



Western Arts & Humanities

Department of Languages and Cultures

¡Seamos creativos! Cultural Production and Community Engagement

Create & Connect! Cultural Production and Community Engagement

Course outline - Winter 2021

SPANISH 3505

¡Seamos creativos! Cultural Production and Community Engagement is a new course conceived to bridge the students' experience of CEL components in their first and second level language courses into a third level content/cultural production course. While working with faculty, staff and local and transnational communities, our students will study, employ and question key theoretical and literary texts, and together they will also curate a space for their own productions (poetry, prose, podcasts, short films) as well as for the creations of the communities to which they are connected. *Course taught in English, with an extra hour tutorial for students of Spanish

Course weight: 0.5, pre-requisites: SP 1030, SP 2200, co-requisite: SP 3300, anti-requisite: CLC 2150 A/B

COMPARATIVE LIT AND CULTURE 2150

Create & Connect! Cultural Production and Community Engagement is a new course conceived to energize the Comparative Literature program through the creation of a dynamic space of learning and culture creation. While working with faculty, staff and local and transnational communities, our students will not only study key theoretical and literary texts, but also curate a space for their own productions (poetry, prose, podcasts, short films) as well as for the creations of the communities to which they are connected.



Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the [Digital Student Experience](#) website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

1. Technical Requirements:



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer



Working microphone



Working webcam

2. Course Overview and Important Dates:



Online Delivery Mode	Weekly synchronous Sessions	Time
Synchronous & Asynchronous (at your own pace before the appointed synchronous sessions)	<u>Joint session</u> Tuesday <u>Tutorial Session</u> Thursday	6:30-8:30PM 6:30-7:30PM Spanish 7:30-8:30PM CLC

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 11	February 13 - 21	April 5	April 6 and 7	April 8 - 30

*November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course without penalty

3. Contact Information



Professor	Contact Information
Dr. Felipe Q. Quintanilla	Email: fquinta@uwo.ca

4. Learning Outcomes

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



- demonstrate understanding of style and form of various genres of cultural artefacts
- interpret long and complex works of Latinamerican literature and art
- express yourself fluently and spontaneously, use the language efficiently and with flexibility, and formulate ideas and opinions precisely
- present clear and detailed descriptions about complex topics
- produce well-structured and artistic pieces of writing about complex topics selecting the appropriate style depending on both, the context and the audience
- demonstrate a relatively high grammar control in order to avoid mistakes that create communicative misunderstandings
- make use of an extensive lexical repertoire, idioms and colloquial expressions both in oral and in written texts
- identify and navigate similarities and differences between your culture and Hispanic worldviews.
- Produce an artistic portfolio that is reflective of a deep engagement with craft and cultures, and their respective communities.

5. Online Participation and Engagement



- ☒ Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible
- ☒ Students with more than 3 absences per semester without academic consideration will get 0 on the participation grade for that semester
- ☒ Students must be ready in their seats and logged in to the Zoom session before the class starts and must stay until the end of the class. Arriving late disrupts the class, as well as leaving early. If a student arrives late or leaves early three times, that will be counted as an absence.
- ☒ Please advise your instructor in cases of unavoidable absence and contact your Home Faculty Academic Counsellor for academic consideration. Without academic consideration, your Attendance grade will be affected.
- ☒ Students can also participate during sessions and also after watching the recording
- ☒ Students can also participate by interacting in the forums with their peers and instructors

Please be aware of the following university regulation: “Because attendance is so important in language courses, any student who, in the opinion of the course coordinator, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course (see UWO Academic Calendar)”. For a complete and detailed academic policy, please check our Department Academic Policy: <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

6. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting
Participación	Online: Mixed	10%
Diary	Paper notebook	15%
Pop quizzes	<i>Kahoot</i> (5*3%)	15%
Group projects Song Audio/visual Transmedia install	Online: Mixed	30%
Portfolio Poetry Narration & dialogue Puppet scene Flash fiction texts Short story	Online: Mixed	30%

(Detailed explanation of each course component will be posted to OWL)

Diary (15%)

Following the advice of many creators, we will endeavor to keep a diary throughout the course of the semester. This diary will not be read by the professor, but the professor still hopes that you will find the motivation to write everyday, even if some days you may not write more than a tiny three sentence paragraph. You are encouraged to purchase a pretty notebook and write by hand, and reserve 20-30 min per day to simply write everything that comes to mind. Do not worry about grammar. But do try to be faithful to your own thoughts; jot them down as they come. If you remember a conversation you may have had, or overheard somewhere, make an effort to reproduce the dialogue. Or if all you can think about is what you need to shop for today when you do your groceries, with that! What are your thoughts on a particular vegetable? Or, are you nervous about having to put on a mask and make your way there? Have you been thinking about a particular friend lately? Why? Or, maybe you just want to talk about an interesting episode you saw yesterday. In others, just write, or write and doodle/illustrate for extra brownie points.

At the end of the term, you will all have a one on one with the professor to talk about your diary. And together we will come up with a grade.

Pop-Quizzes (15%)

Throughout the term, the professor will assign and make available Kahoot Quizzes to be carried out during the live synchronous sessions. There will be 5 of these low stakes surprise quizzes and each one will be worth 3% of the final grade.

Group projects (30%)



Sadly, due to conditions related to the pandemic, this year the CEL project will not entail actual live person to person, physical travel or live group contact. In order to keep a little bit of that CEL flavour, however, I still wanted to assign an independent project that could have some level of community engagement.

In this context, students will be asked to create groups for three different projects, each worth 10% of the final grade. The first is a song, the second a podcast or a documentary and the final one will be a transmedia installation. The groups are encouraged to create a synergy around their three different projects i.e., the song and podcast can be incorporated into a transmedia installation. And each group is also encouraged to reach out to members of the community to help them in the creation of their artistic vision. More info in OWL as the semester progresses.

ART PORTFOLIO: INDEPENDENT PROJECT (30%)

Throughout the semester, students will take part in workshops and in class writing activities. It is expected that throughout this work and that inspired by the study of American texts, that each student will also try their hand at creation.

Each student, therefore, will be expected to complete the semester with a collection of

cultural artifacts of their creation. Specifically, this will be in the form of a portfolio that should include poetry, a stage scene with dialogue, a puppet scene (video), 2 flash fiction pieces, 1 short story, and one piece of literary non-fiction.

NB: More info on each of these components will be posted on OWL.

- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- Zoom proctoring will be used for writing exercises, tests and final exam
- Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and 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

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines 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	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late assignments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 5%/day
- If a student misses an assessment and academic consideration is granted, the student should consult with the professor regarding alternative assessment assignment
- If a make-up assessment is missed, the student will receive an INC and complete the task the next time the course is offered

7. Communication:



- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- A weekly update will be provided on the OWL announcements
- Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL “messages”
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours
- This course will use Zoom for discussions
- This course will use the OWL forum for discussions
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions
- The discussion forums will be monitored daily by instructors or teaching assistants

8. Office Hours:



- Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom. Mon 10-11AM & Thurs 1-2PM
- Students will be able to sign up for an appointment using Sign Up on OWL

9. Professionalism & Privacy:

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:



- Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL
- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed
- Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments
- All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

10. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.



1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

1. Online Etiquette

Some components of this course will involve online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- please “arrive” to class on time

- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor's request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- if you wish to speak, use the "raise hand" function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

2. Western Academic Policies and Statements

Absence from Course Commitments

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use and on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if

there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed [here](#).

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

Academic Offenses

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](#) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail

received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).

Turnitin and other similarity review software

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and [Turnitin.com](#).

11. Arts and Humanities Academic Policies and Statements

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Rounding of Marks Statement

We strive to maintain high standards that reflect the effort that both students and faculty put into the teaching and learning experience during this course. All students will be treated equally and evaluated based only on their actual achievement. **Final grades** on this course, irrespective of the number of decimal places used in marking individual assignments and tests, will be calculated to one decimal place and rounded to the nearest integer, e.g., 74.4 becomes 74, and 74.5 becomes 75. Marks WILL NOT be bumped to the next grade or GPA, e.g. a 79 will NOT be bumped up to an 80, an 84 WILL NOT be bumped up to an 85, etc. The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned.

Support Services

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

- [Registrarial Services](#)
- [Academic Counselling \(Arts and Humanities\)](#)
- [Student Development Services](#)
- [Student Health Services](#)
- [Services Provided by USC](#)
- [Appeal Procedures](#)

Schedule

	Tuesday	Thursday
January	12 Intro Syllabus Ice breaker	14 Poetry Pablo Neruda Pizarnik Vallejo
	19 Poetry Guillen Piñero Javier Zamora	21 Poetry Writing exercise Submit poetry (600 word min) on Saturday at 11:59pm
	26 Narration & Dialogue Workshop with playwright Abhimanyu Acharya	28 Narration & Dialogue Writing exercise Submit scene (800 word min) on Saturday at 11:59pm
February	2 Puppetry TBA	4 Puppetry Workshop Submit photo and backstory of puppet plus a demo of puppet monologue by Saturday at 11:59pm
	9 Micro cuento / Flash fiction Augusto Monterroso Borges TBA	11 Micro cuento / Flash fiction Workshop Submit 2 pieces of flash fiction (50 word max per piece) by Saturday at 11:59pm
	SEMANA DE LECTURA	SEMANA DE LECTURA

	23 Song composition Workshop with Dago Caceres	25 Song composition Writing session Submit song (lyrics and prototype) by Saturday at 11:59pm
March	2 Cuento / Short story Borges Cortazar Bombal	4 Cuento / Short story
	9 Check in Planning for final group project	11 Micro story/Flash fiction reading
	16 Diary chat session Submit short story by Saturday by March 14h at 11:59pm	18 Diary chat session
	23 Lit Review	25 Cuentos/Short Stories
	30 Transmedia install strategy talk	
April		1 Quiz
	6 Final Project Presentations II Final Audio Visual Project	8 Final Project Presentations II Media installations