

SPAN 4351: 20th Century Mexican Literature (Mexican Identity in Literature and Film)



Syllabus

Basic Information

Instructor Name:

OFFICE:

OFFICE PHONE:

E-MAIL:

OFFICE HOURS:

This course is conducted online in Canvas <http://utpb.instructure.com>

Course Description

Course Catalog Description:

A study of selected works by Twentieth Century Mexican authors.

Prerequisites:

SPAN 3301 or SPAN 3302 for majors and minors. Students from other disciplines with instructor's approval.

Course Overview

The course emphasizes the cultural diversity of Mexicans and Mexican Americans. Through psychological, sociological, and historical perspectives, we will explore the intersections of identity, place, and history. Historical events and social movements that shape identity, stories, and memories as reflected in literary texts and films will be analyzed and discussed. We will examine concepts of race, gender, migration, social class, cultural exchange and appropriation, globalization, etc. Class is conducted in Spanish.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate literal and inferential comprehension of literary texts in short analytical papers.
- Describe, analyze, and express the factors that determine identity as reflected in literature and film in short analytical papers, class discussion, and forums.
- Express interpretive questions and opinions on texts in class discussions and discussion forums.
- Generate focused, unified and well-developed short analytical papers and a final paper.
- Use appropriate literary terminology in analyzing the various forms of popular literature.
- Relate the sub-genres of the given literature to their cultural, social, and political context.

- Use various methods of literary analysis, such as formal, psychological, and/or feminist analysis.
- Demonstrate how popular literature reflects the concerns and prejudices of its own time.

Materials

Recommended Materials: Supplemental readings and videos will be available in Canvas.

Important Academic Dates

Check the UTPB Academic Calendar at utpb.edu

GRADING

Short Analytical Papers	30%	
Video Presentation		10%
Active Participation	10%	
Discussion Forums	10%	
Final Paper	20%	
Virtual Sessions	20%	
Total		100%

Course Overview

Short Analytical Papers:

These assignments are designed to help you think critically about the course's readings. They will involve reading the assigned texts and answering specific questions about them or write a short literary essay. They will serve as the base for oral participation and discussion in class. They will also serve as a guide for the kind of questions you should be asking yourself when preparing for the research essay. Assignments will be turned in during class and/or submitted via Canvas. The evaluation criteria for these assignments will be available to you. Because of the demanding pace of this course, it is essential that you stay up to date with your readings and with the assignments. Late assignments lose one letter grade for each day that they are late. Assignments may be shared with other class members for peer editing, group projects, and class discussion.

Video Presentation:

Students are required to prepare one oral presentation throughout the course. (Dates, topics and instructions will be posted in Canvas). All students will prepare one report on a topic assigned by the professor.

Active Participation:

Students must be active by signing in Canvas at least 3 times per week, submit assignments via Canvas before the deadline, contact the professor with questions and comments, read and follow the instructor's feedback.

Discussion Forums:

A topic related to the course theme will be discussed in Canvas. Students are expected to offer comments, questions, and replies to the discussion question as well as to classmates' postings. For each graded discussion question, first, you must respond to the question directly and second, you must read the other students posts and react to at least 3 other students' responses.

Final Papers:

Students will develop a final analytical paper in which you will demonstrate your skills at the close analytical reading of one literary text. MLA Format is required.

Virtual Sessions:

The professor will teach one virtual session per module. Students may attend the session for direct contact or may watch the class recording later and submit a class report.

Grading Scale:

Note: Major students must obtain a grade of C to pass the course.

Grade Range	Letter Grade
90 and above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
Less than 59	F

Communication, Grading & Feedback:

The best way to contact me is via:

1. E-mail/Canvas Inbox abrego_p@utpb.edu
2. In my office during my office hours.

Students are responsible for maintaining progress of their own grades through the semester. The instructor will only calculate final grades when the course ends.

Communication, Grading & Feedback: I will be available by email. Emails will be responded within 48 hours. Graded assignments will be returned, and feedback will be provided one week after the deadline. You can check your grades by going to the **GradeBook**. If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me immediately.

Time Management: A student should expect to spend three hours on preparation and learning assignments for every semester credit hour. If a class is a 3-semester credit hour class, it is expected that a student should spend about 8-10 hours per week to obtain an "A" in a class. It is important to develop a Time Management Plan to be successful.

Policies

1. **Discussion Board:** Discussion Board is primarily for discussing course related topics and issues.

Best practices are:

- a. Read all message postings in online discussion.
 - b. Respond to the question as directed in the instructions.
 - c. Reply according to the rubric of that forum.
 - d. Use a person's name in the body of your message when you reply to their message.
 - e. Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc.
 - f. Ensure responses to questions are meaningful, reflective.
 - g. Support statements with concepts from course readings, refer to personal experience, examples.
 - h. Follow Rules of Behavior.
2. **Rules of Behavior:** Discussion areas are public to every student in this class (including your instructor) who will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:
 - a. Do not post anything too personal.
 - b. Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in regard to gender, race, or ethnicity.
 - c. Do not use all caps in the message box unless you are emphasizing (it is considered shouting).
 - a. Be courteous and respectful to other people on the list
 - b. Do not overuse acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some of the list participants may not be familiar with acronyms.
 - c. Use line breaks and paragraphs in long responses.
 - d. Write your full name at the end of the posting.
 - e. Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.

2. **Make-Up/Late Submission Policy:**

All course activities must be submitted before or on set due dates and times. If the student is unable to abide by the due dates and times, it is her/his responsibility to contact the instructor immediately and before the due date. No late work will be accepted. There are no extra assignments for extra credits in this course.

3. Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating:

The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Any suspicion of academic dishonesty will be reported and investigated. A student who engages in scholastic dishonesty that includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an "F" for the course.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. For complete information on UTPB student conduct and discipline procedures consult the [University's Handbook: Scholastic Dishonesty](#).

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor, or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

4. **Attendance and Class Participation:** Regular and active participation is an essential, unmistakably important aspect of this online course. Students will log on a minimum of three times every seven days. All students are expected to do the work assigned, notify the instructor when emergencies arise.
5. **Tracking:** The learning management systems have a tracking feature. Statistics are collected that quantifies how often and when students are active in the course and provides information if the student has accessed different pages of the course.
6. **Absenteeism:** All the course activities have set dates to be completed and submitted. After the due dates the activities will not be available for the students. Not logging into an online course is considered absenteeism. Contact instructor immediately in case of emergency medical situation.

7. Course Incomplete/Withdrawal/Grade Appeal:

All students are required to complete the course within the semester they are signed up. Incomplete grades for the course are rarely given, will only be granted if the student provides a valid, documented excuse for not being able to complete the course on time, and has contacted the instructor prior to the scheduled last class to request an extension. The student signs a contract that includes the incomplete course activities and the new due dates.

Find information and dates regarding drops and withdrawals consult the University Handbook: [Drops and Withdrawals](#) and [Appeal Process](#).

NOTE: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.

8. **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students with Disabilities:** The University of Texas Permian Basin in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities. Only those students, from whom an instructor has received an official Letter of Accommodation (LOA) sent by the Office of ADA for Students, will be provided ADA academic accommodations.

ADA Officer for Students: Mrs. Chermæe Peel

Address: Mesa Building 4242/4901 E. University, Odessa, Texas 79762

Voice Telephone: 432-552-3395

Email: ada@utpb.edu For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within courses, go to [Accessibility and Privacy Statements](#).

Computer Skills, Technical & Software Requirements

Required skills: Students will need to create word, power point processing documents and voice recordings, save files, submit files.

Students can use cloud version of Word, PowerPoint and other Microsoft products through use of their UTPB Outlook 365 and UTPB email address. For more information refer to [UTPB Office 365 Page](#).

Computer Technical Requirements

See [Technical Requirements](#).

For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within courses, go to [Accessibility and Privacy Statements](#).

End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student is encouraged to complete an end-of-course evaluation/survey provided by UTPB. During the last few weeks of class, you will receive an announcement through email

notifying you that the Course/Instructor Survey is available. You may follow the link in the email to complete the survey using the same credentials to access your courses here. When entering the emailed Survey link, you will see a list of surveys for you to complete. Another way to find End-of-Course Evaluations is through you my.utpb.edu account > My Surveys & Evaluations are on the first page after you log in.

The survey is anonymous, and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Student Support Services

SERVICE	CONTACT
ADA Accommodation/Support	Testing Services & Academic Accommodations Department (432) 552-2630
Advising	UTPB E-Advisor (432) 552-2661 UTPB Academic Advising Center
Bookstore	UTPB Campus Bookstore (432) 552-0220
Email, Outlook 365, my.utpb.edu	Information Resources Division (IRD)
Financial Aid and Scholarship	UTPB Financial Aid (432) 552-2620
Library	The J. Conrad Dunagan Library Online at (432) 552-2370
Registrar	UTPB Registrar (432) 552-2635
Student Services	Dean of Students (432) 552-2600
Technical Support	Canvas 1-866-437-0867
Tutoring & Learning Resources	If you are taking courses through UTPB the following links provide services: Smarthinking Online Tutoring (provides tutoring services), SmarterMeasure (measures learner readiness for online course).

Disclaimer & Rights

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the

instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.

Copyright Statement

Many of the materials that are posted within UTPB courses are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for the purpose of the course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

Content

MODULE 1: Teorías sobre la identidad, la identidad del mexicano, la mexicanidad, el rol de género en la identidad. (Octavio Paz, Roger Bartra, Antonio Caso, José Vasconcelos, Samuel Ramos).

MODULE 2: La Revolución y la Posrevolución. La novela y el cine de la revolución. La época de industrialización y el programa bracero.

MODULE 3: Los 60s y 70s. El Boom y el Posboom. El movimiento hippie, la literatura de la onda. Los movimientos sociales estudiantiles.

MODULE 4: Las últimas décadas del Siglo XX y los inicios del Siglo XXI. La novela del Crack. Los inicios de la tecnología. El intercambio y la apropiación cultural.

MODULE 5: La identidad mexicana en los Estados Unidos. El pachuco y el Movimiento Chicano.