

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
School of Arts and Humanities
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Indigenous Latin America (SPA 407-8Q)
Fall 2009

Thursday 07:00 p.m.- 09:30 p.m.
HB 427

Professor: Carlos L. Orihuela, PhD
Office hours: Thursday
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
And by appointment

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I. TEXTBOOK

Alcides Arguedas. *Raza de Bronce*

José María Arguedas. *Los ríos profundos*

Rosario Castellanos. *Balún Canán*

Jorge Icaza. *Huasipungo*

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course offers a survey of the most important authors whose work focuses on the social complexity and cultural process of the indigenous nations in Latin America. The panorama will include critical discussions and reflections on the writing of these authors. Specific objectives include the following:

- 1 To provide an overview of the historical development of the Indigenist Latin American Literature.

- 2 To acquaint students with a variety of Indigenist literary tendencies in the context of the Latin American cultural development and social complexity.
- 3 To provide the means for students to acquire critical readings in order to facilitate textual interpretation.
- 4 To offer a forum for critical discussion, presentation, and debate regarding the Indigenist Literature.
- 5 To give students the necessary background and tools to contextualize and deepen their study of these authors and their works.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, the student will:

- 1 Present research findings to peers.
2. Defend a point of view that may or may not coincide with his/her personal view.
3. Elucidate literary concepts to peers.
4. Synthesize biographical data with information gleaned from an author's work.
5. Interpret poetic and prosaic discourse from a variety of perspectives.
6. Assess the validity of an argument.
7. Analyze the effects of different styles and genres of writing.
8. Challenge arguments that lack substance.
9. Describe cultural beliefs, traditions, etc.

IV. ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION

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:

3-days a week classes: 2 % from the FINAL grade is deducted for EACH absence above 4. More than 9 absences will result in an AUTOMATIC "F".

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".

1-day a week classes (seminars): 2 % from the FINAL grade is deducted for EACH absence above 1. More than 3 absences will result in an AUTOMATIC “F”.

Example for 3-day classes:

Final grade = 93
6 absences (2 above maximum permitted) = $93 - 4 = 89\%$ final grade
10 absences = F

Example for 2-day classes:

Final grade = 90
6 absences (3 above maximum permitted) = $90 - 6 = 84\%$ final grade
8 absences = F

Example for 1-day classes:

Final grade = 95
2 absences (1 above maximum permitted) = $95 - 2 = 93\%$ final grade
4 absences = F

V. CLASSROOM POLICIES

1. Exams are ONLY taken on dates and times indicated on syllabus. Once the exam has started, students will not be allowed to leave the room unless they have finished and turned the exam in.
2. Absences –excused or not- will count against a student’s class participation grade and may also cause points to be deducted from the final grade.
3. The dates of assignments tests, presentations and paper deadlines will be strictly enforced.
4. Any absence due to illness can only be excused with the appropriate medical documentation.
5. Classes begin promptly at hours scheduled. More than ten minutes late to class will be considered one absence, as well as leaving early.
6. There is to be no eating in the classroom.
7. Phones and pagers should be turned off and put away while in class.
8. For better oral production, students will need to refrain from chewing gum in class.

VI. 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 behaviors 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/>

VII. UAB DISABILITY SERVICES

UAB Disability Support Services (DSS) provides a broad array of services and technologies to make the UAB campus—and a UAB education—accessible for everyone. Please visit the UAB DSS website at

<http://students.uab.edu/services/>

III. EVALUATION:

The final grade will depend on the following factors:

1.	Four written exams	60%
2.	One Oral presentation (15 minutes)	10%
3.	Preparation and active participation in class	10%
4.	“Controles de lectura”	10%
5.	One Research Paper (5 pages)	10%
	TOTAL:	100%

CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	CONTENT
8-20	General information and direction about methodology in class. <i>Huasipungo</i>
8-27	<i>Huasipungo</i> - -“Personajes de cultura: Jorge Icaza – Ecuador”.- www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEemXbCsevK
9-3	<i>Huasipungo</i>
9-10	Exam 1 <i>Raza de Bronce</i>
9-17	<i>Raza de Bronce</i>
9-24	<i>Raza de Bronce</i>
10-1	<i>Raza de Bronce</i>
10-8	Examen 2

Los ríos profundos

10-15

Fall Break

10-22

Los ríos profundos

-“José María Arguedas –Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 1.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITM7MqWnPzk

-“José María Arguedas – Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 2.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0Bt0nkwtGA&feature=related

10-29

Los ríos profundos

-“José María Arguedas – Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 3.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEVyhF4V0RM&feature=related

-“José María Arguedas – Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 4.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYRvpYrwk_E&feature=related

11-5

Los ríos profundos

-“José María Arguedas – Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 5.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QSDph5MMQw&NR=1

-“José María Arguedas – Hombres de Bronce” – Parte 6.-

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ur64XQn3Dyo&NR=1

11-12

Examen 3

Balún Canán

11-19

Balún Canán

11-26

Balún Canán

12-3

Balún Canán

Review and orientation

12-10

Final Exam (7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.)