faculty member will inform the academic unit head and submit a Report of Academic Dishonesty with supporting documentation to the office of the dean of the student’s major. This report will become part of the student's record and will remain on file with the dean’s office for at least four years even if the student withdraws prior to receiving a grade.

4. For a serious first offense or subsequent offenses, the dean of the student’s major will determine a course of action, which may include dismissal from the university. The dean may refer the case to the college council for review and recommendations before making this determination.

A student’s record of academic dishonesty will not be available to faculty members. The purpose of the record is for the dean to track a pattern of academic dishonesty during a student's academic career at Stephen F. Austin State University.

Student Appeals A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Cross Reference: Student Handbook; Academic Appeals by Students (6.3); and Course Add/Drop (6.10)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

WITHHELD GRADES Course Grades Policy (5.5): At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be
assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Programa Tentativo Español 435

ALL MATERIALS LISTED MUST BE READ/VIEWED BEFORE CLASS

Semana 1: agosto 28 & 30


Tarea:


2. Escribir: Synopsis #1 (Due at beginning of class)

Día 2: Panorama histórico y político.

Tarea: