

COURSE: ARGENTINE LITERATURE

45 clock hours

2 weekly meetings – 1 ½ hours each

Objectives:

- To study core topics and periods in Argentine Literature of the 20th century through intensive readings of masterpieces by Argentine writers
- To learn about and reflect upon aspects of the art, language, history and intellectual life of Argentine culture of the 20th century based on the literary works read and discussed in the course

Contents

This course deals with some of the main Argentine writers of the 20th century such as Roberto Arlt (1900-1942), Jorge Luis Borges (1899-1986), Silvina Ocampo (1903-1993), Julio Cortázar (1914-1984), Juan Gelman (1930), Juan José Saer (1937-1995) and Ricardo Piglia (1941). Their novels, short stories, essays and poems will be read and analyzed in their historical and cultural contexts within Argentine Literature.

Starting from careful reading of their works, the artistic, linguistic, historical and cultural aspects put in the foreground by the texts are considered. In addition, the relationships of these works with relevant events in the artistic, cultural and historical life of 20th-century Argentina are examined.

Intensive reading of the works mentioned in the corpus and the production of comments about them will be central aspects of the classwork during the course. With regard to writers and works, students will be provided with the necessary elements to place them within the framework of Argentine literature and culture, but with the specific objective of contributing to a greater understanding of each writer's work to be studied. The work done on the texts will allow students to deal with them from the perspective of their fields of study.

Reading corpus

Roberto Arlt, *El juguete rabioso* (novel, 1926)
Jorge Luis Borges, *Ficciones* (short stories, 1944)
Julio Cortázar, *Final de juego* (short stories, 1964)
Silvina Ocampo, *Las invitadas* (short stories, 1961)
Juan Gelman, *Cólera Buey* (poems, 1971)
Ricardo Piglia, *Respiración Artificial* (novel, 1980)

Juan José Saer, *Lugar* (short stories, 2000)
Ricardo Piglia, *El último lector* (essays, 2005)

Methodology

- Literary periods, writers and works: introduction, explanation and discussion in class
- Reading “workshops” and comments about the literary works in the course
- Oral presentations by students
- Writing “workshops” of essays on topics related to the writers discussed
- Follow-up and tutorial advice for the students on the course

Evaluation

Term test:	200	points
Brief critical essay 1:	150	points
Brief critical essay 2:	150	points
Final paper:	200	points
Final interview:	100	points
Oral presentation:	100	points
Attendance/Participation:	100	points
Total:	1000	points

Selected critical bibliography

AAVV, Poéticas del relato. Antología de lecturas críticas, Buenos Aires, Norma, 2004.
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BALDERSTON, Daniel, Out of Context. Historical Reference and the Representation of Reality in Borges, Durham and London, Duke University Press, 1993.
BARRENECHEA, Ana María, Textos hispanoamericanos. De Sarmiento a Surduy, Caracas, Monte Ávila, 1978
BOCCANERA, Jorge, Confiar en el misterio. Viaje por la poesía de Juan Gelman, Buenos Aires, Sudamericana, 1994
BORGES, Jorge Luis, Autobiografía. 1899-1970, Buenos Aires, El Ateneo, 1999
BORRE, Omar, Arlt y la crítica (1926-1930). Buenos Aires, América Libre, 1996
BRATOSEVICH, Nicolás y Grupo de Estudios, Ricardo Piglia y la cultura de la contravención Buenos Aires, Atuel, 1997
CORBATA, Jorgelina, Narrativas de la guerra sucia en Argentina, Buenos Aires, Corregidos, 2000
DALMARONI, Miguel, Juan Gelman, contra las fabulaciones del mundo, Buenos Aires, Almagesto, 1993

- FORNET, Jorge, El escritor argentino y la tradición, Ricardo Piglia y la literatura argentina, Buenos, Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2007.
- GIORDANO, Alberto, La experiencia narrativa. Juan José Saer-Felisberto Hernández-Manuel Puig, Rosario, Beatriz Viterbo, 1992
- LEGAZ, María Elena (Coordinadora), Un tal Julio (Cortázar, otras lecturas), Córdoba, Alción Editora, 1998
- MONTALDO, Graciela, De pronto, el campo, Rosario, Beatriz Viterbo, 1993
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- PREMAT, Julio, La dicha de Saturno. Escritura y melancolía en la obra de Juan José Saer, Rosario, Beatriz Viterbo, 2002
- SAITTA, Sylvia, El escritor en el bosque de ladrillos. Una biografía de Roberto Arlt, Buenos Aires, Sudamericana, 2000
- SARLO, Beatriz, Borges, un escritor en las orillas, Buenos Aires, Ariel, 1995
- SARLO, Beatriz, Escritos sobre literatura argentina, Buenos Aires, Siglo XXI, 2007
- SPERANZA, Graciela, Primera persona. Conversaciones con quince narradores argentinos, Buenos Aires, Norma, 1995.
- VAZQUEZ, María Esther, Borges, esplendor y derrota, Barcelona, Tusquets, 1996
- YURKIEVICH, Saúl, Lo lúdico y lo fantástico en la obra de Julio Cortázar, Medir, Fundamentos, 1986