

Instructor: García, P
Class Time/Meeting : MWF 10-11 AM:
CAL 200
Course Unique #s: MAS 374 (40415); E
376m (35695); WGS 340 (45620)
Semester: Spring 2019

Cross-lists: MAS 374/E 376M
Areas: None
Flags: Cultural Diversity, Writing
Restrictions: See prerequisites below
Computer Instruction: No

Prerequisites:

MAS 374: None.
E376M: Nine semester hours of upper-division coursework in English

Description:

This course will consider the emergence of the Latinx short story as a significant site for the examination of the multiple intersectionalities of transnational, diasporic Latinx communities. Major questions include: how does the Latinx short story map out the terrain of latinidad in the United States? How do these short stories engage issues of representations given the absence of other institutional forms of knowledge? Topics will include: the short story form as the creative intersectionality of racial, gender, class, and sexuality ideologies; the role of the publishing industry and MFA programs in creating the conditions for the Latinx short story; migration and exile within the Latinx imaginary; the urban Latinx experience; cultural hybridity in multiply-situated borderlands; feminist explorations of power, gender, and sexuality; tropicalization; aesthetic form and social mediations.

Writers may include Sandra Cisneros, Oscar Cásares, Helen Viramontes, Carmen Maria Machado, Junot Diaz, Benjamin Saenz, Manuel Muñoz, Ana Castillo, Jenine Capó Crucet, Jovita Gonzalez, Américo Paredes, Manuel Martinez, among others.

Texts:

- Oscar Cásares, *Brownsville: Stories*
- Sandra Cisneros, *“Woman Hollering Creek” and Other Stories*
- Carmen Maria Machado *“Her Body” and Other Stories*
- Juan Gabriel Vásquez, *Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories*
- Additional readings will be posted on Canvas.

Requirements & Grading:

- Participation 10%
- Discussion posts 15%
- Close Reading Essay 15%
- Journal Review Essay 15%
- Annotated Bibliography 10%
- Final Essay 20%
- Group Presentation 15%

Grading scale is below. To ensure fairness, only final averages .5 and above will be rounded up. Thus a B- will be inclusive of all scores of 79.5 through 83.4. The University does not recognize the grade of A+. A = 94-100; A- = 90-93; B+ = 87-89; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83; C+ = 77-79; C = 74-76; C- = 70-73; D+ = 67-69; D = 64-66; D- = 60-63; F = 59 and below

Course Policies:

Classroom Expectations:

- We will observe civil classroom behavior at all times, especially during our discussions.
- In addition to regular class attendance, students are expected to come prepared, bring the textbook to class, and complete all in-class projects.
- Please make it to class on time. If tardiness becomes a habitual problem, you may be penalized 1 or more absences at the instructor's discretion. This will only occur after meeting to discuss the issue.
- If you need to leave class early, please alert me to this before class begins.
- If you miss more than 15 minutes of the class (due to a tardy or to leaving class early), you will be counted absent.
- Please be cordial and wait until I dismiss the class at the end of each period. I will try not to keep anyone after the bell rings, but sometimes a few moments are necessary.
- Please turn off or turn to silent mode all cell phones, and please avoid any texting during class.
- If you utilize a laptop to take notes in class, please use it only for taking notes. Searching the web, chatting, working on other assignments, or other such activities is not an appropriate use of your laptop during class lectures, and I ask that you refrain from such activities.
- Finally, please limit eating/drinking during class so as not to be a distraction, and dispose of all trash properly.

Honor Code: The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Academic Integrity: Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. Any academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to University policy, including assessment of the stiffest penalty that the instructor may assess (e.g., a failing grade in the course). The University may impose additional sanctions. Cheating in any form, including plagiarism and self-plagiarism, will not be tolerated. If you are unclear about what constitutes plagiarism, ask the instructor. For additional information on Academic Integrity, see <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint.php>

Participation Grades/Attendance: Participation grades are based upon attendance and participation in classroom learning activities.

- Attendance is important as class discussions and work aid your comprehension of materials. Attendance will be taken everyday, and you should bring your book and materials to class everyday. An attendance sheet will be available at every class meeting. You are responsible for signing the attendance sheet to verify your presence in class.
- Everyone begins with 100% participation grade. You are allowed 4 absences total. There will be no excused or unexcused absences except for official university-excused activities. Grades are determined as follows: 0 absences 100%; 1-4 absences 95%; 5-6 absences 85%; 7-8 absences 75%; 9-10 absences 65%, 11+ absences 55%. If you never attend class, you will receive a 0.
- I reserve the right to modify participation grades based on your actual, active participating in class (bringing your textbook and course materials, contributing to class discussion, creating a safe and supportive environment for learning).

Expectations for written work: All assignments should be typed and follow MLA format: double-spaced with one-inch margins; this means approximately 250 words per page (12-point font). Note that the

minimum page count for each assignment: for example, 2- pages means at least two full pages, and NOT one and a half or one and three-quarters pages.

Personal Responsibility Statement: Each student will be responsible for the grades that he or she earns in this course. Except under exceptional, documented conditions, no requests for grade modification (including those for a grade of “Incomplete”) for personal circumstances outside the purview of the course (e.g., probationary standing, financial aid eligibility, scholarship status, etc.) will be considered. Please monitor your grades carefully throughout the semester. Extra credit opportunities may be offered to the class during the semester, but no individual extra credit opportunities will be allowed.

Documented Disability Statement: The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 or 471-4641 (TTY) for users who are hearing-impaired). This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. Five (5) business days before an exam the student should remind the instructor of any testing accommodations that will be needed. See the following website for more information:

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd/providing.php>

Religious Holy Days: By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Consultation: I encourage everyone to use office hours. I am also available by appointment. Writing advice is available from the Undergraduate Writing Center at the UT Learning Commons at the PCL. Their website is <http://uwc.utexas.edu/>.

Canvas: This course uses Canvas, a Web-based course management system in which a password-protected site is created for each course. You will be responsible for checking the course site regularly (at least twice a week) for class work and announcements; email may also be used for announcements. You will also turn in written assignments directly to the site. Finally, all email correspondence through our course site should be related to our course rather than personal information. To access Canvas, go to <http://canvas.utexas.edu/>

Syllabus: The instructor retains the right to vary the syllabus and schedule for the course. You will be asked to sign a document affirming that you have read and understand the syllabus and course policies.

Course Flag Information

- Cultural Diversity Flag Information
 - Courses carrying the Cultural Diversity flag typically focus on the histories, traditions, practices, or aesthetics of one or more underrepresented U.S. communities as a way of understanding their culture. “Cultural groups” may be delimited in terms of shared practices and beliefs and include groups such as women in the United States, certain immigrant communities, and the American Deaf Community. A cultural group will be considered “underrepresented” for this purpose if the experience of its members in the

United States has been or continues to be one of persistent marginalization. Small numbers alone are not sufficient to show that a cultural group is underrepresented; rather, differences in the social and political power of a cultural group are key to this determination. Ideally, the Cultural Diversity flag will challenge students to explore the beliefs and practices of an underrepresented group in relation to their own cultural experiences so that they engage in an active process of self-reflection.

- **Writing Flag Information**

- This course carries the Writing Flag. Writing Flag courses are designed to give students experience with writing in an academic discipline. In this class, you can expect to write regularly during the semester, complete substantial writing projects, and receive feedback from your instructor to help you improve your writing. You will also have the opportunity to revise one or more assignments, and you may be asked to read and discuss your peers' work. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from your written work. Writing Flag classes meet the Core Communications objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication, Teamwork, and Personal Responsibility, established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments (updated 1/23/19)

Spring 2019

Please note that this schedule is subject to revision as necessary.

DATE	TOPIC/READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS
1/23	Introduction to Course	
1/25	Américo Paredes, "The Hammon and the Beans"; "Over the Waves is Out" Jovita González, "Shades of the Tenth Muse"	
1/28	LULAC News Writers	
1/30	Tómas Rivera Stories "The Portrait"; "When We Arrive"	
2/1	Rudy Anaya/Rolando Stories	Discussion 1
2/4	Estela Portillo Trambley	
2/6	Rivera "Labyrinth in Chicano Literature"	
2/8	Rivera "Labyrinth in Chicano Literature"	Assign Group Project
2/11	Marquez/Corátzar/Allende	
2/13	Marquez/Cortázar/Allende	
2/15	Cisneros, <i>Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories</i>	
2/18	Cisneros, <i>Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories</i>	
2/20	Cisneros, <i>Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories</i>	Discussion 2
2/22	Cisneros, <i>Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories</i>	Assign Close Reading Essay
2/25		Group Project 1
2/27		Group Project 2
3/1	Casáres, <i>Brownsville: Stories</i>	
3/4	Casáres, <i>Brownsville: Stories</i>	Discussion 3
3/6	Casáres, <i>Brownsville: Stories</i>	
3/8		Close Reading Essay Workshop
3/11	Casáres, <i>Brownsville: Stories</i>	
3/13	Casáres, <i>Brownsville: Stories</i> Author visit.	
3/15		Close Reading Essay due.

3/18-3/22	Spring Break	
3/25	<u>Junot Díaz</u>	Assign Journal Project
3/27	<u>Junot Díaz</u>	
3/29		Group 3
4/1	Edwidge Dandicant	Discussion 4
4/3	Jenine Capó Crucet	
4/5		Group 4
4/8	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	Journal Project Workshop (online only)
4/10	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	
4/12	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	Discussion 5
4/15	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	Assign Annotated Bibliography/Final Project
4/17	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	
4/19	Vásquez, <i>Lovers on All Saints Day: Stories</i>	Journal Project due
4/22		Group 5
4/24	Machado, <i>Her Body and Other Stories</i>	Discussion 6
4/26	Machado, <i>Her Body and Other Stories</i>	Annotated Bibliography due.
4/29	Machado, <i>Her Body and Other Stories</i>	
5/1	Machado, <i>Her Body and Other Stories</i>	
5/3		Group 6
5/6		Final Project Workshops
5/8		Final Project Workshops
5/10	Course Conclusions	
5/15		Final Project due.

