

## **SPAN 280 -The Spanish Film (taught in Spanish)**

## **ENGL 370 – The Spanish Film (taught in English)**

### **Course Description:**

The course is a survey that analyses several films by some of the most important Spanish directors from the sixties to the nineties; in the context of Spanish history, society, culture, and politics. Special attention will be given to films by Buñuel, Saura and Almodóvar. Some of the following topics will be analyzed: representation of gender; history; filmic narrative; role of religion; sexual and socio-political repression; violence and transgression.

The course will present the study of Spanish cinema from a double perspective: in one hand, the films that will be watched will be contextualized within the historical events that have shaped the identity of XX and XXI century Spain; in the other, to offer a brief introduction to film studies in Spain. It will present a survey of the history of film in Spain through the works from known directors, such as Buñuel, Saura, Almodóvar, Amenábar, etc. The course will begin by analyzing the major film productions from the early sixties up to the present.

Throughout the course, the student will be introduced to the language of film, and to the critical theory necessary to discuss, analyze, and write about movies. The objective is to familiarize students with general terms used in the film industry. Also, to present the study of films as part of a narrative that needs to be contextualized, and studied as a form of art.

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to “read,” interpret and contextualize the major films productions. From the discussions in the class, students will get an in-depth understanding of some of the motifs and historical moments represented in the movies that they will watch. The student will be able to present a final paper where he or she analyzes a movie using the film theory.

At the end of the course, the student will have gain knowledge about the production of film in Spain, and he or she will be able to appreciate the Spanish film as art and a cultural product. Also, the student will have opportunities to develop and expand his knowledge about the production of movies, theory, and his ability to present a critical interpretation.

### **Course Policies:**

#### **Evaluation**

It is required that the student participates in all class discussions. It is their responsibility to read assigned reading before each meeting, and to keep notes on the discussions. Assignments must be handed on time, and they will **not** be accepted late.

Students must attend all meetings. Unexcused absences will **not** be accepted, and they will affect the final grade. For each unexcused absence, the student will lose half a letter grade.

Absences are only excused with a medical note.

There will **not** be extra credit or make-ups. Any student who leaves the program early without notification will receive an “F” for their final grade. Students will **not** receive a letter of Incomplete. All work must be completed before leaving the program.

The program follows the Grading Policies set by Winthrop University. See Appendix A.

**Course Requirements and assignments:**

Students must come to class prepared with all the readings done, and ready to engage in discussion with the rest of their peers. There will be a **final project, 4 compositions with two drafts, and 2 exams.**

**Final Project**

Students will be required to research an area discussed in the class, and create their own newsletter. They will share their work with the rest of the group. Each class member will be responsible for editing the work, and making suggestion on how to improve it. The class will have the opportunity to engage on a discussion by asking questions, or presenting different points of view about the topic, and the use of specific grammar structures.

Each student in the group will be responsible for their work, and will present it separately. But, there must be a consistency between the different parts of the project. In other words, the team will present an outline to the instructor, and who is responsible to develop each part. They will be graded on their individual work and the project as a whole. The project will be an outgoing activity in the classroom. Their final group project will be handed in the format of newsletter.

**Compositions**

The compositions will be assigned throughout the semester. There will be four essays. The student will present his topic to the class; then, there will be a period of brainstorming, and discussion. This would allow the student to develop his ideas, and share at the same time his knowledge with the rest of the class. The first draft will be passed around to his or her peers, who will make suggestions about the use of grammar, the organization, the topic, and he or she will write a reaction to the paper. Once the student receives this feedback, he or she will present the final draft to the instructor with the copy of the first draft.

**Exams**

The exams are designed to evaluate the knowledge of film theory.

**Grading:**

The breakdown for the grades will be as follows:		A	90-100
		B	89-80
Compositions	20%	C	79-70
Attendance and Participation	20%	D	60-69
Exam 1	20%	F	59-0
Exam 2	20%		
Final Project	20%		

### **Recommended Bibliography:**

Gubern, Roman et al. *Historia del cine español*. Madrid: Cátedra, 1995. [Colección Signo e imagen]

Plaza, Francisco J. *El cine: técnica y arte*. Madrid: Anaya, 1993.

Sánchez Noriega, José Luis. *Historia del Cine*. Madrid: Alianza editorial, 2003.

Seguin, Jean-Claude. *Historia del cine español*. Madrid: Acento, 1995.

## Program

<b>Week 1:</b>	Introduction and presentation of the course objectives. Survey of the history of Spanish film in the XX century. Presentation and discussion about the history of film studies. Introduction to the terminology used when writing about movies.	
Weeks 1 and 2	The first decades of the XX century. Mute film.  <i>Un chien andalou</i> (1928). Surrealism and the avant-guard.  <i>Tristana</i> (1970)	Luis Buñuel
Week 3	* <i>Bienvenido Mr. Marshall</i> (1952) de Luis García Berlanga.	Film production during the dictatorship I
Week 4	* <i>Vente a Alemania, Pepe</i> (1971) de Pedro Lazaga.	Film production during the dictatorship II.
Week 5	* <i>Cría Cuervos</i> (1976) de Carlos Saura	Film production during the years of transition to the democracy.
Week 6:	Repaso para el Examen 1.	From transition to democracy (cont.).
Week 7	<b>EXAMEN1</b>	Introduction: Film in democracy.
Week 8	* <i>Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios</i> (1988) de Pedro Almodóvar.	Film in democracy: The eighties.
Week 9	<i>Tesis</i> (1995) de Alejandro Amenábar. Thriller: Violence and mass media.	Film in democracy: The nineties
Week 10	* <i>Todo sobre mi madre</i> (1999) de Pedro Almodóvar. The family, friendship, and identity.	International recognition: Spanish Film and Hollywood
Weeks 11-12	* <i>Te doy mis ojos</i> (2003) de Icíar Bollaín. Domestic violence	Present day film
Weeks 11-12	* <i>Te doy mis ojos</i> (2003) de Icíar Bollaín. Domestic violence	Present day film.
Week 13:	- <b>Presentation and final projects due.</b> Review. - <b>EXAM 2</b>	Conclusions.

## **Appendix A: GRADING POLICIES**

Grading System. Grades for courses taken for undergraduate credit are recorded as follows:

- A - Excellent, achievement of distinction (4 quality points per semester hour).
- B - Good, achievement above that required for graduation (3 quality points per semester hour).
- C - Fair, minimum achievement required for graduation (2 quality points per semester hour).
- D - Poor, achievement at a level below that required for graduation; must be balanced by good or excellent work in other courses (1 quality point per semester hour).
- F - Failure, unsatisfactory achievement (no quality points).
- S - Satisfactory achievement (C level or above) on a course taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.
- SH - Satisfactory Honors, used only for honors courses to indicate honors credit (A or B) taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.
- U - Unsatisfactory achievement (Honors Courses, C level or below; all others, D level or below) on a course taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.
- N - No Grade, indicating the course carried no credit, or was withdrawn from under conditions that did not justify assignment of a grade of F or U.
- I - Incomplete, used only as a prefix to a letter grade. Assigning an incomplete grade indicates that, for a valid reason, the course has not been completed and that the instructor reserves the right to raise the grade if the incomplete work is completed within one year, or by an earlier date specified by the instructor. The grade to which I is prefixed is not used in computing the student's GPA until the I prefix is removed and indicates the grade earned if no further work is performed. It is the grade in the course unless and until changed by the instructor.

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Option. Undergraduate students may elect to receive a satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grade on a total of four courses throughout their entire undergraduate curriculum, and are limited to electing no more than one S/U course per semester. Each of these courses will count for credit as does any other course; however, a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade, recorded as S or U, will not be counted in computing the student's grade-point average. (The purpose of this option is to allow the student an opportunity to explore areas of interest outside the major and outside required courses without jeopardizing the grade-point average. Students are discouraged from choosing the S/U option for required courses or for courses in the major.) Students who are unclear about the appropriate application of the S/U option should consult their advisers.

The four-course limit regarding the S/U option does not include those courses which are offered only on a S/U basis.

Change of Grade. A grade once reported may be changed only upon the recommendation of the instructor, with the approval of the dean of the college. The approval of the dean is not required to raise a grade with the prefix "I" if the change is made during the twelve-month period immediately following the assignment of the prefixed grade.

Posting Grades. Grades for students in Winthrop University courses may be posted by faculty members, provided the following requirements are met:

1. Grades must be posted by a numerical or alphabetic code which is known only to the student and instructor. Grades cannot be posted by student name or by student social security number.
2. The student must give written permission for the grade to be posted. This can be done by a statement on the test paper or a written statement signed by the student.

**Both** requirements must be met before the grades can be posted.

Student Attendance Policy. Students are expected to attend classes. Students should understand that they are responsible for the academic consequences of absence. In particular, the student is responsible for all requirements of the course regardless of absences.

Instructors are not obligated to provide make-up opportunities for students who are absent. The instructor will be responsible for judging the adequacy of cause for absence, and will decide if a make-up will be provided

The following attendance policy will be in effect unless the instructor specifies otherwise: If a student's absences in a course total 25 percent or more of the class meetings for the course, the student will receive a grade of N, F, or U, whichever is appropriate. If the student's enrollment in the course continues after the date for withdrawal with an automatic N, and if the student's level of achievement is equivalent to D or better (or S for a course taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis), the grade of N will be assigned; otherwise, the student will receive the grade of F (or U).

The instructor may establish different attendance requirements for the course, after notifying the department chair in writing. The instructor will give each student a written statement of the attendance policy for that course during the first class meeting.

The final examination meeting is not counted for attendance policy purposes.

Audit Policy. Anyone admitted to Winthrop University may audit a course with the permission of the instructor, the department chair, and the academic dean. This authorization will be given only if there is space available in the class.

The student is not required to participate in any examinations or graded course assignments. Participation in the class activities is at the discretion of the instructor. The attendance policy for a student auditing a course is also at the discretion of the instructor.

Student Academic Misconduct Policy. The Student Handbook contains the Student Conduct Code which provides the community the University policy and guidelines for

confronting cheating and other forms of student academic misconduct. The policy is very explicit in order to outline faculty responsibility, to facilitate confrontation and to uphold the instructor's right to grade. It also outlines an educationally sound process which preserves student rights and isolates instructors from allegations of arbitrary or capricious actions.

The policy, in part, states the following:

1. During the course of an examination or other exercise, an instructor or proctor who observes suspicious behavior such as copying or collusion may warn the individuals involved of the appearance of their actions and request them to cease immediately. Continuation of such behavior can be considered evidence of academic misconduct. The professor is not obligated to warn students beforehand and the cessation of the suspicious behavior does not relieve the student of a later judgment of academic dishonesty.
2. A remarkable similarity between works supposedly completed independently that are submitted for evaluation may be considered evidence indicating academic misconduct.
3. When a professor believes there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate a clear case of academic misconduct, the professor shall notify the student in writing. Notification should occur within 30 days of discovery of the academic misconduct. The notice shall indicate that unless the student requests a hearing, the professor shall impose the appropriate academic consequences warranted by the circumstances and that a disciplinary hearing may be initiated. The appropriate academic consequence for serious offenses is generally considered to be failure in the course. Students may not withdraw from a course to avoid an F grade as the academic consequence for a violation. For less serious offenses regarding small portions of the course work, failure for that portion is suggested with the requirement that the student repeat the work for no credit.

The faculty member is responsible for saving the evidence of academic misconduct in its original form and need not return any of the papers or other materials to the student. Copies of the student's work and information about other evidence will be provided to the student upon request.

4. The student is given seven days from this first written notice to respond. If the student acknowledges responsibility or does not respond to the written notice, the academic consequences shall be imposed by the professor who will also submit a report to the dean of the instructor's college and the Dean of Students.

If a student chooses to contest the charge of academic misconduct, the student may request in writing to the professor

with a copy to the Dean of Students, a disciplinary hearing to determine the facts of the alleged misconduct. The Dean of Students shall initiate the regular disciplinary process.

The purpose of the hearing is to determine the student's responsibility for the alleged academic misconduct. If the student is judged by the hearing authority as stipulated in the Student Conduct Code to be responsible for a violation, the professor shall determine the appropriate academic consequences within the course, and the hearing authority will decide what regular disciplinary sanction, including suspension or expulsion, will be imposed. If the hearing authority determines the student was not responsible for a violation, no academic consequences within the course can be imposed by the professor.

## **EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES AT CEADE**

CEADE hopes to meet the logical social demand for receiving a quality university experience that prepares each and every student in the most optimum manner to continue into the professional world. In addition, CEADE hopes to secure the student's integration and participation in the social and cultural aspects of life. This is achieved through a methodology that guarantees that each student makes the most of their studies and that no student neither feels insecure nor fails in their intent to receive an education.

CEADE intends to provide their students with the necessary knowledge, techniques and abilities in order to succeed both during their studies and more importantly upon graduation.

- Full personal development of the student.
- Education based on the respect to fundamental rights and liberties, tolerance and the liberties found within the democratic principles of coexistence.
- Promotion of study habits, perseverance, and work techniques.
- Professional training.
- Receiving an adequate level of academic training that is adapted to the profession demands.

Acquiring an experience on the practical level before graduation, an experience that prepares each and every student in the most optimum manner to continue into the professional world and to secure their integration and participation in the social and cultural aspects of life. All of this with a methodology that guarantees that each student makes the most of their studies and that no student neither feels insecure nor fails in their intent to receive a quality education.

- **Rigorous and complete curriculum.**

The academic programs have been designed with a realistic and flexible approach, without the strictness featured in many academic programs in Spanish universities.

The programs are designed with the hope that they are better adapted for the current needs required by each profession. Each program provides the most adequate knowledge and materials by combining theoretical classes with internships.

- **Continuous Grading System.**

Attendance, class participation, periodic exams, written papers and presentations, both individually and in groups, guarantee continual study and work done by the student throughout the entire academic year.