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2019

### **Antillean Literature - Comparative Literature in the Spanish Antilles, Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico**

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*CUNY City College*

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# Antillean Literature LALS 22600

## Comparative Study of literature in the Spanish Antilles, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic

Professor: M. Romo-Carmona

Lecture: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:30-4:45 pm Fall 2019

Classroom: TBA. Program Office: NAC 6/108

Office Hours: Thursday 11:00am -12pm at NAC 6/331-C

Email: mromocarmona@ccny.cuny.edu



### Course Summary

This course will cover literature from Spanish Antilles and will be conducted in English. We will include a study of foundational texts in translation, from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, as well as contemporary works by Cuban, Dominican, and Puerto Rican authors.

### Required Reading

- Reading needs to be done *before* class.
- All required reading will be posted on Blackboard (Bb) and will be available for download for the duration of the course. Class discussion will require *specific reference* to these texts.
- Additional articles may be added during the course.
- Students are encouraged to supplement their reading with critical articles and primary texts, and to share these findings with the class.

### Learning Objectives

- To develop a broader understanding of literature from the Spanish Antilles, including historical and political context of principal writers, literary currents in relationship to global literature, and particular understanding of literary currents in Latin American literature.
- Exploration of literary currents in relationship to Puerto Rican, Dominican, and Cuban writers whose

work is in English.

- Exploration of the connections to the development of Latinx Literature in the U.S.

### Topics

- History of the Caribbean and the Spanish Antilles
- Literary Periods and Currents
- Literary Genres in Latin American Literature
- Gender and Race in Latin American Literature

### Course Schedule

- Aug. 27 – Introduction to the course. Conversation about Latin American literature in general and sociopolitical perspective of the literature in Spanish and English from the Greater Antilles: Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. Reading assignment for next class, posted on Bb.
- Aug. 29 – Overview of Caribbean Literature article.
- Sept. 3 – Romanticism, *Modernismo*, and other currents of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Felix Varela (1787-1853); José María Heredia 1803-1839. Anti-slavery narratives. Félix Tanco (1797-1871); Cirilo Villaverde (1812-1894);
- (Sept. 5 will be Monday sched.)
- Sept. 10 – Nation building, Latin American intellectuals, and figures of the Antillean Confederacy. Ramón Eleuterio Betances 1827-1898; Eugenio María de Hostos (1839-1903); Gregorio Luperón (1839-1897); José Martí 1853-1895
- Sept. 12 – Modernistas, Late-Romantic poetry. Fabio Fallo Cabral 1866-1942; José de Diego (1867-1918);
- Sept. 17 – Late-Romantic and patriotic poetry. Lola Rodríguez de Tió 1843-1924; Sotero Figueroa 1851-1923. **Paper Outline Due.**
- Sept 19 – Transition to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. José Martí (1853-1895); Arturo Alfonso Schomburg (1874-1938); Pedro Albizú Campos (1891-1965)
- Sept 24 – US-European Modernism. William Carlos Williams (1883-1963); Late Modernista and Afro-Latinidad; Negrista poetry. Nicolás Guillén (1902-1989)
- Sept. 26 - Eugenio Florit (1903-1999);
- Oct. 1 – Before the Boom. Alejo Carpentier (1904-1980) *Lo real maravilloso*. African-Haitian narrative.
- Oct. 3 – The US Diaspora. Julia de Burgos (1914-1953); Piri Thomas (1928-2011)
- Oct. 10 (No class Oct. 8 Yom Kippur)
- Oct. 15 – María Irene Fornés (1930); Nicholasa Mohr (1935)
- Oct. 17 - Luis Rafael Sánchez (1936); Rosario Ferré (1936-2016)
- Oct. 22 – **Midterm Exam**
- Oct. 24 – Pedro Pietri (1944-2004)
- Oct. 29 – Reinaldo Arenas (1943-1990); Nancy Morejón (1944)
- Oct. 31 - Chiqui Vicioso 1948; Tato Laviera (1950-2013) Nuyorican literary movement.
- Nov. 5 – Julia Alvarez (1950). 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Century language and literary bridges.
- Nov. 7 – Judith Ortiz Cofer (1952-2016). **First Draft of the Paper is due.**

- Nov. 12 - Ricardo Pau-Llosa (1954)
- Nov. 14 - Osiris Mosquea. Dominican poetry in Spanish in Nueva York.
- Nov. 19 – Achy Obejas (1956). Crossover cultures.
- Nov. 21 –Cristina García (1958)
- Nov. 26 - (Nov. 28 Thanksgiving)
- Dec. 3- Oscar Hijuelos (1951-2013)
- Dec. 5 - Charles Rice González. Urban Fiction and Theater.
- Dec. 10 - Angie Cruz (1972); Nelly Rosario (1972)
- Dec. 12 - Ana-Maurine Lara (1975); Ma. Teresa “Mariposa” Fernández (1977). **Final Paper is due.**
- Final Exam: Dec. 17, 3:30-5:45 pm To be confirmed

## Rubrics and City College’s Code of Academic Integrity

.Critical Paper: The CCNY Rubric for term papers is posted on Bb. This provides a clear guide to academic standards. Please remember that the work you produce is expected to be your own. If you submit work that has been copied from any published or unpublished source (online or print) without attribution or that has been prepared by someone other than you, or that in any way misrepresents somebody else's work as your own, you will face disciplinary action by the College. **This also applies to cheating on quizzes and exams. Once a test begins, students should remain to complete the work—leaving indicates you are finished and test grades will be based only on completed work. If you have any questions at all during the exam, ask the professor, not another student.**

It is expected that all students abide by the [City College’s Code of Academic Integrity](#) and refrain from any activity constitutive of academic dishonesty as defined therein. Please, read the Code at <http://www1.cuny.cuny.edu/upload/academicintegrity.pdf>. For additional information, consult with your professor in the event of any uncertainty on your part about what may constitute academic dishonesty.

### • Accessibility

In compliance with CCNY policy and equal access laws, appropriate accommodations are administered by AAC, the AccessAbility Center (NAC 1/218). Students who register with AAC, and are entitled to specific accommodations, must request that a written verification form is sent from AAC to the Professor that states what their accommodations are. If specific accommodations are required for a test, students inquire with AAC regarding an “Exam Administration Request Form” to be sent from AAC, **the week prior** to the test date in order to receive their accommodations.

- .Computers and other electronics **may** at times be allowed in class **only** for course-related purposes, as directed. Class discussions will require attention and engagement, as this is part of your participation grade. Distractions caused by use of devices, including not participating in class discussion or answering questions, will affect grades.
- Department Website <https://www.cuny.edu/latino/>
- Writing Support <https://www.cuny.edu/writing/writing-resources>
- Library & Research Support <http://library.cuny.edu/main/> and <https://www.cuny.edu/dsi/dominican-library>

**Assessment**1) Attendance and Participation: 10% Discussion Board 5%

Students will be expected to attend all class sections (5%), do all of the readings, and actively participate (5%) in class discussions. The Discussion Board on Bb is reserved for posting critical commentary based on the reading. A minimum of three (3) postings is required to receive a grade.

*You are allowed two unexcused absences.* With a third absence, the final grade will be lowered one grade (e.g. from B to B-). After 2 absences, illnesses or other events require documentation.

2) Examinations: 55%

Students will complete Midterm and Final Examinations consisting of short paragraph answers and essays in class. There will be surprise quizzes worth 1% point each. No make-up dates will be available.

Midterm: Oct. 22

Final Exam: Dec. 17, 3:30-5:45 pm To be confirmed

3) Writing (Critical Paper): 30% (draft 10%)

Students will select a literary text and write a critical paper of 8-10 pages. Students are expected to hand in an outline, first draft and final draft of the paper. The first draft of the essay should be four (4) pages in length and will be graded based on satisfactory or unsatisfactory progress. Students are then expected to follow suggestions and comments from first draft review and improve the quality of the paper for the final draft. The final paper grade will account for the quality of the paper's research, writing and relevancy to class topics. The City College rubric for critical essays is a very useful guideline—it is posted for you on Bb, under your course content. All versions of the term paper must be handed in person to the professor printed on paper. No electronic versions or emails with papers attached will be accepted.

Outline: Sept. 17.

Draft: Nov. 7

Final paper: Dec. 12