Course title: Barcelona and the Latin American “Boom” in literature: Cortázar, García Márquez, Vargas Llosa.

Language of Instruction: English

Professor: Camilo Hoyos

Contact hours: 45h

Credits: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: none

Language prerequisites: 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 that allowed the cultural and publishing doors of Spain and thus Europe to open to Latin American literary production.

The importance of Carlos Barral as a publisher from Barcelona will be understood in the fact that the Premio Biblioteca Breve, awarded to Vargas Llosa’s *La Ciudad y los Perros* in 1963, allowed the arrival of Latin American literature in Europe.

Even if Latin American literature developed a set of themes and identity of its own starting from the late-XIXth century, during the XXth century it was still a creation from the publishing market. The course will support on the reading of literary, theoretical and biographical texts that will allow the recognition of the basis of the *Boom movement*, in literary as well as publishing grounds. Likewise, we will discuss the importance of Barcelona as a Spanish American publishing center, and the interaction between the authors of the *boom* and the city.

Academic goals:
- 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/iterary text.
-Understand the cultural relation between Spain and Latin America throughout the second half of the XX Century.

Syllabus:
1. Latin American literature of the XX Century before the boom.
2. The origins of magical realism: Alejo Carpentier and Surrealism.
2. The reception of Juan Rulfo’s Pedro Páramo.
5. Cien años de soledad by Gabriel García Márquez: the mythical Latin America.
6. Conversación en la catedral by Mario Vargas Llosa: the dictatorship in Latin America.
7. Barcelona as the Latin American epicenter of the boom.

Bibliography:
Vargas Llosa, Mario. La ciudad y los perros. Alfaguara, Madrid, 1997.
Hispanic and European Studies Program

This is a provisional version. The final version of the syllabus will be published soon

Assessment criteria:
Active participation in class and the development and presentation of the final paper/project will be evaluated.

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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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Teaching methodology:
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 erl as Spanish and Catalan intellectuals met.