



Western Arts&Humanities

1. Department of Languages and Cultures

Course Information: Spanish 3531F - Myths, Legends, and Oral Traditions.
Mondays 9:30-10:30; Wednesdays 9:30-11:30.
UCC 58

Prerequisite: Spanish 2200 or permission of the Department.

2. Instructor Information

Course Professor: Dr. Victoria F. Wolff
Office: University College 2307
Office Hours: Mondays 10:30-11:30; Wednesdays 11:30-12:30 (in person)
Teaching Assistant: Oscar Molineros Contento (omoline@uwo.ca)

For all course-related correspondence, please contact me via the messages tool on OWL.

Acknowledgment: Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Attawandaron peoples. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples who are vital contributors to society. I will nurture respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through my teaching, research, and service.

Diversity and Inclusion: This class values and celebrates diversity in all its forms. An inclusive classroom is a space where all feel welcome and supported academically, regardless of background, identity, learning differences, or education. The professor, teaching assistant, and students are expected to work together for thoughtfulness, respect, and academic excellence. The successes of all will be celebrated. Collaborative modes of learning that value the personal experiences of students are at the heart of this course. *Statement adapted from:* <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/ClassClimates>.

Pronouns: Self-expression and self-identification are some my professional and personal values. One way to practice these values is to share preferred gender pronouns. I use *she/her/hers* pronouns. Please let me know what pronouns you prefer.



3. Course Information

Description: This course examines Indigenous, European, and African myths, legends, and oral traditions and the impact they have had, and continue to have, on Hispanic culture.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes: As part of this class, students will refer to previous knowledge to approach new stories. **Preparation.**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to...

- 1) recall and relate information relevant to the cultural contexts of the myths and legends studied in class.
- 2) prepare questions to be able to better summarize and reinforce the essential elements of the stories. **Comprehension.**
- 3) interpret and formulate the stories in different ways. **Application.**
- 4) "go beyond" the text to organize, prepare, and present additional research, evaluation and discussion of issues arising from the stories. **Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation.**

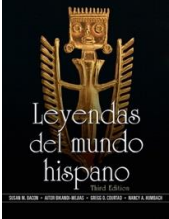
Foreign Language Education: As part of this class, students will practice listening and speaking to improve communication skills.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to...

- 5) apply interpersonal, interpretation, and presentation skills in Spanish;
- 6) employ verbal and non-verbal communication;
- 7) differentiate different perspectives, practices, and products of culture;
- 8) evaluate the cultural context of stories to expand knowledge about vocabulary, syntax, and other features of language;
- 9) formulate ideas and projects that "go beyond" the class to make connections with the community (lending and sharing resources).

Use your Spanish skills for personal enjoyment, personal development, and professional enrichment!

Schedule:

Week 1	12 + 14 September 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leyendas de tu mundo. • La creación Inca (Bolivia, Peru) • Assignment #1
Week 2	19 + 21 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La yerba mate (Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay) • Los Amantes de Teruel (Spain) • Assignment #2
Week 3	26 + 28 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Los volcanes/Los novios (Mexico) • El Abencerraje y la hermosa Jarifa (Islamic Spain) • Assignment #3 • Participation #1
Week 4	3 + 5 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Dorado (Colombia) • La Llorona (Mexico/US) • Assignment #4
Week 5	10 + 12 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving. • Research Paper: Step 1
Week 6	17 + 19 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Session • Individual Meetings • Research Paper: Step 2
Week 7	24 + 26 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Virgen de Guadalupe (Mexico) • La Virgen de la Caridad del Cobre (Cuba) • Assignment #5 • Participation #2
Week 8	31 October + 2 November	Reading Week
Week 9	7 + 9 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El ñandutí (Paraguay) • El Caleuche y la Pincoya (Chile) • Assignment #6
Week 10	14 + 16 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El año que llovieron tortillas (New Mexico: Sephardic) • Los cadejos (El Salvador)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment #7
Week 11	21 + 23 de November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Paper: Step 3 • Participation #3
Week 12	28 + 30 de November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations
Week 13	5 y 7 de December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations • Conclusions

Textbook: *Legendas del mundo hispano* (Pearson, Third Edition 2010).

Sessional Dates of Note:

- Classes begin: September 8, 2022
- Fall Reading Week: October 31 – November 6, 2022
- Classes end: December 8, 2022


4. Materials

Course readings are available via the OWL site (under Course Content, and week by week).

5. Communication

Students should check the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be shared with all students in the class.

Tips and Other Useful Information:

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- Check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours.
 - Updates will be provided on the OWL announcements.
 - Students should connect with the professor and teaching assistant using OWL messages.
 - Messages will be checked daily. Students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours, M-F.
 - This course uses the OWL forum for online discussions.
 - Students can post all general course-related content or questions on the discussion forum so that everyone may access the material and the answers to questions.
 - The discussion forums will be facilitated by the professor and the teaching assistant.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

6. Methods of Evaluation

Student performance is evaluated through rubrics for each type of assignment.

The overall course grade is calculated as listed below:

Evaluation Type	Percentage	Due Dates
Homework Assignments	20%	Sept. 19, 26; Oct. 3, 12; Nov. 7, 14, 21
Participation Reflections	20%	Oct. 5; Nov. 9; Dec. 7
Research Project, Step by Step	60%	Part I Oct. 17; Part II Oct. 26; Part III Nov. 23; Final Presentations Nov. 28, 30; Dec. 5, 7

Assignments are due on OWL by 11:55 pm EST, unless otherwise specified.

Good to know:

- Rubrics used to evaluate assessments will be posted with the instructions.
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days.

Course-Specific Policies and Conditions:

- As this is an “essay course” (with a suffix of F), passing grades on the written components of the research project are required in order to satisfy the Senate specification that students must demonstrate competence in essay writing.
- This is a language course in which creating community is essential to practicing Spanish and understanding Hispanic Culture. I look forward to working with you in each class. Consistent and punctual attendance allows for participation in the course. Unless you are experiencing illness or another serious circumstance, I look forward to seeing you in class.
- When facing missed classes or late arrivals, I will aim to be flexible and understanding with all students. I like to focus on having the best classroom experience to help everyone practice and improve their Spanish.
- I will not take off points for late arrivals or attendance. However, using the grading rubric for Participation, I assess a section for Attendance and Punctuality. The score from this line in the rubric is averaged into your overall mark for Participation. If you have a pattern of late arrivals and/or missed classes over time, this may affect your mark on the Participation mark.

- For your reference, here are the University-wide grade descriptors:

A+	(90-100)	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.
A	(80-89)	Superior work which is clearly above average.
B	(70-79)	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.
C	(60-69)	Competent work, meeting requirements.
D	(50-59)	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	(0-49)	Not acceptable level to pass course

This course will strive for a fair range of grades in all evaluations and final marks.

7. Missed Work

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade: For work < 10% of the total course grade, I can grant academic considerations without referring you to academic counsellors. My policy is the following:

- 1) Please advise me (and as soon as you can) of your inability to meet the course requirement by the date indicated in the calendar.
- 2) I accept late assignments, without taking off points. However, in the grading rubrics, you receive a “organization, planning, and preparedness” (OPP) score. This line in the rubric is averaged into your overall mark for the assignment. If you have a pattern of late assignments, this may affect your evaluation.
- 3) I want to focus on providing meaningful feedback and to help students learn the value of preparedness, time management, and organizational skills. We all work in this class to the best of our abilities in a variety of circumstances, and with an eye to improvement.
- 4) In the case of the final presentation, I will provide a make-up opportunity. However, please be aware that I am unable to accept any evaluations after the last day of classes and I am required to turn in final grades for the course no later than one week after the last day of classes.

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade: You are to provide medical or other supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration.

For further information, please consult the University's Medical Illness Policy at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

The Student Medical Certificate is available at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Note: Missed work may only be managed through one of the mechanisms above.
Thank you for your understanding.

8. Accommodation and Accessibility

Accommodation Policies: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

Religious Accommodation: When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at: <https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

9. Student Success

Tips:

1. Use a planner or application to keep track of your work. Add deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time each week to get organized and manage your schedule.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted.
3. Follow weekly checklists on OWL or create your own to stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through course material. Handwritten notes or even notes on a Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group that meets on a regular basis for peer support.



6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling, check the online discussion boards or contact your professor. I look forward to welcoming you during office hours!
7. Reward yourself for successes.

10. Support

Academic Counselling: Your Home Faculty's Academic Counselling or Academic Advising Office will support or refer you whenever there is an issue affecting your studies, including providing information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here: https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html

Digital Student Experience: Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Learning Development and Success: Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Mental Health Support: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

USC: Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.