What is literature? What does the literary do? This course, conducted in Spanish, is designed to introduce students to the study of Hispanic literature, while the same time dealing with concepts which can be applied to all literature. We will analyze Hispanic literature understood in its broadest sense, touching upon significant works, genres, movements, and authors from Spain and Latin America.

Spanish 0055 counts as a departmental writing-intensive course for the writing requirement. Writing-intensive courses (W-courses) are designed to teach writing within a discipline through writing assignments that are distributed across the entire term. In these courses, students will produce at least 20-24 pages of written work. A significant portion of this work should be substantially revised in response to instructor feedback and class discussion.


Any other required texts will be posted on the course website.

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Recognize and discuss various major texts and movements of Spanish and Latin American literature
- Understand and use terminology and methods of literary criticism
• Close-read literature in Spanish and engage critically with its historical, social, and cultural context
• Produce analytical essays in Spanish that situate an original argument in a critical and historical framework.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

**Class attendance, participation, and preparation:** 20%. Since the majority of class time will be dedicated to discussion, you are expected to attend every class and to participate consistently, actively, and thoughtfully. Quality is more important than quantity. Active participation also means listening to and encouraging classmates and building upon their questions and comments.

**Homework:** In order to participate effectively in class, it is necessary to have prepared thoroughly in advance and to bring your readings and notes to class. Each day, you are expected to have done the assigned readings. This includes taking notes on them, looking up unfamiliar words, rereading them if necessary for comprehension, and making note of any comprehension or discussion questions you may want to pose to the professor or your classmates. The questions from the *Cuestionario* section following each reading are not graded unless otherwise noted, but you should have read through them and considered their possible answers, since you may be asked to discuss them in class. Any other homework may be assigned in class and posted on CourseWeb, and its satisfactory completion will be a part of the weekly participation grade. Occasional in-class reading quizzes may also count toward the weekly participation grade as confirmation of preparation. Failure to thoroughly prepare for class as outlined here will negatively affect your weekly participation grade.

**Reading journals (diarios de lectura):** 20%. Every Wednesday unless otherwise noted, you will be expected to submit a reading journal, which is a written response to one or two of the readings from that week. These brief (1- or 2-paragraph, up-to-1-page) essays are an opportunity for you to exercise your close-reading and literary analysis skills in preparation for longer writing assignments. The *Temas* sections in the Prose and Drama units of the textbook and the *Cuestionario* sections of the Poetry unit may serve as prompts, but feel free to explore the questions and themes that interest you most in the readings. These journal entries may be an excellent starting point for your unit papers or final paper. Up to two creative entries are permitted. Occasionally these journals will be written in class. The *diario* that receives the lowest grade will be dropped.

**Unit essays (composiciones):** 30% (10% each). At the end of each course unit, you will write a short (2- to 3-page) analytical essay on one or more of the texts studied in that unit. These unit papers may build upon one of your reading journals and should propose and support an argument based on a close-reading of the text(s) in question. The third unit paper will be written in class.

**Final paper (trabajo final):** 30%. Paper of 4-6 pages, written in stages, all of which count toward the grade: a proposal, a first draft, and a final version. This paper, which may be based on the weekly journals or a unit essay, will analyze one or two of the works studied in class in depth, make an original argument, and support the argument with a close-reading of the text and 2-4 secondary sources.
Please note the **course format**: Class will be conducted entirely in Spanish and all written work will be submitted in Spanish. Class meets twice weekly for seventy-five minutes. Our modus operandi will be that of a seminar, with up to twenty minutes per session of interactive lecture, and the remaining time for discussion or writing as a class or in smaller groups.

**Attendance** to class is mandatory. With the exception of absences due to officially documented university-related activities, university-recognized religious observances, serious illness or emergency, you are permitted to miss one class. After the first absence, each absence will deduct 1 percent (1%) from your final grade. In case of documented absences, you have two class periods from the day you returned to class to submit to your instructor the original document excusing the absence. Arriving late and leaving early will affect your participation grade. If you miss class for any reason, you must make up all missed work and submit assignments. Late work will not be accepted without proper documentation of exceptional circumstances. There is no extra credit.

**Accessibility**: If you have special needs for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890, as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your needs and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. For more information, visit [http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drs/](http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drs/)

**Academic integrity**: Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, from the February 1974 Senate Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom reported to the Senate Council, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz or exam will be imposed. View the complete policy at [www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/02/02-03-02.html](http://www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/02/02-03-02.html)

To ensure academic integrity and stylistic coherence, all written work should carefully follow **MLA (Modern Language Association) style** for scholarly literary work, as outlined in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* and at [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01).

It is recommended that you visit the **Spanish Writing Center** (CL 1302B) throughout the semester for assistance with writing questions, which may include organization/preparation, style, vocabulary, and grammar, or for conversation practice. Please note, however, that tutors at the Writing Center are not your editors and are not permitted to write, edit, or correct any part of your written assignments for this course. An extensive outside help (SWC, Spanish-speaking friends and family, tutors, online translators, and other sources) is not permitted without prior approval.

Furthermore, you may be asked to submit written assignments via **Turnitin or a similar software**. Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of Turnitin.com page service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on the Turnitin.com site.
Email communication: Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to http://accounts.pitt.edu, log into your account, click on Edit Forwarding Addresses, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html.)

Inclusivity and privacy: As an educational institution and as an employer, Pitt values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, disability, or status as a veteran. For more information, visit http://cfo.pitt.edu/policies/documents/policy07-01-03web.pdf.

In this class, we use language—to the best of our abilities in a grammatically gendered language—that is gender-inclusive and non-sexist, that is, that affirms and respects how people describe, express, and experience their gender and other identities. Students may share their preferred pronouns (in English and/or in Spanish) and names, and these identities and expressions will be honored. These guidelines fulfill the best intentions of the University of Pittsburgh’s Non-Discrimination Policy: https://www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/07/07-01-03.html.

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion, and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor. Any such recording, properly approved in advance, may be used solely for the student’s own private use.

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**CALEDARIO DEL CURSO**

**Enero**

7/1 lunes: Presentación del curso.

PROSA

9/1 miércoles: Manuel, “Lo que sucedió a un mozo que casó con una muchacha de muy mal carácter.” Leer: pp. 24-25, 42-46

En clase: escribir diarios
16/1 miércoles: Las Casas, “Brevisima relación de la destrucción de las Indias.” Leer: pp. 386-87 y “Brevisima relación” (selecciones en CourseWeb)
Entrega: diarios

21/1 lunes: *Día de Martin Luther King, Jr. – no hay clase.*
No hay que entregar los diarios esta semana.

28/1 lunes: Martí, “Nuestra América.” Leer: pp. 389-390 y “Nuestra América” (CourseWeb)
30/1 miércoles: Parra, “Blanca Nieves y compañía.” Leer: pp. 53-58
Mini-taller de escritura: planear una composición
Entrega: diarios

Febrero
6/2 miércoles: Matute, “Pecado de omisión.” Leer: pp. 79-83
Entrega: diarios

11/2 lunes: Taller de escritura: revisión de la composición #1 en parejas
Entrega (en clase): primera versión de la composición #1

POESÍA
13/2 miércoles: Introducción a la poesía. Leer pp. 138-58
Entrega: versión final de la composición #1

Entrega: diarios

Entrega: diarios

Marzo
Entrega: diarios

11/3 lunes: *Vacaciones de primavera – no hay clase.*
13/3 miércoles: *Vacaciones de primavera – no hay clase.*
18/3 lunes: Reunión de la Renaissance Society of America – no hay clase.

Entrega: propuesta para el trabajo final

25/3 lunes: Taller de escritura: la investigación
Entrega: diarios

**Abril**

**TEATRO**

Entrega: composición #2.

Entrega: diarios

8/4 lunes: Cervantes, *El retablo de las maravillas* (CourseWeb).
Entrega: primera versión del trabajo final.

17/4 miércoles: En clase: escribir la composición #3.
No hay que entregar los diarios esta semana.

Fecha pendiente: Entrega: versión final del trabajo final.