SPAN101 Elementary Spanish I
This introductory course is designed for students without prior Spanish language study and focuses on the development of receptive and productive language skills (reading, listening, writing, and speaking) within a strong cultural framework.
Offering: Host
Grading: BMO
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN102 Elementary Spanish II
This course, the continuation of SPAN101, further develops basic language skills (reading, listening, writing, and speaking). The course incorporates readings and media from a variety of sources, allowing students to explore the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: SPAN101

SPAN103 Elementary Spanish for High Beginners
This course provides an intense review of elementary Spanish to allow students to advance to the intermediate level. Emphasis is placed on the four basic skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Attention is also given to cultural issues concerning the Spanish-speaking world. Conversational fluency is practiced and highly expected daily. A weekly electronic journal is also part of this course.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN110 Spanish for High Beginners
Intermediate-level language course following SPAN103, with emphasis on the development of four basic language skills (reading, listening, writing, and speaking) within a cultural framework.

This course is comparable to SPAN111 and can be followed by SPAN112. Those seeking to follow with SPAN113 require permission of instructor.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: SPAN102 AND SPAN103

SPAN111 Intermediate Spanish I
This intermediate language course places continued emphasis on the development of reading, listening, writing, and speaking skills within a strong cultural framework. The sequence SPAN111 and SPAN112 seeks to expand students’ active and passive control of vocabulary and grammar and for students to gain experience in using formal and informal registers of Spanish.
Offering: Host
Grading: BMO
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: SPAN102 OR SPAN103

SPAN112 Intermediate Spanish II
This course leads students through a review and in-depth examination of advanced Spanish grammar issues and vocabulary expansion within a cultural framework that explores an array of topics connecting to other academic disciplines. Students will experience working with written texts and other media materials and produce a variety of written pieces.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: SPAN111

SPAN113 Intermediate-Advanced Spanish
Within a cultural framework focused on the Spanish-speaking world--especially Latin America--this course leads students through a review and in-depth examination of advanced Spanish grammar issues and vocabulary expansion while providing the experience of working with written texts and other media materials. Students will explore an array of topics that connect to other academic disciplines.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: SPAN110 OR SPAN111

SPAN201 Spanish Play
Students will be in charge of directing and staging a play in Spanish with the assistance of a Spanish professor. The workshop will take place over 10 weeks. Minimum one hour per week, which will increase to 2 as the day of the opening approaches. Rehearsals will be split between activities including reading and commenting on the dramatic text and working on diction, which can be done collectively or in smaller groups, and workshopping and rehearsing the play. Although the play will be in Spanish, we will try to allow for a wider audience by providing a brief English translation of the plot.
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U
Credits: 0.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN203 Spanish for Heritage Speakers
This course is designed to meet the specific needs of students who are heritage speakers of Spanish to increase their language skills and confidence. Students who take this course must have placed into SPAN112 or above. Emphasis is placed on the following: development of linguistic strategies that advance students’ written and oral expression beyond the colloquial level, grammatical and orthographic norms of Spanish, critical reading (reading for understanding and analyzing what is read), and expansion of vocabulary. The linguistic work will be conducted through course materials that explore, through a variety of literary and nonliterary texts, the use of Spanish in the U.S. Materials include a textbook or manual and topics related to the experience of Spanish speakers in the U.S.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN221 Introduction to Hispanic Literatures and Advanced Practice in Spanish
Poems, plays, essays, and short stories representative of various Spanish-speaking countries and different periods of literary history are used to improve speaking and writing skills and to introduce students to the fundamentals of literary analysis. The course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Some laboratory work may be assigned. Besides the three hours of class sessions with the
This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of writing short fiction in Spanish. It will enhance their command of Spanish and their skills as effective writers through the examination and discussion of many aspects of the craft of fiction writing, which will inform students’ own writing and development of their personal style. We will examine essential features of fiction (methods of constructing narrative tension, climax, ambiguity, character, dialogues, and structure), as well as various fictional styles through our discussion of the writing of our peers and a study of the texts of a number of contemporary Latin American and Latinx writers working in a genre that has been crucial to the region’s intellectual production.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None
Cervantes is known chiefly for DON QUIXOTE, often described as the first modern novel and fountainhead of one of the great modern myths of individualism. DON QUIXOTE also reimagines virtually every fashionable, popular, and disreputable literary genre of its time: chivalric, pastoral, picaresque, sentimental, adventure, and Moorish novels; the novella; verse forms; drama; and even the ways these kinds of literary entertainment were circulated and consumed, debated, celebrated, and reviled. It is a book about the life-enhancing (and endangering) power of books and reading and the interplay of fiction and history and truths and lies. Cervantes’ art remains fresh and unsettling, sparing no one and nothing, including the author and his work. Distinguished by its commitment to the serious business of humor, make-believe, and play, the novel is at once a literary tour de force and a fascinating lens through which to examine the political, social, religious, and intellectual debates of its moment. Characteristic themes include social reality as artifact or fiction, the paradoxical character of truths, the irreducible diversity of taste and perception, the call for consent in politics and love, and personal identity (including gender) as a heroic quest. In this course, we will read, discuss, and write about DON QUIXOTE, along with a sampling of critical, philosophical, literary, and artistic responses it has inspired.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: COL327, MDST254
Prereq: None

SPAN250 Modern Spain: Literature, Painting, and the Arts in Their Historical Context
In this course, we study the so-called ‘masterpieces’ of modern and contemporary Spanish literature, painting, and film (18th century to the present). The works chosen represent the major literary and cultural movements of the past three centuries: the Enlightenment, Romanticism, realism, and naturalism, the generations of 98 and 27, the avant-garde, neorealism, and postmodernism. As masterpieces, they have achieved canonical status through either the influence they have come to exercise over successive generations or their popular reception at the time of their production. In our close analysis of these works, we will interrogate the processes and conditions of canonicity. We will emphasize the relationship between cultural production and historical context, seeking to draw analogies at all times between the short stories, novels, poems, plays, paintings, and movies under consideration and the social, political, and economic milieu from which they emerged.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: COL219
Prereq: None

SPAN251 Urban Fantasies: The City, Sexuality, and National Identity in the Modern Spanish Novel
The novel as we know it today reached maturity in Europe in the 19th century against the backdrop of a rapidly changing social and economic context, with the city emerging as a ‘capital’ coordinate (literally and figuratively) on the map of national cultures. The rapid growth of a powerful bourgeoisie is a defining change, urban expansion, and the rise of a bourgeois aesthetic that will come to influence art, literature, and all other forms of cultural expression for decades to come. In Spain, these phenomena are reflected acutely by one of the nation’s greatest novelists, Leopoldo Alas (‘Clarín’; 1852-1901). Through a close reading of Clarín’s ‘La Regenta’ (1884-85), a uniquely insightful and polished work of epic scope that is widely regarded as one of Europe’s greatest modern novels, we will seek to evaluate how narrative and the cityscape form interlocking textualities within each of which family, the female, and the nation are protagonist, sexuality a central theme.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN254 The World of Federico García Lorca: Tradition and Modernity in the Spanish Avant-Garde
Our focus will be the Spanish avant-garde as reflected by the plays and poetry of Federico García Lorca, one of Europe’s most celebrated authors. A substantial portion of the syllabus includes works that represent the literary traditions (classical, medieval, Golden Age) and contemporary intellectual context (1900-1936) that influenced Lorca. These readings will help us to understand how the modern and the popular interact in the literature and visual arts (Picasso, Dalí, Buñuel) of this period of intense intellectual ferment. Given the interaction of intellectual and ideological ferment during these years, we will also focus on the relationship between art and ideology generally speaking, and especially on Lorca’s profile as a modern bard or public intellectual in the context of the Second Republic (1931-1939), Spain’s first important experience with progressive democracy.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: THEA254
Prereq: None

SPAN255 Constructing Barcelona Through Its Margins: Contemporary Spanish Culture Through Catalonia
This course seeks to examine the physical and cultural construction of Barcelona through the ways it has been understood across artistic mediums, social and historical periods, and political spectrums, especially along its margins. This marginality will allow us to look into contemporary Spanish culture from a new perspective, understanding the complexities that lie under the idea of a nation. The course also explores some of the tensions between modernization projects and cultural production during the 20th and 21st centuries, examining representations of the city in literature (poetry and prose), maps, films, performance, and photography.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN256 City, Mobility, and Technology: Towards the Modern City in Spain
 Movements, itineraries, encounters—these are some of the elements that have characterized modern literature. From the Baudelairean figure of the flâneur to the car chases of popular movies like Bullit, the city is described from a series of journeys that create a representation of urban space. However, these narratives reveal more than a personal account of the city: they show the urban architectures that allow the movement in those spaces (ie, paths, roads, lighting) and in doing so they portray the development of the modern city.

With this framework in mind, in this course we will analyze the construction of the modern city in Spain through literary and filmic texts. We will pay special attention to Barcelona and Madrid, but we will also look at how other international cities are perceived and represented in Spanish literature. In doing so, we will explore how these authors understand the modern city and the international connections and influences that shaped it at specific historical moments.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
SPAN257 Performing Ethnicity: Gypsies and the Culture of Flamenco in Spain

In this course, we will analyze how Gypsies and flamenco are associated, in fact and in fiction, and how and why they have emerged into the limelight of Spanish national cultural discourses. Although they represent discrete realities—not all Gypsies identify with flamenco and not all flamenco artists are Gypsies—correlations between the two have nonetheless been exploited by the media and by artists as an often unwanted emblem of Spanishness. The tensions surrounding this practice seem related to an undisputable fact of Spanish cultural history: Flamenco is unique within European culture; with a population of nearly one million, Gypsies are Spain’s dominant minority; yet recognition of the artistic value of the former and acceptance and assimilation of the latter have been slow to congeal within Spanish society. Our practical aim will be to analyze these important aspects of Spanish culture in their historical context. We will study how the connection between Gypsies and flamenco has emerged; we will evaluate the extent to which it is valid, and we will attempt to assess what seems to be at stake in the struggles between those who promote and those who resist this connection as distinctive of Spanish national culture. In doing so, we seek to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of the Roma community within the framework of European and Spanish culture and a deeper appreciation for flamenco as a unique form of cultural expression. On the theoretical plane, we seek to understand how music, dance, literature, cinema, performance, and art can give expression to ethnicity; how cultural hegemonies emerge; and what role artists play in supporting or contesting those hegemonies. In general, this course is designed to help students develop critical skills of cultural analysis while increasing their proficiency in Spanish.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN259 Detective Fiction: Procedure and Paranoia in Spanish Narrative

The detective genre is the point of departure for an investigation that will lead us to solve a mystery: How do fictions about the detective—a person who is generally outside the law and sometimes crazy or paranoid—help us to understand the social construction of Spain? We will follow this figure through time (from the 19th century to the present) and space (visiting many Spanish cities) to build a theory of the genre in Spain and a panorama of Spanish society and culture. Following the trail left by novellas, novels, and short stories, together with critical texts, our investigation will allow us to unravel the mysteries of a multidimensional society.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN260 Between Word and World: Major Spanish Poets of the 20th Century

Our goal in this course is to study how the leading poets in 20th-century Spain use the lyric mode to negotiate the relationship between themselves and their community at key junctures in the nation’s history. In doing so, we will also identify and assess the various notions of community that arise in modern Spanish poetry, attempting to evaluate how those notions evolve or are affected by such events or movements as (1) the avant-garde and the second Republic (1920-1936), (2) the Civil War and the Franco regime (1939-1975), and (3) sweeping political and social transformations of the past 30 years as signaled by the country’s democratization, integration into the European Union, economic development, and by the massive influx of immigrants from Africa, Latin America, and Eastern Europe (1977-present). Key essays (critical and theoretical), some by the poets themselves, are included in the syllabus to provide critical tools for discussing how the public experience is lyricized through the intimate filter of the poet’s own sensitivity. We will seek to understand the role played by context in conditioning the decisions poets make in adopting the epic, elegiac, didactic, or testimonial mode of expression, to name just a few. The image of the poet standing at the crossroads of lyrical creativity—word—and historical circumstance—world—will be central to our critical inquiry.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN261 Sites of Resistance & Memory: Theater, Performance & Political Consciousness in Contemporary Spain

Compared to other literary genres, and given its essentially social (public) format, theater is an especially vulnerable mode of cultural expression and, therefore, can easily fall victim to both overt (institutionalized) and covert (social) systems of censorship. The tendency for authoritarian regimes to scrutinize stage practices is exemplified by the state censorship that prevailed under Franco (1939-1975) and that prompted Spanish playwrights to develop subtle strategies for resisting authority and for addressing the crucial social and political concerns of the day. The parliamentary regime born in the aftermath of the dictator’s death in 1975 ushered in an era of experimentation unprecedented in recent Spanish cultural history. During these years, playwrights have increasingly embraced the struggle against more covert (social, market-driven) forms of censorship in attempting to craft a new social order for a new political context: a democratic mindset that will serve to solidify the foundations of the young democratic state. Our goal in this course is to trace these trends through a close reading of key works by the major Spanish playwrights active since 1950. We will focus on context, on how theater, society, and politics are intertwined, by evaluating both works of dramatic literature themselves and the place and
meaning of the public, commercial, and alternative theater circuits where many of these plays were premiered. Our aim, broadly, is to understand the extent to which collective memory and national identity, as staged over the past three-quarters of a century, have become a battleground where Spaniards either seek or resist reconciliation with legacies of repression.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: THEA261
Prereq: None

SPAN262 Through Foreign Eyes: The U.S. in Spain in the 20th Century
Although the relationship between Spain and the U.S. has a long history that can be traced back to colonial times, during the 20th century, an extensive corpus of literature in which Spanish authors portray the U.S. prominently becomes visible. The appearance of this body of work gives rise to a series of questions: How do Spaniards see the U.S.? What are the consequences of these understandings? Why is there such interest in portraying the U.S. from a Spanish point of view? Of course, cultural and social definitions are constructs always limited to historic, social, and cultural events, be they of a military, political, or purely commercial nature. One could think that these portrayals dwell on stereotypes; nonetheless, we are before a literary production that uses the U.S. to create a narrative about how Spain enters a global economic market through a cultural exchange. These are texts about traveling, the construction of the individual, and the shaping of a nation; texts that cross the boundaries of literary genres to define Spanish identity. We are before the construction of a narrative that questions the building of alterity and shapes the identity of modern Spain. In our approach to the main historic events that define the relationship between Spain and the U.S. during the 20th century, we will examine novels, poems, and movies that result from such events to analyze questions related to identity, globalization, localism, modernity, and nation. What we will engage in is, in fact, a debate about how we define ourselves, whether we are Spanish or American, through foreign eyes.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN263 Mythic & Modern: Reappropriating Classical Themes in Contemporary Drama and Performance
What does it mean to defy the authority of the patriarch, of family, or of government? How do these structures of authority intersect in contemporary society? How do we, today, understand ‘destiny’? How do we challenge it, and what are the consequences for doing so? How do we break the patterns of shame and disenfranchisement inherited from the shared past? These are just some of the social, political, and ethical concerns transmitted over time by playwrights, stage and performance artists, and film directors who treat classical myths as valuable constructs for interrogating our contemporary world and society.

In this collaborative, project-based course we explore how classical myths have been appropriated within the modern Hispanophone cultural context. Just as important as our study and discussion of modern adaptations of classical models are the staged readings of key scenes incorporated strategically throughout the semester that help us develop an organic understanding of the material from the inside. Our overarching aims include: 1) exposing what persists in modern adaptations of classical myths, 2) tracking the kernels of change that the adaptations present, and 3) understanding why performers over time, working in disparate cultural milieus, continue to seek and derive inspiration from classical myths. The mythic figures we examine may include any of the following: Sophocles’ Antigone, Euripides’ Oedipus and Medea, Aeschylus’ Agamemnon, as well as figures from the Oresteia and from such epics as Homer’s Iliad and Virgil’s Aeneid. This course is taught in conjunction with Italian 263 and French 263. The final collaborative performance, scheduled during the Final Exams period, will involve students from across the Romance Languages and offers the unique opportunity for cohort building among students of French, Italian, and Spanish.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN264 Orientalism: Spain and Africa
Over the past several decades, North African and Middle Eastern cultures have become conspicuously important within the Spanish cultural arena. Translations of writers from Lebanon to Morocco abound in Spanish bookstores. Spanish writers have begun addressing North African and Middle Eastern issues with greater frequency, especially in their novels. The dramatic rise in the African immigrant population in Spain during the 1980s and 1990s, meanwhile, has been matched by a rise in press coverage of issues pertaining to Africa and the Middle East. These factors constitute the point of departure for our historical overview of the treatment of Islamic cultures in modern Spain, from early 19th century to the present. Guided by Edward Said’s seminal essay, ORIENTALISM, we will assess the extent to which (and the process by which) Spain passes from the Orientalized subject of European Romanticism (painting, literature, music) to an Orientalizing European power in the late 20th century. In doing so, we will seek to relate the representation of Islamic cultures in Spanish literature and painting to social, political, and economic factors, most important of which was Spain’s military invasion into Morocco in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. We will also survey changing attitudes among Spanish intellectuals with regard to the Islamic world and toward Spain’s Islamic heritage, the result, perhaps, of 20th-century modernization and, most recently, of Spain’s full integration, after Franco’s death, into Europe’s military and political structures. The tools for this study include works of literature primarily, but we will also focus on painting, historical essays, newspaper articles, and film.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN265 History of Spanish Cinema for Spanish Speakers (CLAC.50)
Spanish 265 is designed as a discussion section for students who are enrolled simultaneously in SPAN 301 and who have advanced proficiency in Spanish. This half-credit course offers students the opportunity to master the critical vocabulary and tools of film analysis in Spanish.

Weekly student-led discussions will provide students with the unique opportunity to exercise these tools regularly and gain greater fluency in the language. Students will be responsible for the same material included on the SPAN 301 website at: https://span301.site.wesleyan.edu/. Students will submit their assignments in Spanish and contribute weekly posts to a blog set up for SPAN 265.

Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U
Credits: 0.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: CGST265
Prereq: None

SPAN267 Image/Word: Narrative and Photography in Contemporary Spain
The objective of this course is to analyze the relationship between literature and photography, questioning the idea of representation that usually unites them. This relationship goes further than the simple representation of the environment
that surrounds us: literature and photography modify not only the perception of, for example, urban space, but also its organization. That is, they have a direct effect on the built environment. This effect creates a productive linkage that challenges the limits of these disciplines and the worlds in which they are created, proving how their work aims not exclusively to describe or represent but also to build. This idea of creating is the base for this seminar in which the students will develop a photographic and a narrative/analytic project in which they will test firsthand the relationships and skills seen in the class. Thus, they will be able to see the connections between disciplines and cultures that guide our everyday life. To do so, the students will work with the help of an artist, the photographer Consuelo Bautista, who will help them to develop a project in which they will connect their own experience with what they have seen in class.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Prereq: None

SPAN270 Survey of Latin American Literatures, Cultures, and Ideas
A close study of texts from the colonial period to the present will serve as the basis for a discussion of some of the major ideas, and cultural and political debates that have emerged in modern Latin America to this day. Thinkers include Las Casas, Sor Juana, Bolívar, Sarmiento, Martí, Neruda, Borges, García Márquez, Menchú, and Bolaño, among others. For purposes of understanding context, students will also read selected chapters from works by historians and cultural critics and will watch several films. (Please note that this course was previously called 'Spanish American Literature and Civilization'.)

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST226
Prereq: None

SPAN271 Modern Technologies in Latin American Literature
Modern communication technologies and modes of transportation have been a recurrent theme in works of Latin American writers from the 20th and 21st centuries. For example, radio was a significant source of inspiration for avant-garde Mexican poets Manuel Maples Arce and Luis Quintanilla in the 1920s; they both tried to capture the uncanny experience of hearing disembodied human voices through writing. In this class, we will discuss texts that likewise reflect on the effects of various modern means of transport and communication—such as trains, subways, radio, telephone, tape recording, and the internet—with an emphasis on how these technologies have revolutionized human relations. We will examine how these literary works exceeded the aesthetic or sociopolitical norms of their time, while keeping in mind that the simple act of writing is also a form of technology, and often a transgressive one.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST270
Prereq: None

SPAN272 Cubanidad: Diaspora, Exiles, and Cultural Identity in Cuban Literature and Film
This course will examine shifting notions of Cubanness, or ‘cubanidad,’ from the 19th century to the present times from a diasporic framework. We will discuss writings by/about African slaves, Chinese indentured laborers and migrants, and Spanish immigrants in Cuba, as well as Cuban exiles in the U.S. and Spain from the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century. Through a variety of literary texts and films, we will then study select cases of European exiles who visited Cuba in the 1930s and ’40s, the later massive waves of Cuban migration to the U.S. after the Revolution, and the more recent immigrants who have settled in Cuba.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST227
Prereq: None

SPAN273 Beyond Machu Picchu and Macondo: Real and Imaginary Worlds in Latin American Letters
Latin American writers and intellectuals have long conceived of their particular literary and cultural practices in connection to individual spaces and sites, both real and imagined. In this course we will examine why and how they have done so, looking not only at well-known if not legendary ones such as Machu Picchu and Macondo, invented, respectively, by Neruda and García Márquez in certain moments of their careers, but also the América and Gran Colombia of Simón Bolívar, the New York City of the Cuban intellectual José Martí (1880s) and of the Nuyorican writer Tato Laviera (1970s), and César Aira’s Colón (Panamá) and Fernando Vallejo’s Medellín (Colombia). In each case we will be concerned with understanding the relationship between local, national, and hemispheric history and the new imaginaries created by the author/intellectual in question in the context of north-south relations. Topics to be considered within this critical framework will include the Wars of Independence, industrialization in the late 19th-century, the construction of the Panama Canal (1904–1914), the Cold War (1947–1991), Latino identity in the context of Puerto Rico and New York City, the coup d’état in Chile on September 11, 1973, and the drug wars. When possible, films and short videos will be used to help build knowledge of historical context.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST273
Prereq: None

SPAN275 Multilingual Aesthetics in Latin America
This course examines writings by Latin American authors who are multilingual or have an intercultural awareness as a result of colonization, cosmopolitanism, migration, or bicultural upbringing. First, students will learn about a variety of Spanish American movements, such as ‘modernismo,’ ‘creacionismo,’ ‘negritismo,’ ‘indigenismo,’ ‘neoindigenismo,’ and ‘indianismo,’ all of which dialogued with diverse cultures and languages other than Spanish. Then, we will examine a series of collaborative projects, such as a quadrilingual poem co-written by Octavio Paz (Mexico), Jacques Roubaud (France), Edoardo Sanguineti (Italy), and Charles Tomlinson (UK); a selection of English-Spanish poems by Marjorie Evasco (Philippines) and Alex Fleites (Cuba); and the ‘Festival de poesía: lenguas de América,’ a bi-annual event that gathers poets from diverse multilingual regions in the Americas. Lastly, we will examine literary and scholarly work by about Latin American writers of indigenous descent, as well as works in Spanish, English, and ‘Spanglish’ by Chicano, U.S. Latino, and Filipino American writers.
Throughout the semester students will reflect on how multilingualism can serve as a medium for aesthetic experimentation, intercultural dialogue, and/or political resistance. All discussions will be held in Spanish, and all readings will be in their original Spanish or in Spanish/English translation.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST265
Prereq: None

SPAN276 Body, Voice, Text: Theater and the Transmission of Experience
Theater can and does exist as a written text, but we all know that its existence on the page is meant as a precursor to its live performance out in the world. In
this course, our approach to a series of Latin American plays will be informed by competing notions of the theater as both a field of academic inquiry (built on reading, study, research, and interpretation) and also as an art form (built on reading, rehearsal, repetition, direction, and interpretation). We will combine traditional academic study of the written dramatic text with theater workshop exercises meant to train actors for the delivery of the staged performance text. Students will thus gain an understanding of how academic study and workshop rehearsal take different approaches to what is essentially the same goal/problem: how to interpret the text written by the dramatist, whether for meaning or performance. This course will be taught in Spanish.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: THEA276, LAST276
Prereq: None

SPAN278 Dangerous Plots: Fictions of the Latin American Jungle

This course is an exploration of the ways in which nature has been plotted in fiction, films, and popular culture, focusing on the tropical jungle, a space that has been central to the way Latin America has been imagined for centuries. We will investigate the construction of jungle as a cultural space where diverse anxieties about sovereignty, nationhood, race, development, gender, and subversion collide. We will evaluate this topography in relation to diverse projects of modernization and development, to the global angst over the environment and its destruction, to peasant and indigenous agency, and to a number of cultural and economic struggles that have shaped the region over the past century. Attention will be placed on literary, filmic, and visual texts.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST278
Prereq: None

SPAN279 Latin American Theater and Performance

This course will focus on the history, theory, and practice of theater and performance in Latin America in the 20th century. We will be particularly interested in the intercultural aspects of Latin American theater and performance that have reinvigorated African dramatic forms through their constant interaction with non-Western cultural expressions in the Americas. We will examine a wide variety of performance practices, including avant-garde theater, community theater, street performance and agitprop, solo, and collective theater. The syllabus is loosely organized in a chronological fashion, structured more importantly around critical themes in Latin American theater, culture, and society in the 20th century. We will take as our primary source material both readings and video recordings, when available, that will be supplemented by a wide variety of historical, critical, and theoretical background readings, including texts written by theater practitioners, theorists, and critics.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST285
Prereq: None

SPAN280 Screening Youth in Contemporary Latin American Cinema

This course will examine some of the most important Latin American films to emerge in the past three decades that have cast children and teenagers as protagonists. We will analyze a large body of films that address issues of historical memory, economic inequality, social conflict, political activism, education, sexuality, cultural identity, and citizenship through the lens of the child or adolescent. These films question the roles of minors in relation to the political arena and reflect upon the constructions of childhood that operate at a social level with important political implications. Students will explore the aesthetic and social dynamics at play in the representation of young protagonists and develop interpretative filmic skills through an exploration of the connections between the technical composition of the works and the social, political, and cultural contexts that they address. Besides the varied cultural, theoretical, formal, and historical elements that this course will examine, one of the central components is a creative module in which students will develop an idea for a short film based on their own personal coming-of-age narrative.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST280
Prereq: None

SPAN281 ‘Islas sonantes’: Music and Sound Technologies in Hispanic Caribbean Literature

Cuban author Alejo Carpentier once stated that the Antilles (the Caribbean islands) could easily be referred to as ‘Islas sonantes’ (sounding islands) because of their strong musical tradition. Music, according to him, is their common denominator. Inspired by this statement and extending it, in this course we will examine the role of music, as well as other sound and vocal productions in Hispanic Caribbean literature from the end of the 19th century to the present. Through close readings, we will reflect on how music and other sound media or communication devices (such as radio, audio recordings, sound magnification, and telephone) have helped reconceptualize social identities, notions of time and space, and human interaction. We will also look at their, at times, ideological, political, or purely aesthetic functions. No knowledge of music or sound technologies is required for this course.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST281
Prereq: None

SPAN282 Narratives of Crisis: Violence and Representation in Contemporary Latin American Culture

How have Latin American literature, film, and performance of the past three decades articulated the many forms of violence in a region facing complex armed conflicts, wars deployed around the drug trade, and diverse forms of political unrest? Focusing on Colombia, Peru, Central America, and Mexico, we will investigate how contemporary cultural artifacts reflect on the linguistic, ethical, and social dimensions of subjectivity in times of crisis and provide productive analytical frameworks to examine violence, history, and memory in the region.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST285
Prereq: None

SPAN283 Literature and Culture of Peru

This course offers a panoramic study of the Andean nation from pre-Colombian times to the present with a focus on seminally polemic issues such as intercultural hybridity, ethnic and political violence, colonialism, postcolonialism, indigenismo, and modernity and beyond. We will study a wide variety of authors’ takes on how to approach and understand Peru’s multiethnic and multilingual heritage. Readings include poetry, short stories, novels, essays, theater, and critical theory.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST283
Prereq: None
SPAN284 Tales of Resistance: Modernity and the Latin American Short Story
Latin American writers from the early 20th century forward have regarded the short story as a vehicle through which to make their mark and engage the great cultural issues of the day. Jorge Luis Borges and Julio Cortázar, two of Latin America’s most well-known literary figures, dedicated their careers almost exclusively to the genre. In this course, as we consider the privileged status of the short story in Latin American letters, we will examine the ways in which writers have used the genre to comment on important aspects of modernization, both within and outside their respective countries. Some of those aspects will concern the Mexican Revolution, bourgeois and mass culture, nationalism, globalization, and immigration to Europe and the U.S.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST258
Prereq: [SPAN270 or LAST226] OR SPAN221 OR [SPAN250 or COL219]
SPAN287 Constructions of the Self
How does one define oneself? What forces are active in the creation of our personal identities? How much control do we exercise over these processes? What role do writing and literature play in the construction of notions of the self? While these questions are timeless and know no geographical boundaries, we will examine how different Latin American and U.S. Latino authors have addressed these concerns in their art, with an eye toward understanding the cultural specificity of each of their propositions, as well as how writing itself becomes the subject of writing in the search for subjectivity.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
SPAN288 Territorialities of Dwelling, Desire and Resistance in Latin America
This course seeks to examine the ways in which diverse geographical spaces in Latin America have been produced, negotiated, and contested from the past century to our times through cultural practices that construct these as territories of dwelling, desire, possession, dispossession, and resistance. We will focus on texts and practices—literature, film, performance, and the visual arts—that seek to destabilize the hegemonic (colonial) gaze that has been projected onto rural spaces for centuries, and pay close attention to modes of dwelling and the relationship between location, bodies, gender, and desire. We will trace how these texts intervine in urgent debates about the destiny of rural lands, the uses and abuses of nature, and the place of rural peoples, the struggles for peasant and indigenous rights, environmental justice, and the construction of alternative modernities. We will focus particularly on the Andean and Amazon regions (mountains, rainforests) of South America, as well as other rural tropical areas.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
SPAN290 From the Muralists to the Narconovela: The Public Intellectual in Mexico
Mexican writers, intellectuals, and artists, both male and female, have long been recognized for the brilliance with which they have used their work to comment on and shape the direction of the Mexican state and to engage with the multiple traditions (indigenous, European, and mestizo) that define them. In this course, we will examine the writings and artistic and filmic work of several major figures with the goal of understanding how they see and imagine Mexico in particular historical moments. The course will cover the entirety of the 20th-century and the beginning of the 21st, extending from the Mexican Revolution (1910–1917) and the Muralists (1920s–40s), through the post-1945 period including 1968, and to the drug wars and the Zapatista movement (since 1994). Students will analyze novels, essays, art, poetry, and film.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
SPAN291 Spanish American ‘Modernismo’ in a Global Context
The publication of Nicaraguan Rubén Darío’s AZUL... in 1888 is often considered to be the inaugural event of ‘modernismo,’ the first Spanish-language literary...
movement that originated in Spanish America and spread thereafter throughout the Hispanophone world. In March 1916, about a month after Dario's death, a magazine in the Philippines claimed that Dario also belonged--at least 'spiritually'--to the Philippines. Inspired by this statement, in this course students will read poems, short stories, and crónicas (short journalistic articles) by canonical Spanish American modernista writers, such as Dario, Julián del Casal, José Martí, Amado Nervo, José Enrique Rodó, Leopoldo Lugones, and Delmira Agustini, in conjunction with Filipino modernistas, including Fernando María Guerrero, Jesús Balmori, Manuel Bernabé, and Evangelina Guerrero. We will also read a selection of works of Spanish writers, such as Salvador Rueda, who visited Cuba and the Philippines in the 1910s. Some of the salient characteristics of modernismo that we will cover are the rejection of immediate reality and materialism, the search for linguistic renovation and cosmic harmony, and the celebration of Hispanism. When focusing on this last aspect, we will assess how modernismo helped to keep Spanish America connected not only to Spain but also to the Philippines, which became a U.S. territory in 1898, alongside Cuba and Puerto Rico. Thus, we will explore to what extent modernista writers responded to the spread of U.S. imperialism.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST292
Prereq: None

SPAN293 Writing Women's Bodies: Gender and Sexuality in Latin America
We will explore the work of the novelists Diána etti (Chile), Cristina Peri Rossi (Uruguay), and Samantha Schwelbin (Argentina), among the most intriguing and innovative contemporary Latin American writers. We will discuss a variety of themes such as love, sexual desire, friendship, the body, violence, and ecology. In particular, we examine the relationship between language and gender formation and explore what it means to perform feminist readings.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: LAST293
Prereq: None

SPAN301 The History of Spanish Cinema
This course explores the development of Spanish cinema from the early 20th century to the present. We will evaluate how social, political, and economic circumstances condition Spanish cinematography at key junctures of Spanish cultural history in terms of the production and distribution of films, cinematographic style, and thematics. The course will also highlight key facets of the Spanish star system as well as the auteurism of those directors who have achieved international acclaim by reworking a national film idiom within international frames of reference.

For further information visit the course web site at: https://span301site.wesleyan.edu/

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-RLAN
Identical With: RL&L301, FILM301, COL334
Prereq: None

SPAN401 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN402 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN403 Department/Program Project or Essay
Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SPAN404 Department/Program Project or Essay
Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SPAN407 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SPAN408 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SPAN409 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN410 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN411 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN412 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SPAN420 Student Forum
Student-run group tutorial, sponsored by a faculty member and approved by the chair of a department or program.

Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

SPAN466 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Students must consult with the department and class dean in advance of undertaking education in the field for approval of the nature of the responsibilities and method of evaluation.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: None
Prereq: None

SPAN491 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member's course for academic credit.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
SPAN492 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member’s course for academic credit.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT