

**SPA 390 Independent Study:**  
**El arte visual como comentario político en culturas hispanoparlantes**

Fall 2009 Monday and Friday 1:00-2:15

You can download this syllabus in Blackboard Vista (Bb) or at [www.uab.edu/foreignlang](http://www.uab.edu/foreignlang)



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**Foreign Languages Media Services (FLMS)**

Computer lab available to  
all foreign language students.  
Located in Humanities Building 412 | Telephone 934.6035  
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**Interested in a Minor, Major or Double Major in Spanish!**

Visit us online [www.uab.edu/foreignlang/academicprograms.html](http://www.uab.edu/foreignlang/academicprograms.html)  
or contact Advising Coordinator Dr. Malinda Blair O'Leary ([mblair@uab.edu](mailto:mblair@uab.edu))  
for more information.

**Interested in Spanish for Specific Purposes Certificate Program?**

Visit us online at [www.uab.edu/foreignlang/ssp.html](http://www.uab.edu/foreignlang/ssp.html)  
or contact program director Dr. Lourdes M Sanchez-Lopez ([Lourdes@uab.edu](mailto:Lourdes@uab.edu))

**Selected Bibliography<sup>1</sup>:**

Americas by Peter Winn  
Margins and Institutions: Art in Chile Since 1973 by Nelly Richard  
Pintura Mural Mexicana by Rodofa Piña García  
The Murals of Revolutionary Nicaragua 1979-1992 by David Kunzle  
Essays on Mexican Art by Octavio Paz  
Drawing the Line: Art and Cultural Identity in Contemporary Latin America by Oriana Baddeley and Valerie Fraser  
Caribbean Art by Veerle Poupeye  
Converging Cultures: Art & Identity in Spanish America, Ed. By Diana Fane  
Art and Revolution in Latin America 1910-1990 by David Craven  
Twentieth-Century Art of Latin America by Jacqueline Barnitz  
Abu Ghraib by Fernando Botero  
Latin American Art in the Twentieth Century, Ed. By Edward J. Sullivan  
Latin American Art of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century by Edward Lucie-Smith  
ArtStor Online database

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Directed reading on the political history of Spanish-speaking countries most profoundly affected by revolution, globalization, economic crisis, narcotics, and paramilitarism. Along with these directed readings, student will conduct research of the contemporary art of those countries during the periods of crisis to identify works that particularly exemplify political sentiment of those periods. 3 hours.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

There is a strong history of political commentary in the visual arts of the Spanish-speaking cultures and countries. The major political movements of the twentieth century in Latin America have been reflected in artistic movements of a specifically political nature, whether in their purpose or content. The countries and cultures that have experienced the most extreme upheavals politically and socially have also produced the most distinctive politically related artistic movements. The study of these political upheavals alongside their contemporary artistic movements is an effort to understand more fully the political situations themselves and the cultural implications of those situations.

<sup>1</sup> Additional readings supplied by instructor

## ATTENDANCE POLICIES

The University of Alabama at Birmingham recognizes that the academic success of individual students is related to their class attendance and participation. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures complies with the official UAB Attendance and Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduate Programs and therefore allows, with anticipated proper official documentation, absences due to jury or military duty as well as absences due to participation in specific university-sponsored activities. In addition, the Department has its own Attendance Policy.

Regular attendance is necessary to learn a foreign language. Repeated absences, tardiness, passivity, and silence will definitely be reflected in your course grade. For semester-length classes, the Attendance Policy of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is:

Class participation, contribution and actual speaking in the target language is crucial in order to learn a language, therefore class attendance is mandatory. Any absence is going to affect students' class participation and final grade. If under special circumstances, students need to miss classes, the following attendance policy will be applied: **2-days a week classes:** 2 % from the FINAL grade is deducted for EACH absence above 3. More than 7 absences will result in an AUTOMATIC "F".

## THE UAB ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

UAB expects all students to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Academic misconduct undermines the purpose of education. Unacceptable behaviours such as abetting, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication and misrepresentation are serious violations of the UAB Academic Honor Code and are punishable by a range of penalties. For more information, please visit the UAB website at <http://www.catalog.uab.edu/UAB-Catalog2004-2006/>

## Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

Weekly discussions	10%
Completion of Readings	10%
Unit Essays (8)	60%
Final Oral/Visual Presentation	20%

## TENTATIVE CALENDAR<sup>2</sup>

### AUGUST

- F 8/21 **Revolution:** The Mexican Revolution: Murals and Marxism
- M 8/24 **Revolution:** The Mexican Revolution: Murals and Marxism
- F 8/28 **Revolution:** The Mexican Revolution: Murals and Marxism
- M 8/31 **Revolution:** The Mexican Revolution: Murals and Marxism

### SEPTEMBER

- F 9/4 **Revolution:** The Cuban Revolution: Propaganda and Public Art
- M 9/7 LABOR DAY**
- F 9/11 **Revolution:** The Cuban Revolution: Propaganda and Public Art
- M 9/14 **Revolution:** The Cuban Revolution: Propaganda and Public Art
- F 9/18 **Revolution:** The Cuban Revolution: Propaganda and Public Art
- M 9/21 **Revolution:** The Nicaraguan Revolution: Art and Social Issues
- F 9/25 **Revolution:** The Nicaraguan Revolution: Art and Social Issues
- M 9/28 **Revolution:** The Nicaraguan Revolution: Art and Social Issues

### OCTOBER

- F 10/2 **Revolution:** The Nicaraguan Revolution: Art and Social Issues
- M 10/5 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Chile and Public Expression in Art
- F 10/9 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Chile and Public Expression in Art
- M 10/12 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Chile and Public Expression in Art
- F 10/16 FALL BREAK**
- M 10/19 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Chile and Public Expression in Art
- F 10/23 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Puerto Rico, Cuba & the art of the Exile
- M 10/26 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Puerto Rico, Cuba & the art of the Exile
- F 10/30 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Puerto Rico, Cuba & the art of the Exile

### NOVEMBER

- M 11/2 **The Latin American Political Condition: Dictatorship & Exile:** Puerto Rico, Cuba & the art of the Exile
- F 11/6 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Colombia: The Narcotics Trade, Paramilitarism, and Violence
- M 11/9 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Colombia: The Narcotics Trade, Paramilitarism, and Violence
- F 1/13 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Colombia: The Narcotics Trade, Paramilitarism, and Violence
- M 11/16 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Colombia: The Narcotics Trade, Paramilitarism, and Violence
- F 11/20 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Venezuela: The Oil Economy and Political Power
- M 11/23 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Venezuela: The Oil Economy and Political Power
- F 11/27 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**
- M 11/30 **Economic Conditions and Art:** Venezuela: The Oil Economy and Political Power

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<sup>2</sup> This calendar is subject to change.