

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures**

**Colonial Figures of the Transatlantic Hispanic World in Text and Film
Winter 2010**



16th Century Image of Christopher Columbus Landing on Hispaniola

Professor: Dr. Victoria Wolff

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Class Code: Spanish 3330G /
Comparative Literature 2294G

Schedule: Tuesdays, 12:30-
2:30; Thursdays 12:30-1:30
and 1:30-2:30

Course Description and Objectives:

In this course we will study important colonial figures of the transatlantic Hispanic world in text and in film, such as Christopher Columbus, Hernán Cortés, Bernal Díaz del Castillo, Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, Lope de Aguirre, Catalina de Erauso or The Lieutenant Nun, and Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz. The course will be divided into thematic modules that will explore The Politics of the Encounter (1492-1992), Competing Visions of the Conquest, and The Role of Women in Conquest, Colonization, and Colonial life. The films we will watch come from Spanish America, Hollywood, and the world of performance art. This course will provide students with a unique opportunity to read and understand colonial texts, challenge preconceived notions of the transatlantic Hispanic colonial world, and show how colonial discourses are present in contemporary popular culture and continue to impact the world in which we live.

Please note that all of the students enrolled in the course will meet together on Tuesdays for two hours (taught in English). On Thursdays, the class will be divided into two, one-hour tutorial sections, one taught in Spanish for the Hispanic Studies students, and one taught in English for the Comparative Literature students.