

BCEA Course Descriptions

LISP 422 Latin American Literature & Spanish Poetry (Advanced Spanish)

Location: Hispanic Studies Center

Credits: 3

Schedule: TBA

Instructors: Professors from the University of Barcelona

Cross-Listing: Art History/Spanish Studies

Prerequisite: Proficiency based

Course Description

This course consists of two parts as separate courses (20 hours each) taught at the University of Barcelona Hispanic Studies Center. Students will be enrolled in Latin American Literature and Poetic Texts to receive full credit for this course. This course is taught solely in Spanish at the advanced level.

Part I: LATIN-AMERICAN LITERATURE: The part of the course studies Latin American Literature and its socio-cultural setting. The main objective is to broaden students' knowledge and reading skills, and to help them develop the comprehension and interpretation strategies needed to understand "literary" language. The course begins with a historical introduction to the richly varied identity of Latin America, from the legends of the pre-Hispanic civilizations to the chronicles of the Spanish conquerors of the New World. This is backed up with visual material presenting pre-Columbian art and excerpts from literary works and essays of leading authors of the modern era such as Miguel Angel Asturias, Carlos Fuentes and Arturo Uslar Pietri. After the short historical and artistic introduction, the course will focus on contemporary prose, particularly on the short story, due to its central role in the rise of Latin American fiction. We analyse Juan Rulfo's poetic prose, the historical and social context in the work of Gabriel García Márquez, and "Neo-fantastic literature" in Julio Cortázar's short stories.

Part II: SPANISH POETRY: This part of the course will examine poetry from Spanish Romanticism and Modernism, via an analysis and commentary of the poems of the leading authors. Particular stress will be placed on the comprehension of poetic texts, the analysis of the subject matter, poetic resources and the significance of the poem in the author's development. Topics include an overview of the poems of the Spanish Romantic movement. Chronology, characteristics, themes and authors. Reading and commentary of the minor poems of José de Espronceda Reading and commentary of the Rimas of Bécquer Overview of the poems of the modernist movement. Chronology, characteristics, themes and authors. The poetic development of Antonio Machado via an analysis of his works. Reading and analysis of the works of Juan Ramón Jiménez: From modernism to poesía desnuda.