



LACS*6010 Latin American Identity & Culture

Fall 2020

Section(s): C01

School of Languages & Literatures

Credit Weight: 0.50

Given our unpredictable times, this course is planned as a Synchronous online course to be conducted via (Course Link) Zoom on Tuesdays 3:30-5:20.

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This is the first of the two required LACS culture core courses. They will address theoretical issues relevant to Latin American identities and cultures and will use these as heuristic devices in the study of major and marginalized cultural events, narratives, and visual and musical expressions. In LACS*6010 students will analyze the concept of "hybridity" and study how hybrid culture has been incorporating past with the present, and how it is and has been incorporating local and African forms and themes with European and US derived high culture.

1.2 Course Description

This course will study why notions such as identity and culture have become important topics in contemporary discourse. Latin American cultural concepts such as *hibridez*, *transculturación*, *mestizaje* and *realismo mágico*, will be discussed from their theoretical perspectives, and from the point of view of visual, literary, musical or linguistic expressions.

1.3 Timetable

Tues 3:30-5:20 pm

1.4 Final Exam

There will be NO final exam in this course

2 Instructional Support

LACS*6010 will be team taught in form of a seminar. The coordinator of the course will be present at all seminars to ensure unity and cohesion, and because the essay proposal and the final essay will be marked by the course coordinator.

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Dr. Gordana Yovanovich, gyovanov@uoguelph.ca
The best way to reach instructors is via email.

2.2 Guest Lecturers

Dr. Rosario Gomez, rogomez@uoguelph.ca

Dr. Sean Bellaviti, sean.bellaviti@ryerson.ca

3 Learning Resources

It is suggested that novels be read in Spanish.

3.1 Required Resources

Can be found in the University Bookstore or in Co-op bookstore (Textbook)

The following books can be purchased at the University bookstore or at the co-op bookstore.
(The books can be read in English or Spanish.)

Zigmunt Bauman's *Identity: Conversations with Benedetto Vecchi*

Walter Mignolo's *The Idea of Latin America*

Manuel Puig, *The Kiss of the Spider Woman*

Manuel Puig. *El beso de la mujer araña*

Gabriel García Márquez, *Cien años de soledad*

Gabriel García Márquez, *A Hundred Years of Solitude*

Various articles will be available on Course Link

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

Understand how identity is constructed, and how essentialist approaches are subverted.

Analyze representative artistic works and explain them within a theoretical framework

Assess the changing relationship between the center and the periphery.

Develop an informed argument centered on a single thesis statement

Select appropriate methodologies in conducting research and in writing essays.

Communicate orally in seminar type of environment.

Generate topics for original research.

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

5.1 Seminar

Tuesday, Sept. 10 Introduction to questions of identity and culture

Tuesday Sept. 15

Identity and Globalization: Zigmunt Bauman's (2004) *Identity: Conversations with Benedetto Vecchi*.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

"De Los Inconvenientes De Ser Latinoamericano; Desarrollo Con Deudas, Apertura sin Rumbo" by Néstor Garcia Canclini

Postcolonial approach to identity: Walter Mignolo's *The Idea of Latin America*

Tuesday, Sept. 29

Gloria Anzaldua's "La conciencia de la nueva mestiza/Towards New Consciousness"

Reading from Nestor Canclini, *Hybrid Cultures/Culturas híbridas* (available on courselink)
Amaryl Chanady, "The Theritorialization of the Imaginary in Latin American Self Affirmation and Resistance to Metropolitan Paradigms" (available on courselink)

Tuesday, Oct. 6

The question of Identity in Gabriel Garcia Maruqez, *Cien años de soledad/One Hundred Years of Solitude*

Tuesday Oct. 13 Thanksgiving Holiday

Tuesday Oct. 20

National Identity: la mexicanidad in the work of Mexican muralists and the feminist art of Frida Kahlo.

Tuesday Oct. 27

Identity and Music [Sean Bellaviti](#)

Tuesday Nov. 3

Identity and Music [Sean Bellaviti](#)

Tuesday Nov. 10

Identity and language [Rosario Gomez](#)

Tuesday Nov. 17

Identity and language Rosario Gomez

Tuesday Nov. 24

Gender Identity: Puig's *Beso de la mujer araña/ Kiss of the Spider Woman* GY

Tuesday Dec. 1

Discussion of essay proposals and final essay

6 Assessments

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

Theory and theoretical frameworks 5x6= 30%

Music module 10%

Linguistics module 10%

Quality of class participation and discussion 10%

Essay proposal and annotated bibliography 10%

Essay based on the material from at least two (2) modules 30%

Oral and Written Seminar Participation

Each student will be asked to comment on a few readings throughout the course, or answer questions related to the readings. Student introductory presentations should highlight key issues and concepts, articulate various strengths and weaknesses of the readings, and raise several questions for further discussion. Criteria for the evaluation of this course component will include: the understanding of the readings; the degree to which the 15-minute presentation is made interesting for others; the ability to draw links between the weekly topic and with broader course themes; and the effectiveness of the questions posed to the class and the quality of the discussion facilitation. Students who are not leading discussion will be evaluated on their readiness to participate, their familiarity with the material presented, and their thoughtful contributions in class.

Essay proposal and annotated bibliography consist of a thesis statement and at least 5 articles or books not studied in class. The thesis statement is to be one or two sentences. The length of the final essay is 12-15 pages double spaced.

Evaluation Criteria for the Final Essay

1.

Strength of the argument: Your essay should have a clear focus and an argument that is logically constructed. Your argument should reflect a theoretical position studied in the course and should be informed by analysis of two works of art (fiction, music, visual art) studied in two of the three modules.

You should ensure that you have a thesis statement in the introduction, that in the body of the essay you support your claims with evidence and with carefully chosen quotes from primary or from secondary sources, and that your conclusion summarizes your findings and outlines any questions or avenues for future research.

2.

Research: In addition to careful analysis of primary sources, your essay should incorporate ideas and research from at least five secondary sources relevant to your topic.

3.

Language and Style: Your languages and style should be academic, free of colloquial expressions and repetitions, and your essay should define key terminology. It should also be free of grammatical, spelling and typographical errors. References can be in MLA or any accepted style, but the same format must be used consistently. Your footnotes and bibliography must be accurate.

Originality: It can come for example from the unique perspective you take on the material studied, from new connections you establish, new questions you raise.

7 University Statements

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students

(undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic

integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.