



## **SPA 545, 01W, Teaching Spanish Through Literature & Film**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall Semester 2024

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Cristina González  
Office Location: Virtual  
Office Hours: by appointment via Zoom  
Office Phone: 214-356-9822  
Office Fax: n/a  
University Email Address: cristina.gonzalez@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: email  
Communication Response Time: 2 business days

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Gill, Mary McVey, et al. *Cinema for Spanish Conversation*. Hackett Publishing Company, Incorporated, 2020.

Additional readings provided in D2L

### **Course Description**

#### Descripción del curso

Esta clase presentará al estudiante cómo utilizar el texto fílmico para la enseñanza de la lengua, la cultura, la historia y la sociedad latinoamericana. Las películas, documentales, cortometrajes elegidos servirán de herramienta de estudio sobre dialectología, gramática y lexicología, cultura en la lengua española. La temática fílmica de la clase está dividida en cuatro aspectos temáticos: problemas sociales, historia política, identidades marginalizadas y sociedad e individuo. Además de la selección de

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películas, habrá material sobre estudios realizados en el campo de la pedagogía sobre la utilización del cine como vehículo de instrucción y sus diferentes aproximaciones. Esta clase está diseñada para estudiantes de posgrado.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to produce an analytical research paper for using film to teach specific grammatical structures. The basic elements are: a well-developed introductory paragraph; the comprehensive analysis of vocabulary, syntax, morphology and phonetics in the body of the paper, film analysis; and a clear conclusion plus the Works Cited page. This outcome will be assessed by evaluation of the final drafts of the individual project.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics by showing their understanding on how the usage of films in an educational environment is an important component of liberal education. This outcome will be assessed by evaluation of a question in their final exam.
3. Students will produce and execute a Lesson Plan using one of the films in the textbook. This outcome will be assessed by the professor as well as peer evaluated by fellow students.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **LMS**

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

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## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection 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, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **Instructional Methods**

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

I recommend that you stay vigilant by checking your emails and announcements on D2L regularly many times a day. You should also stay on top of assignments and not wait to the last minute to start or turn in assignments. I am here to help you, but if time constraints do not allow me to help you, you will have to do it alone. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email or text. Our weeks run from Sunday to Sunday. Due dates are Sunday night at 11:59pm CST. I also recommend that you form good relationships with fellow students in the class so that you can bounce ideas off of each other. My last suggestion is please take part in Zoom check-ins. It is a time for us to convene as a group to see how things are goin.

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## **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Example:

Assignments        20%

Discussions        20%

Midterm Exam     30%

Final Exam        30%

TOTAL                100%

## **Assessments**

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[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

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### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Please feel free to email me or text me with any concerns or questions. We can also meet via Zoom if needed. I am here for you and am invested in your learning journey. Therefore, I make myself available to my students. Please let me know how I can assist you not only in this class but also through your masters journey.

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# COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Course Specific Procedures/Policies

### Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### Withdraws & Incomplete grade

A student may drop a course by logging into their 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 conduct according to the [Student Guidebook](#).

Incomplete grades (grade of “X”) are granted *only under rare and extraordinary circumstances* which are fully documented. Students requesting an incomplete grade should contact the instructor as soon as possible, provide all pertinent documentation, and sign the ‘X’ grade contract which details the coursework they need to complete to pass the class.

### 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 Program, Dr. Flavia Belpoliti ([flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu](mailto:flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu)). If there are still unresolved issues, students need to schedule an appointment with the Department Head, Dr. Hunter Hayes ([hunter.hayes@tamuc.edu](mailto:hunter.hayes@tamuc.edu)) by completing a Student Grievance Form, available in the Department Main Office (Talbot Hall 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”).

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# University Specific Procedures

## Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

## TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

## Academic Integrity

*Plagiarism* is borrowing 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.

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. Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty](#).

[13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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## **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination 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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

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## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, 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.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content**

### **Departmental-Specific Procedures**

### **Student Grievance Procedure**

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### **Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness**

In order to measure the level of compliance with the accreditation, throughout the semester I may collect some of the ungraded texts you produce solely for an assessment of program effectiveness that in no way affects students' course grades or GPAs.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Topics	Readings & Assignments
8/26- 9-1	Bienvenida, descripción del curso, a conocernos	<i>8/25: Last day to withdraw all classes.</i>  <i>8/26: First day of classes</i>  Introducción a la clase en D2L. El cine como comunicación, herramienta, las humanidades.
9/2	<i>Día del Trabajador /Labor Day</i>	
9/2-9/8		<i>9/ 11: Census Day (12th day).</i>  <i>Nueva Yol</i> , “Teaching Spanish Caribbean History through in <i>The Time of the Butterflies: The Novel and the Showtime Film</i> ”. Variación Social
9/9-9/15	Mirar documental, subir presentación 1, seguir D2L	Documental Bolívar <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAVSemIWCP8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAVSemIWCP8</a> y “Uses and Abuses of Documentary”. Variación Contextual. <b>Presentación 1</b>
9/16-9/22	Leer y ver presentación 1	<i>Post Mortem</i> y “Forms of Address in Chilean Spanish”. <i>Lengua, lingüística y lenguaje</i> . <b>Presentación 2 y Presentación 3</b>
9/23-9/29	Leer y ver presentaciones 2 y 3	<i>El jardín del edén</i> y “Talking Moving Pictures and Spanish Teaching” Lenguaje cinematográfico. <b>Presentación 4</b>
9/30-10/6	Leer y ver presentación 4	<i>Un juego absurdo</i> y “A Clinical Report of the Use of Motion Pictures in Foreign Language Teaching”. Lenguaje cinematográfico. <b>Presentación 5 y Presentación 6</b>

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10/7- 10/13	Leer y ver presentaciones 5 y 6	<i>Ana y Manuel</i> "Motion Pictures and Spanish Teaching" <i>Sintaxis</i> . <b>Presentación 7 y 8</b>
10/14- 10/20	Leer y ver presenaciones 7 y 8	<i>Paloma de papel</i> . "¿Enseñar gramática y cultura en la lengua extranjera? Empezando en las zonas de mayor resistencia". <i>Morfología</i> . <b>Presentación 9 y 10</b>
10/21- 10/27	Leer y ver presentaciones 9 y 10	<i>Guantanamera</i> y "Variation in Miami Cuban Spanish. Interrogative Intonation" <i>Fonética</i> <a href="http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/spanish/frameset.html">http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/spanish/frameset.html</a> <b>Presentación 11 y 12</b>
10/28- 11/3	Ver y leer presentaciones 11 y 12	<i>El silencio de Neto</i> y "Page and Screen Teaching Ethnic Literature with Film" <i>Lenguaje cinematográfico</i> <b>Presentación 13 y 14</b>
11/4- 11/10	Ver y leer presentaciones 13 y 14	<i>María llena eres de gracias</i> y "Approaches to Grammar Instruction in Teaching Materials: A Study in Current L2 Beginning-level Spanish Textbooks". Semántica <b>Presentación 15</b>
11/11- 11/8	Ver y leer presentación 15	<i>Medalla al empeño</i> y "Sin pelos en la lengua: La adquisición de modismos en la una clase de español como lengua extranjera" <b>Presentación 16</b>
11/9- 11/17	Ver presentación 16 y analizar presentaciones	Presentaciones finales del trabajo final
11/18- 11/24	Ver y analizar presentaciones	Presentaciones finales del trabajo final

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11/25- 12/1	Ver y analizar presentaciones	Presentaciones finales del trabajo final
<i>11/28 – 12/1</i>	<i>Receso de Acción de Gracias / Thanksgiving Break</i>	
12/1 - 12/8		<i>12/6: Last day of classes.</i> Entrega de análisis de film.

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