

# Spanish 241

## Sound and Sight: Verbal and Visual Narratives in the Hispanic World

Fall 2015

Meeting Times: MW 8:55am-10:05am

Place: PPHAC 301

Dept. of Modern Languages &  
Literatures Moravian College

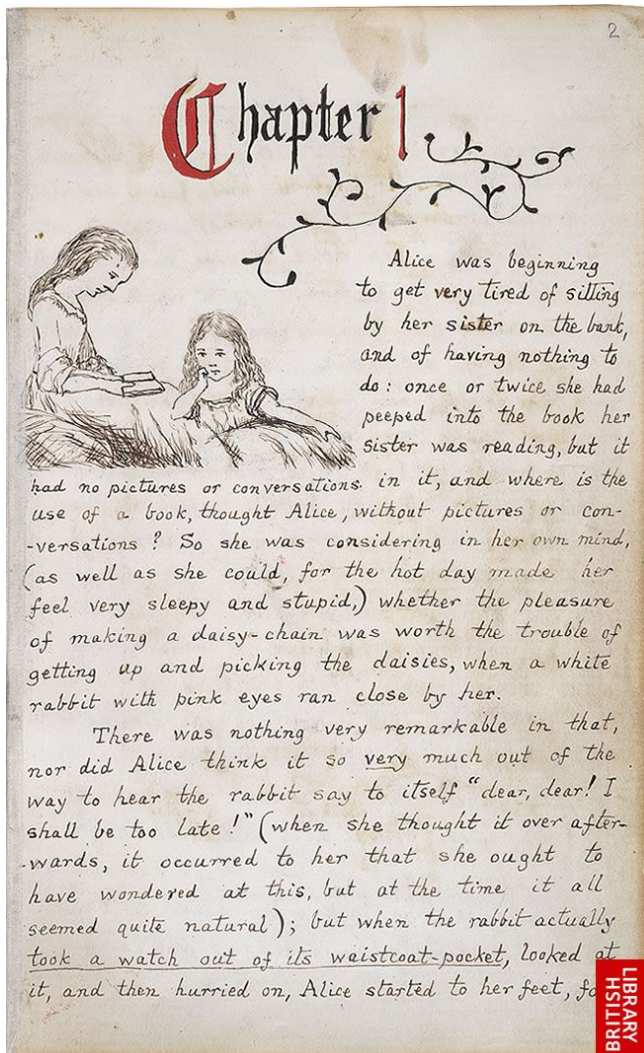
Professor: Claudia Mesa, Ph.D.

E-Mail: mesac@moravian.edu

Phone: (610) 861-1397

Office: Comenius Hall 406

Office Hours: MW 11:35am-1:00pm  
and by appointment



"Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, 'and what is the use of a book,' thought Alice, 'without pictures or conversations?'"

Lewis Carroll

Photo Credit: TheGuardian.com

## Course Description and Pre-requisites

We will study key verbal and visual narratives that have shaped the Hispanic tradition from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present. The course combines Hispanic literature and film that deal with gender and power issues, ethical questions and artistic appreciation. Special attention will be given to critical thinking and interpretation, speaking and writing skills. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish.

Pre-requisites: SP 210 & 215. May be taken concurrently with SP 210 with instructor permission.

## Goals

- Foster your interest in the literature and culture of Spain and Latin America and provide an awareness of its diversity.
- Identify areas of interest for future courses and/or undergraduate research (honors, independent studies).
- Read, understand, and analyze a wide range of texts in Spanish
- Write critically, concisely, and clearly in Spanish.
- Work on the development of a thesis statement and supportive evidence.
- Communicate with sophistication and ease in spoken Spanish about the class topics through formal presentations and class discussion.
- Familiarize yourself with the *MLA Handbook* and the *MLA Style*.
- Familiarize yourself with the most important databases in the field of Spanish literature.

## Required Texts and Online Materials

James C. Courtad, Kathryn Everly and Martín Gaspar. *Intrigas: Advanced Spanish Through Literature and Film*. Boston, Massachusetts: Vista Higher Learning, 2012.

Supplementary materials will be posted on Blackboard. Please visit the links below and enroll in this class promptly after our first meeting.

<http://blackboard.moravian.edu/>. Look for: **SPAN241.FA15: Literature of Spain and Latin America**.

→ In order to see some of the films you need to install the following software. Please do so immediately after our first class to prevent technical difficulties.

## Time Commitment

You should expect to dedicate at least two hours of study and preparation outside of class for every hour of class time, for a *minimum* total of 7 hours per week. You may need to spend more time than that to adequately prepare for class and complete assignments. Remember that learning is a gradual, cumulative process. You will have the greatest success and see the most long-term gain from consistent, daily work.

## Policy on Late Assignments

Please note that late assignments will be penalized and make-up exams, papers, presentations or other work will be only given only in very unusual circumstances. If accepted, late work will lose 10 points per day, starting at the time of class.

All Swank films require Silverlight software in order to stream. Silverlight can be downloaded for free from this site:

<http://www.microsoft.com/getsilverlight/>

After installing Silverlight, computers using a **Windows** operating system (PCs), should use the following browsers to view the films: Firefox and Internet Explorer (Chrome does not work).

On the **MacBook**, after installing Silverlight, please use Firefox only to view the films. (Internet Explorer, Chrome, and Safari do not work).

For problems installing Silverlight or using browsers, please contact CIT's help desk.

For additional questions about Swank, please contact Angela Cortez:

[corteza@moravian.edu](mailto:corteza@moravian.edu)

## Other Useful On-line Resources

Diccionario de la Real Academia de la Lengua Española

<http://lema.rae.es/drae/>

Diccionario español-inglés/inglés-español

<http://www.wordreference.com/>

## Learning Assistance and Accommodations for a Disability

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability must contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of academic support services for academic and disability support, at the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. I will be willing to accommodate you but please remember that accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

## Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. They will be handled according to the Moravian policy on Academic Honesty. If you cheat you will be given a grade of zero for that assignment or a

## Spanish Club

I highly recommend that you attend the various activities organized by the **Spanish Club** that meets **Mondays at 3:00pm** (location TBA). Some of those activities include the Salsa Night, International Poetry Night, the Spanish Cup, and cultural trips to New York and Philadelphia. They are an excellent way to get involved in the language and the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Please note that you don't need to be a Spanish speaker person to participate in the Club.

¡Todos y todas son bienvenidos!

failing grade in the course. You will also be reported to the Dean of Students and “a copy of the record [will remain] in the Division of Student Affairs until the student completes the degree or certification program.” Also, please note that, “When writing creative or research papers in a foreign language, students may not use electronic translation services. Utilizing such tools without express permission of the instructor constitutes plagiarism. The use of electronic dictionaries for single-word inquiries or short idiomatic expressions is permissible at the discretion of professors in the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures.” For detailed information please see the *Student Handbook*:

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

## Evaluation Guidelines

1. *Attendance, Participation and Homework.* Students are expected to arrive prepared to participate in all class activities by having read the assigned work and completed all assignments. Participation should be in Spanish. I expect full commitment on your part to make this class work. Simply being present is not considered active participation. Participation involves collaborating in-group activities, volunteering answers, asking questions and engaging in class discussions. You need to come to class and be on time. Every absence over two, regardless of the reasons, will result in a lowering of the final grade by one point. Please turn off your cell phone before entering the class and put it away. If you use your cell phone during class—including text messaging—I will ask you to leave the room. Arriving late to class (5 minutes) and constantly leaving the room, also affects class performance.

The complete participation guidelines are posted on Blackboard under “Información del curso.” Please review this document after our first meeting.

2. *Papers and Annotated Bibliography.* You will write a series of short papers (*microensayos*) and final research paper. You should expect to hand in at least one *microensayo* per week. Please be aware that I will ask you to revise your papers and work on drafts. You should focus not only in the mechanics of writing but also on the development of a thesis statement and supportive evidence. All papers should follow the MLA guidelines and must include a list of works cited. No late papers will be accepted without penalty. As a way to

## Hispanic Heritage Month

This is an exciting time to be studying Spanish at the college. Please join us in the celebrations surrounding this event.

There is a mandatory lecture by **Sonia Nazario**, author of *Enrique's Journey*, a national bestselling book that recounts the quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States.



*Illustration Credit: Sarah Williamson.*

The lecture will be on **September 28 at 7:00pm** (Foy Hall). Please plan accordingly.

prepare for your final research paper, you should start to work on an annotated bibliography. Details about this assignment will be posted on Blackboard.

4. *Oral Presentation*. Each of you will have the opportunity to lead a portion of one class. Details will be posted on Blackboard and discussed in class.

## Overall Grade Distribution

Participation	15%
Homework	10%
Short papers ( <i>microensayos</i> )	30%
Oral presentation	15%
Final paper	20%
Annotated bibliography	10%

## Letter Grades

<b>A</b> 93-100	<b>B</b> 83-86	<b>C</b> 73-76	<b>D</b> 63-66
<b>A-</b> 90-92	<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 Writer José Ovejero



*Photo Credit: Jolt Down*

This semester José Ovejero, recipient of the prestigious *Premio Alfaguara de Novela 2013*, will be in the Lehigh Valley. We will have the opportunity to talk to him and hear about his work in person. This event will take place in Lafayette College on October 15, 2015. Details TBA.

## Spanish 241: Class Calendar

- Please note that the Course Calendar is subject to change. Changes will be announced in advance.
- The page numbers in parenthesis correspond to *Intrigas*. All other materials can be found on Blackboard.

### Week 1

- Aug. 31      Introducción al curso  
Teoría literaria: Judith Ryan, “How to Read a Poem”
- Sept. 2      Poemas: Alfonsina Storni, “Tú me quieres blanca” (18-23),  
“Peso ancestral”, “La loba”

### Week 2

- Sept. 7      Cuento: Ángeles Mastretta, “Cine y malabarismo” (10-17)\*
- Sept. 9      Película: Pedro Almodóvar, *Volver* (España: 2006) 121 min.

### Week 3

- Sept. 14      Cuento: Luisa Valenzuela, “Los censores” (54-61)\*
- Sept. 16      Poema: Pablo Neruda, “Explico algunas cosas” (62-69)

### Week 4

- Sept. 21      Teoría literaria: Christian Rogowski, “How to Read a Play”  
Teatro: Federico García Lorca, *La casa de Bernarda Alba* (70-78)\*
- Sept. 23      Teatro: Federico García Lorca, *La casa de Bernarda Alba* (79-88)

### Week 5

- Sept. 28      Ensayo: Julio Cortázar, “Algunos aspectos del cuento”  
Cuento: Julio Cortázar, “Casa tomada”\*  
→ **Mandatory Lecture:** Sonia Nazario (Foy Hall: 7:00pm)
- Sept. 30      Cuento: Julio Cortázar, “La noche boca arriba” (114-125)

## Week 6

*Midterm*

Oct. 5 Cuento: José Ovejero: “Julia, Pablo y el cubo de Rubik”

Oct. 7 Cuento: José Ovejero, “Las penas del infierno”

## Week 7

Oct. 10-12 **Receso de Otoño**

Oct. 14 Cuento: José Ovejero: “Los compañeros de viaje”

Oct. 15 → **Mandatory Event:** José Ovejero’s at Lafayette College

## Week 8

Oct. 19 Cuentos: Julio Cortázar, “Carta a una señorita en París”

Oct. 21 Ensayo: Horacio Quiroga, “Decálogo del perfecto cuentista”

Cuento: Horacio Quiroga, “El hijo” (126-135)

## Week 9

Oct. 26 Cuento: Horacio Quiroga, “La gallina degollada”

Oct. 28 Película: Juan José Campanella, *El hijo de la novia* (Argentina / España: 2001) 123 min. (140-147)

## Week 10

*Last Day for Withdrawal with W Friday, November 6.*

Nov. 2 Cuento: Gabriel García Márquez, “La prodigiosa tarde de Baltazar” (148-159)

Nov. 4 Cuento: Juan Rulfo, “No oyes ladrar los perros” (160-167)

## Week 11

Nov. 9 Pedro Almodóvar, *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (España: 1988) 90 min. (188-193)

Nov. 11 Alejandro Zambra, “Término excluido” y “Comprensión de lectura”

## Week 12

- Nov. 16 Cuento: Jorge Luis Borges, “El Sur”  
Ensayo: “El escritor argentino y la tradición” (fragmentos)
- Nov. 18 Cuento: Jorge Luis Borges, “Emma Zunz” (200-209) , “El milagro secreto”

## Week 13

- Nov. 23 Película: Carlos Carrera, *El crimen del padre Amaro* (México / España / Argentina / Francia: 2002) 118 min. (232-239)
- Nov. 24-29 **Thanksgiving Recess**

## Week 14

- Nov. 30 Novela: Mario Vargas Llosa, *Elogio de la madrastra* (218-227) (fragmentos)  
→ **Annotated bibliography due**
- Dec. 2 Taller de escritura

## Week 15

- Dec. 3 Taller de escritura
- Dec. 5 Poemas: Jorge Luis Borges, : “Dreamtigers” , “El otro tigre”  
→ **Final essay due**