Course title: Barcelona and the Latin American “Boom”
Language of instruction: English
Professor: Camilo Hoyos Gómez
Professor's contact and office hours:
Course contact hours: 45 h
Recommended credit: 3 US credits-5 ECTS credits
Course prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course
Language requirements: Good understanding of written Spanish

Course description: The course aims to study the cultural origins of the so-called *Boom Latinoamericano*, with special attention to the fact of Barcelona being the Iberian publishing capital that allowed and enhanced the diffusion of Latin American literature during the decade of the 1960’s. Throughout the reading and analysis of novels from 3 of its most representative authors (Julio Cortázar, Mario Vargas Llosa and Gabriel García Márquez) the course will establish, recognize and understand the motives than allowed the cultural and publishing doors of Spain and thus Europe to open to Latin American literary production.

Learning objectives:
At the end of this course the students will be able to:
- Identify the origin and main features of the Latin American literature of the *boom*.
- Understand the importance of the publishing market in regard to the literary piece of work.
- Understand the importance of Barcelona as the capital of mid XXth century publishing Spain.
- Make use of literary tools for the analysis and understanding of a novel/literary text.
- Understand the cultural relation between Spain and Latin America throughout the second half of the XX Century.

Course workload: Readings of excerpts from novels; lectures regarding literary analysis; active discussions; final paper.

Methods of instruction: The class is designed as a place for dialogue, discussion and participation. The professor will be responsible for presenting and setting up the course contents, but the development of such topics will demand the students’ active participation. Students will be asked to read the texts for the class beforehand so that there will always be a common topic for discussion. Furthermore, the course suggests a “meeting point” of the Spanish and English and, for this reason, classes will be given in English, but the readings will be done in the original language, which, in most of the cases, will be Spanish. The course will also schedule *field trips* to visit the most representative Barcelona cafes,
where mid XX Century Latin American as erll as Spanish and Catalan intellectuals met.

**Method of assessment:** Active participation in class and the development and presentation of the final paper/project will be evaluated.

- Participation: 20%
- Final paper proposal: 15%
- Final project: 25%
- Final Paper: 40%

**Absence policy:** Attendance to class is mandatory and will be daily monitored by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student’s final grade as it follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Penalization</th>
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<td>Up to two (2) absences</td>
<td>Two absences are permitted and not penalized.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three (3) absences</td>
<td>-1 point out of final grade (on a /10 scale)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four (4) absences</td>
<td>-2 points out of final grade (on a /10 scale)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five (5) absences or more</td>
<td>The student receives an INCOMPLETE for the course</td>
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The HESP attendance policy does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences. The student is responsible to manage his/her absences around the two permitted ones. Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director o the HESP.

**Classroom norms:**
- No food or drink is permitted in class
- Students will have a ten-minute break after one one- hour session

**Weekly schedule:**

**WEEK 1**
Latin American literature of the XX Century before the *boom*:
Paris, the Latin-American Destination and the foundations of latin american literary identity.
Reading: Wilson, Jason. “Spanish American Narrative, 1920-1970”

**WEEK 2**
The origins of *magical realism*: Alejo Carpentier and Surrealism.
**Readings:**
Excerpts from:
Carpentier, Alejo. “On the Marvelous Real in America” (1949)
________________. “The Baroque and the Marvelous Real” (1975)
WEEK 3
The reception of Juan Rulfo’s novel and short-story
Readings:
Excerpts from Rulfo, Juan. *Pedro Páramo*.
Gyurko, Lanin A. “Rulfo's Aesthetic Nihilism: Narrative Antecedents of Pedro Páramo”
Clark D'Lugo, Carol, “Pedro Páramo: The Reader's Journey through the Text”

WEEK 4
Rulfo’s short stories.
Readings:
Rulfo, *The Burning Plain and other Stories* [El llano en llamas]
Film Screening: *Padro Páramo*, Carlos Velo

WEEK 5
Carlos Barral and the Premio Biblioteca Breve of 1963: the arrival of Latin American Literature in Spain
Readings:
Excerpts from: Vargas Llosa, Mario. *The time of the Hero* [La ciudad y los perros]
Mayder Dravasa, “Seix-Barral: the birth of a publishing industry”.
Herrero-Olaizola, Alejandro, “Consuming Aesthetics: Seix Barral and José Donoso in the Field of Latin American Literary Production”

WEEK 6
Readings:
Excerpts from Cortázar, Julio *Hopscotch*.
Simpkins, Scott. "The Infinite Game": Cortázar's *Hopscotch*
Kerr, Lucille. “Interview: Julio Cortázar”

WEEK 7
*Cien años de soledad* by Gabriel García Márquez: the mythical Latin America.
Readings:
Excerpts from:
García Márquez, Gabriel. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
Boldy, Steven, “*One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez.”

WEEK 8
García Márquez’ life: inside and outside his fiction.
Readings:
Martin, Gerald. *Gabriel García Márquez: A Life*.
García Márquez, Gabriel. *Living to Tell the Tale*
WEEK 9

Conversación en la catedral by Mario Vargas Llosa: the dictatorship in Latin America.

Readings:
Excerpts from Vargas Llosa, Mario. Conversation in the Cathedral and The Dream of the Celt
Corral, Will H. “Cortázar, Vargas Llosa, and Spanish-American Literary History”
Sara Castro-Klarén, “Conversation in the Cathedral: Descent into Hell”

WEEK 10

Barcelona as the Latin American epicenter of the boom.

Readings:
Excerpts from Donoso, José. The boom in Spanish American literature: a personal history

WEEK 11

Field trip to locations where Latin American writers experienced Barcelona as the publishing capital of Spain.

(Last revision: November 2010)

Required readings:
- Course reading pack prepared by professor.
- Excerpts from mentioned novels.

Recommended bibliography:

General Bibliography:
Boldy, Steven, 2005. “One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel

Clark D'Lugo, Carol. 1987. “*Pedro Páramo*: The Reader's Journey through the Text”, *Hispania* Vol. 70, No. 3 (Sep., 1987), pp. 468-474


