



SPA 341 – Spring 2016
Introduction to Literature in Spanish
Department of Literature & Languages
Texas A&M University-Commerce

Schedule: TH 2:00pm-4:40pm

Location: BA338, MPLX120

Instructor: Dr. María Fernández-Lamarque

Office: HL 313 or MPLX 110

Office hours: M 1-3pm HL 313 or MPLX 110, or by appointment.

Phone: 903-886-5270

E-mail: maria.lamarque@tamuc.edu

*For administrative purposes, this section of the syllabus is in English. However, the class as well as the readings will be entirely in Spanish.

Books required

Sobejano-Morán, Antonio. Tornasol. *Guía para la interpretación de textos literarios y cine*. Panda Publications: Pennsylvania, 2013.

Eco, Umberto. “Entrar en el bosque” en *Seis paseos por los bosques narrativos*. 1994.

Santa Cruz, Victoria. “!Me gritaron negra! en

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=me+gritaron+negra+youtube&view=detail&&mid=7CB5A73BA9B47D43D0DC7CB5A73BA9B47D43D0DC&rvsmid=9F48D40688553EBE4D839F48D40688553EBE4D83&fsscr=0> (197?)

González, Víaña. Eduardo. *Maestro Mateo* (2009) o *!Quién no se llama Carlos!* (2009)

La cabina. Dir. Antonio Mercero.(1972)

Carballido, Emilio. “El censo” (1977)

Description of course content

Practice in original composition and critical thinking through the study of selected literary and cultural texts. This course is of special interest to students who wish to improve their reading comprehension and their writing skills. The main focus will be on acquiring skills for succeeding in upper level literature and culture courses. This primarily means that students will exercise their analytical skills through the close reading of literature in Spanish. Students will also be introduced to literary periodization and key historical contexts for the understanding of literature in Spanish. Students will comment on literary works and apply analytical skills. In other words, the motto in this class is: **Opinions do not matter, analysis does.**

Student learning outcomes

SLO 1- Students will develop writing skills related to critical analysis and creative thinking in Spanish to be measured with their by writing a well-organized, 600 to 800 word essay, in Spanish. The essay must be divided in clearly-defined sections that include an introduction with a clearly-stated

thesis; a body which develops the thesis; and a conclusion that synthesizes and summarizes the information given throughout the essay. This outcome will be assessed by evaluation of the final drafts of the individual project.

SLO 2- Students will develop critical analysis and creative thinking measured by two questions in the final oral exam.

Requirements

Students are required to have at least completed the Spanish language courses including Spa 232.

Assignments and grading

Comentario crítico (5)	25%	A = 100-90
Borrador del ensayo (1)	5%	B = 89-80
Ensayo (1)	15%	C = 79-70
Quizzes (12)	25%	D = 69-60
Participación	5%	F = 59-
Examen final	25%	

The *comentario crítico* assignments are response papers. Characteristics:

No less than 400 words and no more than 500, double-spaced typed in Spanish.

Letter font and size: Times New Roman, 12. Failure to follow these basic guidelines will automatically discount 10 points from your grade.

The topic is assigned in the *Programa de clases*, following these introductory pages.

Unlike more formal papers, a *comentario* does not require intensive research or a specific thesis. It is only a short development of an idea. The *comentario* requires that a student demonstrate analytical thinking by making clear and revealing observations about the assigned topic or text analyzing one aspect of the work's thematic, structural and/or theoretical characteristics.

Evaluation of *comentario crítico* is based on different features according to these registers:

a) Grammatical features: spelling, agreement, verb conjugation, and accent marks.

b) Analytical content: **descriptive comentarios or summaries** will be graded down. Remember that opinions do not matter, analysis does.

Sample *comentario* papers are provided in e-college so that students can see what kind of work is expected.

Ensayo y Borrador

Students in this course will write one formal literary analysis (*ensayo*).

It will have a length of 5-6 pages (at least 2,000 words, excluding bibliography), double-spaced, Times New Roman font, size 12.

The *Ensayo* will be graded both for command of Spanish, following the MLA citation guidelines, and on the following content-related factors: (1) Clear thesis statement; (2) Organization;

(3) Development of ideas (i.e., arguments are explained completely, not partially); (4) Familiarity with text under discussion; (5) Precision of analysis (does not make sweeping, unsupported generalizations).

Another factor is originality, which often separates B *ensayos* from A ones.

To assist students in completing these assignments in satisfactory fashion, a *borrador* (rough draft) will be required for the *Ensayo*. The *borradores* will be graded very liberally; meaning that content not will be graded. The purpose of these drafts is to allow the instructor to provide useful feedback about the

Ensayos. The student will anticipate the main topic of analysis in the *Ensayo*, along with appointed authors that will be used as research.

The *borrador* will have the same length as the *comentario-crítico*, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, and size 12.

The Ensayo Final will have a length of 8 pages excluding bibliography.

Quizzes

Pop reading quizzes and/or in-class writing assignments are given every class session. The quizzes will cover the readings for that week.

Participation

Participation is crucial. Class is based on comment, group work and group discussion every day. You are required to complete all readings before coming to class.

Examen final: The final exam will be both oral and written. Student will demonstrate the ability to analyze any narrative both in content and form. First part: Student will be given a text (short story, poem, play, essay, film) to analyze. Second part: Student will be given a set of questions that measure a) critical thinking b) ability to synthesize c) oral communication.

Attendance policy

Attendance is mandatory. Frequent absenteeism (more than one absence) will result in deduction of points from the final grade. Absences due to documented medical reasons are excused. In light of recent disclosures about the forgery of such notes, I may have to call the doctor's office. Whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to make up missed work. The only absences that do not count beyond the one allowed are those resulting from required participation in university events, hospitalization, or family emergencies of which the instructor has been notified by university officials. A tardy or leaving class early equals 1/2 of an absence.

Late work policy

Late work is not accepted. However, there are sometimes unforeseen circumstances that may cause delays. Any work turned in after the date marked in the syllabus, **even the same day after the class period**, will be deducted a 20%. E-mailed work is not accepted.

E-Culture Policy

When dealing with faculty over e-mail, it is important that students keep the following in mind:

1. Always use the Tamu-c e-mail account to communicate with your instructor. Messages from any other e-mail accounts will not be considered.
2. Always use salutations and signatures. Be courteous.
3. For serious matters use e-mails to facilitate a mutually agreeable time to meet. E-mail should not be used to avoid personal interaction.
4. Never use e-mail to vent or to respond immediately to an emotional situation.
5. Remember that e-mail creates a documentary record of one's communication with others.

Electronic Devices and Bathroom

Use of cell phones and other electronic devices in class is not permitted. Students who use their cell

phones during class will be considered absent and; in consequence a participation grade of zero will be placed for that session. The class lasts two hours and we meet once a week; make sure you use the bathroom before coming to class.

Food and others

Please do not bring food to class for respect to others. I have received a number of complaints regarding this issue.

General University Policies

1. Late work

This is an intense course with no extended deadlines. No late work will be accepted in this course, without exceptions. Work should be submitted by midnight (CT) on the due date provided in the class schedule. Failure to submit an assignment on time will result in a zero (F) grade. In the case of an emergency or other reasonable situation which may affect your submissions, please contact me immediately.

2. Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is borrowing (stealing) the work of others and not giving credit where credit is due. It is unethical and reflects very poorly on a person's character. Copying someone else's work, or asking a friend or tutor to write your work constitutes a violation of the TAMUC Academic Honesty Policy. Likewise, the use of electronic media to translate your work to Spanish is also unacceptable.

STATEMENT OF PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC CHEATING

Plagiarism and Academic Cheating

Plagiarism and academic cheating will not be tolerated in the Department of Literature and Languages. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of work that is not original or work in which unauthorized assistance has been given by another person.¹ Academic cheating is any dishonest practice by students in meeting the academic requirement of courses.

The Literature and Languages faculty want to heighten your awareness of the more common forms of plagiarism. The following categories of plagiarism, often committed unintentionally by students, represent selected forms of unacknowledged borrowing.

- a. Padded Bibliographies. A bibliography is padded if it includes entries which are not cited in the paper and which are not otherwise identified as "Works Consulted."
- b. Improper Use of Indirect Sources. If you want to quote information that someone else has quoted, you must show that you found the material cited in a source other than the original.
- c. Inaccurate Paraphrasing. *Paraphrasing* is expressing someone else's ideas in other words. Some of the key words of the original may appear in the paraphrase; but if exact phrases or sentences are used from the original, then paraphrasing has stopped and quoting has begun.
- d. Improperly Documented Précis and Synopsis. A *précis* is a concise summary of main points; a *synopsis* is a condensed statement or outline of the considered material. Both are shorter than a paraphrase. Both use the student's own words. Like paraphrasing, both require documentation.
- e. Omitted Quotation Marks. Verbatim materials (that is, paragraphs, sentences, phrases, key words) require proper notation in addition to identification of the source.

¹ Discovery of popular historian Stephen Ambrose's plagiarism sparked numerous essays which suggest that plagiarism is still not acceptable. See, for example, Richard A. Posner, "On Plagiarism," *Atlantic Monthly*, April 2002, 23; and Roger Rosenblatt, "When the Hero Takes a Fall," *Time*, 21 January 2002, 130.

Accurate methods of documentation and quoting indicate more than writing skill; they indicate the honesty and fidelity with which students have treated primary and secondary sources. Texas A&M University-Commerce describes the possible consequences of plagiarism in university policy and in the guidebook for students.

Confirmed cases of plagiarism or of academic cheating discovered by instructors will be reported to the head of this department and for referral to the disciplinary committee and/or to the Dean of Student Life will be at the discretion of the instructor. Plagiarism is a serious offense, as serious as cheating on an examination. If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, you should consult your instructor, who is willing to answer questions about proper acknowledgment of borrowed material and documentation.

Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3])

Undergraduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. Faculty and staff are expected to uphold and support student integrity and honesty by maintaining conditions that encourage and enforce academic honesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty ([see definitions](#)). In addition, F-1 and J-1 international students must comply with the Student Exchange Visitor Program regulation related to their visa status. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Regulation 13.99.99.R0.03 'Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty'). For further information please see the *Academic Honesty* statement of the Department of Literature and Languages below.

3. Students with Disabilities

The *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library, Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 / (903) 886-5835

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

www.tamuc.edu/CampusLife/CampusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/default.aspx

1. Student Conduct and Discriminatory Behavior

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*). Students also should consult the Rules of etiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online environment:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, in the campus, and in online courses, with all

federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

6. Withdraws & Incomplete grade

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.

I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

Incomplete grades (grade of “X”) are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances which are fully documented.

7. Grievance procedures

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of the Spanish Program, Dr. Flavia Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu).

If there are still unresolved issues, students need to schedule an appointment with the Department Head, Dr. Hunter Hayes, or Assistant Department Head, Dr. Susan Stewart, by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the Main Office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

8. Tutoring and Advising

Your Instructor: I am your first resource and want to make your experience as positive as possible. Please talk to me if you are having any problems in the course and I will do my best to assist you.

Tutors: Spanish tutoring is available in HL 119. This service is free of charge and is offered daily. Sign up is on the door. Please note that there is a maximum time limit you can sign up for per day, 20 minutes. The Trio Program is also a TAMUC source for tutoring.

Advising: Dr. Flavia Belpoliti is the Spanish Programs adviser. To declare a major, second major, or minor in Spanish, or to get further information on the Spanish program, please make an appointment with Dr. Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu).

9. Technology Requirements for Web-Enhanced / Online courses

To fully take advantage of the LearningStudio platform tools, you will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

- 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
- Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
- Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
- Speakers or headphones.
- Microphone
- Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor.
- Current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

For courses where interactive tools are used, like *VoiceThread* or *ClassLive Pro*, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: <http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>. Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software: Adobe Reader & Adobe Flash Player

At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

For additional information: <https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

Pearson LearningStudio (e-College) Access and Navigation

1) *Pearson LearningStudio (eCol*

2) *lege) Information*

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>.

You will need your **CWID and password** to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

3) *Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support*

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio. Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the [Pearson Learning Studio Help Desk](#), available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

4) *Accessing Help from within Your Course:* Click on the '*Tech Support*' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Academic Dishonesty Appendix

Department of Literature and Languages
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Policy #12
April 28, 2003
ACADEMIC HONESTY

Preamble. Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. Faculty members are expected to employ teaching practices that encourage academic honesty.

1. Academic Dishonesty Defined. Texas A&M University-Commerce defines “academic dishonesty” in the following way (Procedure A13.12 “Academic Honesty”): Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course

assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

2. "Plagiarism" Further Specified. The Department of Literature and Languages builds on the university definition of "plagiarism," given in 1, in the following manner (taken from "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The Council of Writing Program Administrators' Statement on Best Practices" undated, pages 1-2, 12,2003.

<http://www.ilstu.edu/~ddhesse/wpa/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf>

Plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. [. . .] Ethical writers make every effort to acknowledge sources fully and appropriately in accordance with the contexts and genres of their writing. A student who attempts (even if clumsily) to identify and credit his or her source, but who misuses a specific citation format or incorrectly uses quotation marks or other forms of identifying material taken from other sources, has not plagiarized. Instead, such a student should be considered to have failed to cite and document sources appropriately.

3. "Collusion" Further Specified. Collusion specifically includes selling academic products. According to the Texas Penal Code (Title 7 Offenses Against Property, Chapter 32 Fraud, § 32.50 Deceptive

Preparation and Marketing of Academic Product), an "academic product" means a term paper, thesis, dissertation, essay, report, recording, work of art, or other written, recorded, pictorial, or artistic product or material submitted or intended to be submitted by a person to satisfy an academic requirement of the person."

The Texas Penal Code also specifies that person commits a Class C misdemeanor offense "if, with intent to make a profit, the person prepares, sells, offers or advertises for sale, or delivers to another person an academic product when the person knows, or should reasonably have known, that a person intends to submit or use the academic product to satisfy an academic requirement of a person other than the person who prepared the product."

4. Responsibility. Matters of academic dishonesty are handled initially by the instructor. If the instructor feels the problem warrants more attention, it should then be pursued through the department head. If the department head and instructor wish, it should be brought to the attention of the Dean of the college for study and review before being referred to the University Discipline Committee (adapted from Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedure A13.04, "Plagiarism"). Instructors may also choose to refer cases directly to the University Discipline Committee (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 6.a [2]).

5. Statement for Course Outlines. Instructors of record in the Department of Literature and Languages are required to include an Academic Honesty statement in all course outlines. The following language is suggested for that statement:

Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1,2,3])

6. This Policy supersedes Department of Literature and Languages Policy #12, "Plagiarism," dated October 10, 1990, and will be effective until further notice.

7. The Head of the Department of Literature and Languages is responsible for maintaining and reinforcing this and other policies.

Dr. Hunter Hayes, Head, Department of Literature and Languages
April 28, 2003

Extra Credit Cultural Activity: TAMU-C will be hosting the Spanish Film Club subsidized by two grants: one external from PRAGDA and the Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C. and one internal from the University QEP Committee Internal Funds. Calendar of events will be posted shortly. One point extra for each movie attended (max, 3 points) will be added to your final exam and or midterm exam.

Spa 341 - Spring 2016 - Programa de clases

Enero

- Jueves 21
- Introducción y presentación al curso.
 - Comentario del syllabus y la mecánica de la clase: el formato MLA y las reglas de acentuación.
 - Introducción a la Narrativa (1-11)
- Jueves 28
- La narrativa (Leer Unidad 1 “La voz narrativa” y 2 “Los tiempos del relato”). Pgs. 12-34 Quiz 1

Febrero

- Jueves 04
- La narrativa (Leer Unidad 3. “El espacio” y Unidad 4 “Caracterización y descripción) Pgs.35-64 Quiz 2
- Jueves 11
- La narrativa (Leer B. Modalidades narrativas. Unidad 5 “Lo fantástico y la ciencia ficción” y Unidad 6 “Metaficción e intertextualidad”) Pgs. 65-98. Quiz 3.
- Jueves 18
- La narrativa (Leer Unidad 7. “Narrativa mítica” y Unidad 8. “Ficción policíaca) Pgs. 98-126. Quiz 4. Entrega de Comentario crítico 1 (cuento) “Zoo Island” de Tomás Rivera.
- Jueves 25
- El ensayo (Leer Pg. 126-146) Quiz 5. Entrega Borrador del ensayo. *Maestro Mateo* o *¡Quien no se llama Carlos!* de Eduardo González Viaña

Marzo	
Jueves 03	El ensayo (Leer Pgs. 146-162) Quiz 6. Entrega Comentario crítico 2 (ensayo) “Entrar en el bosque” de Umberto Eco en <i>Seis paseos por los bosques narrativos</i> .
Jueves 10	El cine (Ver film)
Jueves 17	SPRING BREAK
Jueves 24	• El cine (Leer Pgs.164-180). Quiz 7. Entrega del ensayo.
Jueves 31	El cine (Leer Pgs.181-205) Quiz 8

Abril

Jueves 07	• La poesía (Leer Unidad 1 “El verso” y Unidad 2 “La estrofa y el poema”) Pgs.208-233. Quiz 9 Entrega Comentario crítico 3 (cine). “La cabina”
Jueves 14	La poesía (Leer Unidad 3 “El lenguaje figurado”) Pgs 235-363. Quiz 10
Jueves 21	• El teatro (Unidad 1 “El texto dramático”) Pgs.366-403. Quiz 11. Entrega Comentario crítico 4 (poesía) “Me gritaron ¡negra!” de Victoria Santa Cruz
Jueves 28	• El teatro (Unidad 2 “El espectáculo teatral) Pgs. 404-509). Quiz 12. Entrega Comentario crítico 5 (teatro) “El censo” de Emilio Carballido.

Mayo

Jueves 05	• Examen final oral y escrito
-----------	-------------------------------

Note: This syllabus may be modified to accommodate unforeseen circumstances.

•