

## FLS 351 - Literature and Culture of Latin America I (Pre-Conquest to Independence) Model Syllabus

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Prerequisite: FLS 332; prerequisite or co-requisite: FLS 340  
 General Education Program: Humanities, CHASS Literature I, II

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Survey of literary and cultural contexts of Latin America from the pre-conquest, colonial and early-independence periods (15th to mid 19th centuries). Examination of literary genres in connection with concurrent cultural and historical events. Exploration of literature as a reflection of the experiences and events meaningful to Latin American society during this time period. Emphasis on the ways in which literature and other cultural artifacts give voice to value systems, traditions, and beliefs.

**NOTE:** All Spanish majors must reach at least the Intermediate High of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Scale prior to their expected graduation date. Students must take the OPIc test prior to completion of their first 300-level class. Please see [http://fl.chass.ncsu.edu/spanish/oral\\_proficiency.php](http://fl.chass.ncsu.edu/spanish/oral_proficiency.php) (/spanish/oral\_proficiency.php) see for further information about this requirement and the computerized Oral Proficiency Interview (OPIc).

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the semester students will be able to:

- Identify and explain themes encountered in Latin American literary texts from the conquest to independence periods.
- Interpret literary texts in their cultural, social, and historical contexts.
- Identify and explain key cultural, social, and historical Latin American events from the pre-conquest to independence periods.
- Evaluate the art of interpretation as a critical approach to the study of literature and culture.
- Using appropriate literary constructs, critically examine thematic intersections between Latin American texts from the pre-conquest to independence periods, and the cultural and historical contexts surrounding the texts.
- Discuss literary and cultural topics in Spanish with grammatical and lexical precision and sophistication reflective of the intermediate high (or higher) level on the Oral Proficiency Scale of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL <http://www.actfl.org>).

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Chang-Rodríguez, Raquel and Malva E. Filer. (2004). *Voces de Hispanoamérica: Antología literaria*. Boston: Thomson/Heinle ISBN-10: 0838416535 (\$115)

Fox, Arturo *Latinoamérica: Presente y pasado*. Prentice Hall. (2006) (\$ 80)

Coursepack available at Sir Speedy on Hillsborough Street

**Grading:** The final course grade will consist of the following components:

Exams: midterm and final	40%
Group presentation:	10%
Final presentation:	10%
Final paper:	25%
Class participation:	15%
Grading Scale:	

98 - 100 = A+	93 - 97.99 = A	90 - 92.99 = A-
88 - 89.99 = B+	83 - 87.99 = B	80 - 82.99 = B-
78 - 79.99 = C+	73 - 77.99 = C	70 - 72.99 = C-
68 - 69.99 = D+	63 - 67.99 = D	60 - 62.99 = D-
0 - 59.99 = F		

Exams: Exams will follow a short essay format. There will be an in class review session before each exam.

Final paper and presentation: The final paper will be 8-9 pages in length. Proper MLA citation must be used for direct and indirect quotes and in the bibliography. Further instructions regarding the paper and presentation will be provided on the course web site and discussed in class.

#### Assessment of Class Participation:

One of the following assessments will be made of students' preparation and participation weekly. The weekly assessments will be averaged to determine the final participation grade.

A+ (100%)	Outstanding participation. Meets and exceeds all criteria for "A" participation.
A (95%)	Student is well prepared, attentive, always responds when called upon and volunteers often with pertinent answers or questions.
B (85%)	Student is usually prepared, responds when called on and volunteers on occasion.
C (75%)	Student shows evidence of being unprepared on occasion, has trouble when called on and does not volunteer often.
D (65%)	Student is unprepared, inattentive, never volunteers, or comes to class late.
F (0-50%)	Student exhibits a lack of concern for the class, sleeps in class, or disturbs the class.

Students will be required to prepare all readings before the scheduled class time in order to follow the lectures, participate in team activities, and contribute to class discussions. Students will complete short one-minute papers during class to stimulate thought and discussion of assigned readings.

Requirements for Credit-Only: In order to receive a grade of S, students are required to take all exams and quizzes, complete all assignments, and earn a grade of C- or better. Conversion from letter grading

to credit only (S/U) grading is subject to university deadlines. Refer to the Registration and Records calendar for deadlines related to grading. For more details refer to: [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php)) \*\*Note that students cannot take this course for credit-only if they intend to count it toward a Spanish major or minor.

Requirements for Auditors: For details refer to:

[http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/grades\\_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/grades\\_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php))

Incomplete Grades:

Incomplete grades will be given at the instructor’s discretion and only when a student cannot complete the course due to unforeseeable circumstances beyond his/her control and has done most of the course work. [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/grades\\_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/grades\\_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php))

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Week	Topics	Assignments
1	Discussion of three different perspectives on how to approach Latin America	Chang-Rodríguez- “Unidad del mundo latinoamericano”; Roman Goldstein “The Myth of the Latin American Monolith”; Jorge Carvalho, “Heterogeneidad radical en la América Latina” Latinoamérica: presente y pasado: “¿Pero existe realmente una Latinoamérica?” pp. 128-9
2	Introduction and localization of the Pre-Columbian indigenous cultures geographically and chronologically; Basic conceptions of time and space of the maya as compared to Western culture; Introduction to the oral literature of the Maya.	Fox, “Las grandes civilizaciones precolombinas” pp. 2- 14. Enrique Florescano, “Representations and Uses of the Past” pp. 30-64, from Memory, Myth and Time in Mexico: from the Aztecs to Independence. Voces: “Voces amerindias: los mayas, los nahuas y los quechuas” pp. 13-19 *Una época de milagros : literatura oral del maya yucateco / Allan F. Burns ; traducción, Pilar Abio Villarig, José C. Lisón Arcal.
3	Mesoamerican concepts of creation; Olmecs of the pre-classical period to the Aztecs of the post-classical era; virtual tour of the Museo virtual de la antigua cosmogonía mexicana;Popul Vuh	Virtual Tour: The Museo virtual de la antigua cosmogonía mexicana and discussion. Video: *Amlin, Patricia. Popul Vuh. (available at ILAS).

4	<p>Explorations and the initiation of the Conquest and the historiographical discourses that they have produced</p> <p>Comparison of two different historiographies, perspectives and ideologies. The new historiography.</p>	<p>Merrim, Stephanie: “The First Fifty Years of Hispanic New World Historiography: the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America.” In The Cambridge History of Latin American Literature V. 1.</p> <p>Voces: Colón, Cristóbol: “Carta a Luis de Santángel”</p> <p>Momentos cumbres: “Los testimonios del encuentro entre dos culturas” p. 60-61.</p> <p>Latinoamérica: pasado y presente. “Hernán Cortés y la conquista de México (1519- 1521)” pp. 49-53</p>
5	<p>Comparison of the perspectives presented by Cortés y León Portilla.</p> <p>Episode 2 from the Buried Mirror series: “Conflict of the Gods.”</p>	<p>Video: Buried Mirror Episode 2: “Conflict of the Gods.”</p>
6	<p>La “Leyenda negra” y la defensa del indio de Bartolomé de las Casas: sus logros y las limitaciones de su ideología</p> <p>La Malinche and Women in the Conquest</p>	<p>Voces: “Bartolomé de las Casas” pp. 28-35 Momentos cumbres: “Bartolomé de las Casas” y “Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias” pp. 62-67</p> <p>Investigación independiente usando la red: la postura de De las Casas frente a la esclavitud negra; buscar información sobre La Leyenda negra.</p> <p>Selection: La Malinche in Mexican Literature: from History to Myth</p>
7	<p>Receive instructions for group presentations.</p> <p>Broad themes for group presentations: La encomienda/ La evolución del calendario maya-azteca/ la percepción de la raza en Latinoamérica/ la piratería y el contrabando en la colonia/</p> <p>Introducción a la vida colonial.</p>	<p>Latinoamérica: presente y pasado: “El sistema colonial” pp. 61-71</p> <p>Investigación independiente usando la red: buscar información sobre uno de los siguientes temas: una comparación entre las épocas coloniales de EEUU y América Latina, el monopolio comercial de España durante la época colonial, la piratería y el contrabando en la América colonial</p> <p>Latinoamérica: presente y pasado: “Sociedad vida y cultura en el mundo colonial” pp. 76-89.</p>
8	<p>La vida colonial en el Caribe, la esclavitud.</p> <p><b>MIDTERM EXAM</b></p>	<p>Discussion of video: La última cena , Gutiérrez Alea, Tomás.</p> <p>Selection: Autobiografía de un esclavo. Manzano, Juan Francisco.</p>
9	<p>Introducción a la escritura de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz</p> <p>Discusión de la película.</p>	<p>Momentos cumbres: “Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, ‘Hombres necios que acusáis,’ ‘En perseguirme, ¿qué intereses?’” pp. 353- 358</p> <p>Voces: “Respuesta de la poetisa a la muy ilustre sor Filotea de la Cruz” pp. 78-80</p>

		Yo, La peor de todas.
10	Group presentations.	Presentations.
11	Influencias internas y externas de las guerras por la independencia  Discussion of video on the independence wars. From the series Buried Mirror: Video 4: “The Price of Freedom.”	Handout: Chang-Rodríguez, Eugenio: “Las guerras por la independencia hispanoamericana” pp. 117-122.  Latinoamérica: presente y pasado: “El siglo XIX: la independencia y sus consecuencias” pp. 94-107
12	El caudillo y el gaucho	Josephina Ludmer:
13	El conflicto entre Sarmiento y Hernández: dos visiones opuestas del gaucho	Voces: “Domingo Faustino Sarmiento”: 137-152 Sarmiento: Hernández:
14	Writing workshop and final Presentations	Individual conferences to discuss the final project drafts
15	Final project presentations	
FINAL EXAM		

#### CLASS AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Attendance: Attendance is required. You can make progress only if you hear and speak the language regularly. After two unexcused absences, two percentage points will be deducted from final score for each additional unexcused absence. In case of an emergency (serious illness, injury, death or illness in the family, university duties, court attendance, or religious observance), please notify me as soon as possible. You are responsible for all work missed and for any assignment announced on the day you were absent. This policy is based upon NCSU Attendance

Policy: [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)).

Late Work: Late assignments will only be accepted in the case of verified/documented emergencies. See the University Attendance

Policy [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)).

Academic Integrity: Students are bound by academic integrity policy as stated in [NCSU Code of Student Conduct](#) ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student\\_services/student\\_discipline/POL11.35.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php)). Students are required to uphold the university pledge of honor and exercise honesty in completing every assignment. Instructors may require students to write the Honor’s Pledge on every exam and assignment and to sign or type their name after the pledge. (“I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment.”) Academic Integrity

website: [http://www.ncsu.edu/student\\_affairs/osc/AIpage/acaintegrity.html](http://www.ncsu.edu/student_affairs/osc/AIpage/acaintegrity.html)  
([http://www.ncsu.edu/student\\_affairs/osc/AIpage/acaintegrity.html](http://www.ncsu.edu/student_affairs/osc/AIpage/acaintegrity.html))

Adverse Weather: Read the [complete adverse weather policy](http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/hrpm/sec/700/hrpm714.html)  
(<http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/hrpm/sec/700/hrpm714.html>) for more info. Check email, news, the NCSU home page, or call 513-8888 for the latest information.

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653 <http://www.ncsu.edu/dso/> (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dso/>). For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.1)

at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php)  
([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php))

Electronic Hosted Course Components: Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics, and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.

Anti-Discrimination Statement: NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, creed, national origin, age, disability, veteran status or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on color, religion, sex, creed, national origin, age, disability, veteran status or sexual orientation is also a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is also prohibited. NC State's policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus\\_environ](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ)  
([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus\\_environ](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ)) or [http://www.ncsu.edu/equal\\_op](http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op)  
([http://www.ncsu.edu/equal\\_op](http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op)). Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 515-3148.