

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 35531
Name: Literature and modernity in Latin America
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1003 - Degree in Hispanic Studies, Spanish Language and Literature	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	3	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1003 - Degree in Hispanic Studies, Spanish Language and Literature	Latin American literature I	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

GIRONA FIBLA NURIA

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SUMMARY

The subject *Modern and Contemporary Latin American Literature* offers a complete overview of the history of Latin American literature, highlighting its relationship with the continent's society; in other words, emphasising how literary phenomena are ideological-cultural responses (correspondences and not simply reflections), actively and organically articulated in each phase of social history. In order to achieve this objective, the subject is divided into two subjects:

- *Lectures on contemporary Spanish-American literature*: the proposal is to approach the currents, themes, problems and authors of Spanish-American literature in recent decades.

- *Literature and Modernity in Latin America*: the aim is to follow modern and contemporary narrative and poetic currents in order to develop an overview of contemporary Spanish-American production (Modernism, Avant-Garde and current trends).

Thus, the course aims to approach Latin American literature of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries



within the framework of its modernising processes, bearing in mind that the concept of modernity encompasses different cultural, economic, political and social transformations in the Latin American continent. With this objective in mind, the programme of contents presents a transversal route around different thematic nuclei and cultural productions: the modern experience as an index of the writer's subjectivity, the role of science and technology, literary professionalisation, the urban vision, the tension between tradition and rupture, etc.

By analysing the relationship between literature and society, this subject aims to develop a critical view of literary representations, especially in relation to representations of gender, race and social class. In this sense, the subject takes into account Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 10. In particular, the development of tools for critical analysis of gender representations aims to contribute to ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls. At the same time, the development of tools for the analysis of race and class representations aims to contribute to the reduction of inequalities both economic and based on ethnicity or skin colour.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

None.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Familiarity with techniques and methods of analysis of literary and non-literary texts and how they are applied to the Spanish language.

Know and apply the currents and methodologies of literary theory and criticism.

Knowledge of literature and theatre in the Spanish language.

Knowledge of the historic evolution of literature and theatre in the Spanish language.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.

Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of



autonomy.

The ability to identify problems and subjects for research and assess their importance in the field of Spanish language, literature and theatre.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction.

Modernity and modernisation in Latin America.

2. Literary modernisation.

Artist's images at the end of the century. The renewal of compositional and poetic techniques.

3. Modernity, science and literature.

Literary uses of scientific hypotheses. The city as modern experience.

4. Tradition, rupture and avant-garde in Latin America.

The avant-garde: the crisis of the artistic work and the artistic institution. The double avant-garde in Latin America. Ruptures and continuities of avant-garde writing.

5. Modernity, disciplinary society and shadow zones.

Emergence of modern disciplinary society and technologies of social normalisation. Images and narratives of madness as an exploration of the shadow zones of modernity.



6. Literature in the face of an unstable reality.

The emergence of problematic realisms: critical realism, fantastic realism, transculturated realism, science fiction.

These contents are reflected in the following learning outcomes:

To be able to discriminate between the different currents in modern and contemporary Hispanic American literary practice.

To be able to identify the characteristics of a literary work, its ascription to different aesthetic and ideological currents and its transformations.

To be able to apply the methodology and terminology of literary theory and criticism in the analysis of literary discourses in Latin America.

The ability to use the knowledge acquired to identify research topics and assess their relevance.

To be able to handle relevant, specialised and up-to-date bibliographic information.

The ability to demonstrate soundness in the argumentation of critical analyses of literary works.

The ability to define strategies for advising on Spanish and Latin American literature, its authors and works in the design of contents.

Being able to independently organise one's own philological research project.

Be able to use appropriately the key terminology of literary and linguistic analysis, based on contemporary developments in criticism, literary theory and the philological tradition.

To acquire knowledge of the internal and external historical evolution of modern and contemporary Latin American literature, as well as for the analysis and commentary of its productions from a comparative-historical perspective.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
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Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	85,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology of this subject is organised on the basis of training activities comprising:

a) Face-to-face training activities:

Theoretical classes: on the specific contents of the syllabus, the presentation of the most relevant aspects and problems in this respect, the state of the question and the critical approach corresponding to each one of them. In these classes, the problematisation and discussion of the proposed concepts will be stimulated in order to promote the participation and involvement of the group as far as possible. In order to follow these classes properly, the study of the complementary bibliography is recommended.

Practical classes: analysis and commentary of literary and critical texts, problematisation of the proposed concepts, practical orientation of the compulsory readings, discussion with the group, etc. The analysis of this material and the updating of the concepts presented in the theoretical sessions will be taken as a framework for discussion in these practical sessions, with the aim of stimulating reflection and active learning by the students. The teacher may recommend previous or complementary readings to stimulate debate.

Individual or group tutorials: oriented towards learning how to search for bibliographical information for study, to resolve doubts and methodological problems, to prepare correctly for the exam, to prepare research work and projects, etc.

b) Non-face-to-face training activities:

Independent study and work by the students in relation to the concepts and practices carried out in class, for the preparation of the activities and for the preparation of the final exam.

Reading of narrative, poetic and critical texts provided by the teaching staff at the beginning of the course, which will serve as material for analysis in class and as detailed study material for the exam.

Attendance at external events and activities: the teaching staff will propose complementary activities and events that, from time to time, may complement the development of the classes.

EVALUATION



- The grade for the course will be obtained by means of a final exam, with an evaluation of 70%, and a series of activities carried out during the course, which will have an evaluation of 30%. A minimum of 5 points in the exam is a prerequisite for passing the course.
- The exam will consist of the development of a topic or a series of questions, in relation to the different topics of the course, the compulsory readings and the complementary bibliography.
- In addition to the content provided, the teachers will assess the elaboration of the thematic presentation, the conceptual density, the personal contribution of significant quotations from literary works, the ability to relate to other subjects related to the content and the integration of bibliographic material (including that provided through the Virtual Classroom). Spelling mistakes and poor writing will be grounds for failure.
- Likewise, the use of sources without citing the source and the indiscriminate transcription of any information whose origin is not adequately detailed will be penalised (even suspended).
- **The assessable activities** will be explained and detailed at the beginning of the course by the teacher.
- Students will have the opportunity to present a **complementary work** to raise up to one point of the final grade. The grade of this work will not be taken into account if the exam is not passed. This work will give priority to access to Honours in case of a tie grade.

In the second sitting, the part of the exam may be made up, but not the grade for the practical activities, which must be completed during the course.

Intellectual honesty is vital in academic communities, and for the fair assessment of student work. All work submitted to this course must be original in its authorship. Papers that make use of fraudulent collaboration or composition with the help of artificial intelligence (ChatGPT or others) will not be accepted.

REFERENCES

Basic works

Barrera, Trinidad (coord.): *Historia de la Literatura Hispanoamericana*. Siglo XX. Tomo III, Madrid, 2008, Cátedra.

Benjamin, Walter: *Poesía y capitalismo. Iluminaciones I*, Madrid, Taurus, 1980.

Berman, Marshall: *Todo lo sólido se desvanece en el aire*. México, FCE, 1990



Gutiérrez Girardot, Rafael, *Modernismo*, Barcelona, Montesinos, 1993.

López Alfonso, Francisco José, *César Vallejo, las trazas del narrador*, Valencia, Universitat de valència, 1995.

Oviedo, José Miguel, *Historia de la Literatura Hispanoamericana*, Vol. 3 y 4. Madrid, Alianza, 1995.

Pizarro, Ana (coord.), *América Latina: palabra, literatura e cultura. Vanguarda e Modernidade*, Vol. III, Campinas, UNICAMP, 1994.

Rama, Ángel: *Transculturación narrativa en América Latina*, Siglo XXI, México, 1981.

Ramos, Julio: *Desencuentros de la Modernidad en América Latina*. (Literatura y política), F.C.E., México, 1989.

Romero, José Luis: *Latinoamérica: las ciudades y las ideas*, Siglo XXI, México, 1976.

Sarlo, Beatriz: *Una modernidad periférica: Buenos Aires. (1920-1930)*. Buenos Aires, Nueva Visión, 1988.

Complementary works

Masiello, Francine: *Lenguaje e ideología. Las escuelas argentinas de vanguardia*, Buenos aires, Hachette, 1992.

Mattalia, Sonia (comp.): *Modernismo y Modernidad en Hispanoamérica. Antología del Pensamiento latinoamericano*, vol.II, Instituto Juan Gil-Albert, Alicante, 1996.

Mattalia, Sonia (coord): *Borges, entre la tradición y la Vanguardia*, Generalitat Valencia, 1991.

Mattalia, Sonia: *Miradas al Fin de Siglo: Lecturas modernistas*, GEI-Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 1997.

Mattalia, Sonia: *Tupí or not tupí (Ensayos sobre la vanguardia narrativa latinoamericana)*, Mérida, Venezuela, ed. El Otro, el Mismo, 2003.

Osorio, Nelson: *Manifiestos, proclamas y polémicas de la vanguardia literaria hispanoamericana*, Caracas, Ayacucho, 1988.

Salvador Jofre, Álvaro, *Rubén Darío y la moral estética*, Granada, Universidad de Granada, 1986.



Schwartz, Jorge: *Las vanguardias literarias en Latinoamérica*, Cátedra, Madrid, 1992.

Yurkievich, Saúl, *Fundadores de la nueva poesía latinoamericana*, Barcelona, Ariel, 1984.