Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Special Topics: Contemporary Spanish-American Literature (A004224)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>150 h</td>
<td>45.0 h</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 1)

Spanish

Self-reliant study activities

- Lecture: 5.0 h
- Seminar: 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Staes, Sarah LW07 staff member
Logie, Ilse LW07 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>credits</th>
<th>offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Linguistics and Literature)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - Spanish)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - Spanish)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Spanish)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Spanish)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Iberian-Romance Languages)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Latin - Spanish)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature</td>
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</table>

Teaching languages

Spanish

Keywords

Literature, society, Latin American literature, contemporary, multilingualism, translation

Position of the course

The acquisition of advanced, theory-based scientific insights in contemporary Latin American literature, with a special emphasis on textual analysis and literary sociology.

Contents

**Multilingualism and translation in contemporary Latin American literature (1980-2015)**

This course focusses on the importance of multilingualism and translation in contemporary Latin American literature. It is known that the colonisation that was at the heart of present day Latin America was accompanied by an extensive translation operation of indigenous languages and cultures. But also in the work of modern authors such as Borges, Arguedas, Cortázar or Puig, the self-evidence of the mother tongue has been problematized and translation plays a decisive role as a technique or as a metaphor. Since 1980, processes such as exile, migration and advanced globalisation have significantly increased the pertinence of multilingualism and translation, as evidenced by the itineraries of prominent writers such as Roberto Bolaño, Valeria Luiselli or Mario Bellatín. Does Latin American literature evolve towards a 'post-

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monolingual paradigm’ (Yildiz) in this transnational context? Or does structural multilingualism conflict with the rules of the literary market? And how - in which key scenes and motives, through which stylistic and rhetorical patterns - are the relation between language and identity construction on the one hand and language and affect on the other implemented?
The conceptual introduction is followed by a typology of the manner in which, during the last decades, multilingualism has manifested itself in texts from Latin American authors or authors with Latin American roots. A distinction is made between:
• Multilingualism as a result of a political breakdown (exile after the Cuban Revolution or the military dictatorships, migration, ideological resistance) - Gustavo Pérez Firmat, Ariel Dorfman, Laura Alcoba, Paloma Vidal, etc.
• Multilingualism within the framework of asymmetrical power relations - more specifically in the hybrid writings of the Latino Writers in the US - Gloria Anzaldúa, Junot Díaz, etc.
• Multilingualism as a sign of cosmopolitanism and a tool for World Literature - Roberto Bolaño, Mario Bellatin, Valeria Luiselli, etc.
The case studies (narrative, poetry, essays) will be imbedded in a specific social context and in the personal poetics of the selected authors. The role of related phenomena like self-translation and pseudo-translation will also be addressed.

Initial competences
Students must be highly proficient in Spanish (at least level B2). They must be familiar with the Latin American context, with the most important contemporary Latin American authors and with literary-analytical methods.

Final competences
1 to have excellent knowledge of (several varieties of) Spanish and the ability to fluently apply this language in various situations (level C1).
2 to have in-depth academic understanding of the characteristics of literary texts and of the way literature operates, more particularly, contemporary Latin American literature; to gain insight in certain topics of multilingualism and translation.
3 to gain insight in the cultural and social context of the analyzed Latin writers and their poetics; to problematize and broaden the very notion of ‘Latin American literature’.
4 to have an intellectual curiosity and a lifelong commitment to learning
5 to have excellent knowledge of (several varieties of) Spanish and the ability to fluently apply this language in various situations (level C1).

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Lecture, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods
Interactive classes. The students are encouraged to search for answers to the research questions that are presented at the beginning of the course and to participate in discussions in the classroom. They are expected to come to class having done the assigned reading and are also supposed to track the questions and problems that the texts arise in online posts on Ufora. The students may have to attend lectures on Latin America and/or Contemporary Literature and/or multilingualism related to the course topics.

Learning materials and price
Reader (10,00 €)
Reading list, to be announced on Ufora (about 40,00 €)
Powerpoint presentations
Cost: 50,00 €

References
The bibliography is included in the reader.

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Course content-related study coaching
Communication on aims and assignments via Ufora. Individual feedback by appointment.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Portfolio, participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods
Periodic evaluation: at the oral exam, students answer two questions testing their knowledge and understanding of the course content and give a short presentation on a text not discussed in class, chosen in advance in consultation with the instructor. Non-periodic evaluation: All students participate actively in class. They also post at least three reflections on Ufora. In these reflections, they engage with key concepts and ideas from the secondary readings to identify striking passages or motifs of a primary text and raise discussion topics. Discussions in class will be based on these pieces. Non-participation will result in a fail for this part of the evaluation. Insufficient language skills can also cause the student to fail.

Students who fail the non-periodic evaluation will be given a second chance in the form of an alternative assignment between the first and the second exam periods.

Calculation of the examination mark
Periodic evaluation counts towards 70% of the final mark, non-periodic evaluation towards 30%.

Facilities for Working Students
Facilities:
1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3 Individual feedback can be given

Extra information:
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy

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