

Spanish 2104F - Havana: 500 Years of History and Life

Fall 2019, Thursday 5:30-7:30 PM (Fall Reading week in La Havana)

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Room: UC 3325



Description: This 1-week course in La Habana explores cultural differences between the Caribbean and North American life through artistic expressions, history, food, and values. You will engage with the local culture, discover new places, and be exposed to new perspectives; ultimately, this experience will likely re-shape your identity in the global context.

Course Aims:

The course aims to achieve the following:

- Expose you to different histories to illustrate how these have shaped present-day Cuba.
- Get you to know and experience another culture first-hand.
- Expose you to the local cultural production.
- Help you develop an understanding for different cultural frames.
- Familiarize you with new perspectives, new sights, new sounds, new smells, new tastes...
- Expand your worldview through active immersion in a different culture.

Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that, after this life-changing experience, you will have the ability to accomplish the following:

- Demonstrate cultural awareness by reflecting about their identity within a global world.
- Compare artistic expressions and reflect on how those have evolved through time.
- Value the richness of knowing different cultures and multiple perspectives by communicating with a wide range of people and by accommodating yourselves into a different socio-cultural reality

Course Materials (in English):

Readings will be available in OWL

PLAN DE CURSO*

	lunes
SEPTIEMBRE	5 Presentación + Info Session
	12 Intro to the course
	19 Cultura y Sociedad Cubana (Prof. Rafael Montano)
	26 Dialecto cubano (Prof. Joyce Bruhn de Garavito)
OCTUBRE	3 Música cubana (Prof. Victoria Wolf)
	10 Cine cubano (Prof. Constanza Burucua)
	17 Arte Cubano (Prof. Alena Robin)
	24 Padura y la literatura cubana (Prof. Juan Luis Suárez)
	31 Pre-Departure Orientation
NOVIEMBRE	LA HABANA TRIP (Saturday November 2nd-9th)
	14 Individual meetings with students
	21 FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS
	28 FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS
DICIEMBRE	5 Cultural Event Cuban Restaurant - London, ON

*Note: subject to change

EVALUATION

Obligatory readings (short essays): 24%
Group Exploration and Presentation: 10%
Active engagement and participation in activities: 16%
Self-reflection Trip Diary: 15%
Reflections 5%
Final project: 30%

Obligatory Readings (24%)

Students have to prepare for the classes, read the material and take notes in the class. They are also expected to participate asking questions to the presenters. Each week after the presentation a short essay need to be writing. Short essay would be about the topic discuss that week in class. (750 - 1000 words)

Group Exploration and Presentation (10%)

In La Havana we will be visiting a series of f activities/places. In groups of 2-4 people, you will choose one topic and conduct extensive research on it. This will allow you to meet some of your classmates and get to explore some places ahead of time. On the day of the field trip, your group will be in charge of providing an introductory presentation of 10-20 minutes on that place, and guide the rest of the group through the history, culture, anecdotes, etc of that place. It is encouraged that people from different backgrounds bring their expertise into the presentation (some of you can work more on the visual part, some on the history, some on the social context, etc.)

Active Engagement and Participation in Activities (16%)

Attendance is compulsory in this course. You can only miss an activity or field trip in case of an emergency. Active participation implies being engaged in the activities and exhibitions that we attend (i.e. not texting, not talking, asking questions) and demonstrating curiosity.

Self-Reflection Trip Diary (15%)

During the week in Cuba you need to write a diary. One entre per day (Monday to Friday). Each entry is 3%. This diary will allow you to reflect on your experience.

Reflections (5%)

You need to write two reflections: one before going to La Havana and another one when you come back, as a summary of your trip diary. Each reflections is worth 2.5%.

Final Project and Presentation (30%)

For the final project, you will choose one topic that caught your interest during your trip and develop it extensively. The product of your research project can be a video, a paper, a portfolio, a combination of different media, etc.