

Department of Foreign Languages  
Moravian College  
Spanish 155: Reading and Culture  
“Art, Literature and Culture from Spain and Latin America”  
MWF 12:50pm to 1:40pm Comenius 304  
Fall 2008

Professor Claudia Mesa  
Phone: (610) 861-1397  
Office: Comenius 406  
Email: [cmesa@moravian.edu](mailto:cmesa@moravian.edu)  
Office hours: MWF 1:45-2:45 pm and by appointment.

### **Course Description**

Spanish 155 offers an exciting portrait of Spain and Latin America through the study of essays, short stories, films, music and paintings. In this course students not only refine their language skills, but also acquire a better understanding of the culture, history and literature of the Spanish-speaking world.

### **Goals**

- Promote your interest in the literature and culture of the Spain and Latin America
- Identify areas of interest for future courses and/or undergraduate research (honors, independent studies and SOAR projects)
- Read, understand, and analyze short stories and chitical essays in Spanish
- Write critically, concisely, and clearly in Spanish
- Work on the development of a thesis statement and supportive evidence
- Familiarize yourself with the most important databases in the field of Spanish literature
- Communicate with sophistication and ease in spoken Spanish about the class topics

### **Requiered Text**

Mejía, Claudia M. and Conchita L. Davis. *Miradas: Contextos para conversar y escribir*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2008.

Other materials will be posted on Blackboard <http://blackboard.moravian.edu/>. Please set up and account and enroll yourself in this course after our first meeting. Look for READING & CULTURE (SPAN155.FA08)

### **Reference Books**

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003.

*Diccionario de la lengua española*. Real Academia Española. 22nd. ed. Madrid: Espasa Calpe, 2001.

You can find a free online version at: <http://buscon.rae.es/draeI/>. Select: *Búsqueda sin signos diacríticos*. If the word is a verb, you will be able to see all the conjugations.

Other Electronic Dictionaries:

Diccionario español-inglés/inglés-español <http://www.wordreference.com/>  
Diccionarios de sinónimos y antónimos <http://tradu.scig.uniovi.es/sinon.cgi>  
<http://www.elmundo.es/diccionarios>

\*If you are student requiring learning assistance, I will be happy to accommodate you. I recommend you contact Mr. Joe Kempfer in the Office of Learning Services (Ext. 1510) or Dr. Ronald Kline in the Counseling Center. Also, feel free to talk to me directly.

### **Course requirements and evaluation**

**1. Attendance.** You need to come to class and be on time. 0-2 absences will not be penalized, but may affect class performance. More than two absences will result in a lowering of the final grade by one point for every additional absence. Please turn off your cell phone before entering the class.

**2. Papers.** Students will write three short papers (2-3 pages) and one research paper in based on a primary source (a short story, a film, a poem) following the MLA guidelines. The research paper must be at least five pages long and should include a list of works cited. Papers are due at the beginning of class, and may not send them via e-mail. Please be aware that content and grammar will be considered when grading these assignments.

**3. Exams.** There will be two exams during the semester.

**4. Grammar presentation.** Students will have the opportunity to prepare a grammar lesson to the rest of the class on the dates specified on the syllabus.

**5. Homework.** Homework will include a variety of readings and exercises such as short response journals, debate preparation, and thesis development activities. I will collect homework at least twice during the semester usually on the day of an exam. According to the quality of your homework you will receive one of the following grades: *High Pass / Pass* or *No Pass*.

**6. Class participation.** Students are expected to come to class having prepared all materials assigned. In class, students must participate actively speaking in group activities and class discussions. Starting with Spanish 150 students are required to assist at least three times during the semester to an event organized by the Spanish Club such as the Spanish Table, featured films, talks, museum visits and other cultural activities. These activities are part of your participation grade. The complete participation guidelines are posted on Blackboard.

As a general rule for this class, no late assignments will be accepted and that make-up exams will be given in extremely unusual circumstances.

### **Academic Honesty**

It is your responsibility to make sure you are familiar with the Policy on Academic Honesty at Moravian College. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. For detailed information, please consult the following website:

<http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic2.htm>

### **Final Course Grade**

Short essays (3)	30%	Grammar presentation	10%
Long essay	15%	Participation	10%
Exams (2)	30%	Homework	5%

### **Letter Grades**

<b>A</b>	94-100	<b>B</b>	83-86	<b>C</b>	73-76	<b>D</b>	63-66
<b>A-</b>	90-93	<b>B-</b>	80-82	<b>C-</b>	70-72	<b>D-</b>	60-62
<b>B+</b>	87-89	<b>C+</b>	77-79	<b>D+</b>	67-69	<b>F</b>	0-59

Spanish 155  
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Prof. Mesa

**PROGRAMA DEL CURSO**  
(This program subject to change)  
*Last revised August 7, 2008*

**Semana 1**

- Agosto 25 Presentación del curso  
Augusto Monterroso, “La rana que quería ser auténtica” (4-5)
- Agosto 27 Frida Kahlo, Las dos Fridas (2-4)
- Agosto 29 Gloria Fuertes, “Geografía humana” (6-12)

**Semana 2**

- Sept. 1 **No hay clase** (Labor Day)
- Sept. 3 Manuel Castells, “El poder de la identidad” (13-20)
- Sept. 5 Elena Poniatowska, “La casita de sololoi”

**Semana 3**

- Sept. 8 María Luisa Bemberg, De eso no se habla (35-38)
- Sept. 10 Gramática: Cláusulas relativas y pronombres relativos (38-43)
- Sept. 12 Guamán Poma de Ayala, ilustraciones de Nueva corónica y buen gobierno (50-51)  
Entregar reporte escrito #1 (Resumen de “El poder de la identidad”)

**Semana 4**

- Sept. 15 Miquel Rodrigo Alsina, “¿Cuál es la diferencia entre pluriculturalidad e interculturalidad?” (51-54)
- Sept. 17 Tino Villanueva, “Cuento del cronista” (54-63)
- Sept. 19 José Martí, Fragmento de “Nuestra América” (64-71)

**Semana 5**

- Sept. 22 Workshop at Reeves: Citing sources according to the MLA style  
Databases for Latin American Studies
- Sept. 24 Rosario Aguilar, “La niña blanca y los pájaros sin pies” (72-80)

- Sept. 26 Susana Baca, “Caracunde” (80-84)
- Semana 6**
- Sept. 29 Gramática: Tiempos pasados: Pretérito e imperfecto; pluscuamperfecto (84-90)
- Octubre 1 Taller de redacción: La narración (90-94)
- Octubre 3 **Examen 1** (unidades 1-2)
- Semana 7**
- Octubre 6 **No hay clase** (Receso de otoño)
- Octubre 8 Brigada Ramona Parra, Mural del Estadio Víctor Jara (96-97)  
Eduardo Galeano, “La memoria porfiada” (98-99)  
Entregar reporte escrito #2: Una narración (94)
- Octubre 10 Fernando Birri, “Los desaparecidos” (100-105)
- Semana 8**
- Octubre 13 Gioconda Belli, “De las implicaciones del poder y de cómo el amor me hizo perder la cabeza” (Managua, 1979) (105-117)
- Octubre 15 Gioconda Belli, “De las implicaciones del poder y de cómo el amor me hizo perder la cabeza” (Managua, 1979) (105-117)
- Octubre 16 (*Jueves*) **Movies at Monocacy: Nueve Reinas**, Dir. Fabián Bielinsky  
7:00pm at Prosser Auditorium
- Octubre 17 El Subcomandante Marcos, “Un año del ejército zapatista” (117-29)
- Semana 9**
- Octubre 20 El Subcomandante Marcos, “Un año del ejército zapatista” (117-29)
- Octubre 22 Gramática: El subjuntivo en cláusulas nominales; secuencia de tiempos (134-40)
- Octubre 24 Yolanda López, “Portrait of the Artist as the Virgin of Guadalupe” (148)  
Marjorie Agostín, “Las dulces señoras” (151-157)
- Semana 10**
- Octubre 27 Nieves García Benito, “Naranjas rojas y amargas” (157-167)
- Octubre 29 Álvaro Mutis, “El incidente de Maiquetía o ‘Isaac salvado de las jaulas’” (168-79)
- Octubre 31 Álvaro Mutis, “El incidente de Maiquetía o ‘Isaac salvado de las jaulas’” (168-79)

**Semana 11**

Nov. 3 Pedro Almodóvar, Todo sobre mi madre (179-182)

Nov. 5 Gramática: Cláusulas con *si* (183-86)

Nov. 7 Taller de redacción: Una reseña (141-146)

**Semana 12**

Nov. 10 Gabriel García Márquez, “Fantasía y creación artística en América Latina y el Caribe” (195-208)

Entregar reporte escrito #3: Reseña de una película

Nov. 12 Gabriel García Márquez, “Fantasía y creación artística en América Latina y el Caribe” (195-208)

Nov. 14 Griselda Gambaro, Decir sí (216-229)

**Semana 13**

Nov. 17 Griselda Gambaro, Decir sí (216-229)

Nov. 19 Gramática: Cláusulas adverbiales (232-37)

Nov. 21 **Examen 2 (Unidades 3-5)**

**Semana 14**

Nov. 24 Fernando Pérez, La vida es silvar (229-32)

Nov. 26-28 **No hay clases** (Día de Acción de Gracias)

**Semana 15**

Dic. 1 Taller de escritura: tesis e ideas de apoyo (teoría)

Dic. 3 Taller de escritura: Formato y bibliografía

Dic. 5 Taller de escritura: tesis e ideas de apoyo (práctica)

**Semana 16**

Dic. 8 Consultas individuales (opcional)

Dic. 9 Entrega de ensayos y presentaciones individuales. Debes estar preparado/a para hacer una breve presentación de tu proyecto al resto de la clase.