

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

HISPANIC CULTURES ON FILM

SP 3511G/ Film 3311G

Winter 2023



Mexican Dream Team @ Cannes Film Festival, 2017

Instructor Constanza Burucúa – cburucua@uwo.ca

Office UC 4309

Office Hours Tuesday 2.30 to 4.30 (or by appointment)

Course Timetable

Tuesday 9.30 to 11.30 (SP 3511 & FILM 3311)

Tuesday 11.30 to 12.30 (SP 3511)

Description of the Course – Aims and Objectives

The course will mostly concentrate on Latin American cinemas, referring to a body of films made in different countries since the advent of sound and the rise of the first studios in the region until today, with a strong emphasis on the most recent productions which have been re-defining the landscape of these varied and rich national film industries and film cultures. Always approaching the texts as social and aesthetic practices, attention will be paid to questions of (national and cultural) identity, film history and historiography, realism and ideology, and issues of race and gender.

Learning Outcomes

Upon the effective completion of this course, it is expected that students will have obtained and developed:

- An informed understanding of films, and their respective contexts of production, which are in many ways (economically, socially, aesthetically) very distant from the Hollywood standard and the North American context.
- Critical understanding and appraisal of one's own point of view and standpoint as a knowledgeable spectator when relating to the cinemas produced by a (more or less) distant cultural Other.

Required Readings

Bibliography for each unit / week: available online through the course OWL site.

Assigned weekly readings will be detailed in final version of the syllabus, to be presented on the first day of class (and subsequently uploaded on OWL).

Required Viewing

All the films in this course are available online, the link and /or information about where to find the film/s for each week is provided in the document **HISPANIC CULTURES ON FILM - Course Schedule and Weekly Timetable Winter 2023**.

Course Assessment

- Participation – 15%
- Pop quizzes (films' viewing and readings) – 15% (3 x 5% each) → Weeks 3, 8, 12.
- Short written exercise (850 words approx.) – 15% → Due: Week 5.
- Platform analysis (1000 words approx) – 15% → Due: Week 9.
- Handout (preliminary to final research project) – 15 %
- Final Research Project – 25% → Due: Week 12 or 13.

Detailed descriptions and guidelines for each component will be included in the full version of the syllabus that will be presented on the first day of class.

Course Schedule

Weeks 1 and 2. Introduction to the course: key concepts.

Weeks 3 and 4. The golden age of Mexican cinema.

Weeks 5 and 6. Film, History and Nation in Spanish Cinema.

Week 7. Reading Week.

Week 8. Latin American Documentary – Then and Now.

Week 9. Brazil's Cinema Novo.

Week 10. Gender identities in spaces of confinement.

Week 11. Considerations on race, class and exclusion.

Week 12. Hispanic Cinemas in the Film Festival Circuit.

Week 13. Course Evaluation – Group Exercise and Reflection.

Please Note

This is an abbreviated version of the syllabus. The full version will be presented on the first day of class. Subsequently, it will be uploaded on the course's OWL site.