

Department: MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Course number: SPAN 292W

Title: Senior Seminar for Spanish Majors: Selected Topics in Hispanic Literature

Credits: 3

Contact Person: Roger Travis; Miguel Gomes

Competency Group: W only

Catalog Copy: SPAN 292W. Senior Seminar for Spanish Majors: Selected Topics in Hispanic Literature. Either semester. Three credits. With a change in content, this course may be repeated for credit. Topics focused on a particular area of Spanish or Latin American literature, culture or linguistics.

Course Information: SPAN 292W is a senior seminar or "capstone" course for Spanish majors, especially for those returning from Study Abroad programs, that aims to improve students' abilities in critical analysis of texts, research and writing. The specific course topic changes to match faculty members' research and teaching areas. Extensive reading, in-class discussion, and independent research and writing are core features of the course. This course is taught entirely in Spanish.

b. Describe course requirements (Specify exam formats, nature and scope of weekly reading assignments, nature and scope of writing assignments, problem sets, etc.) Evaluation is based on class participation, a midterm paper, a final research paper, a midterm and final exam. Extensive reading will be required and will be necessary for participation in class discussions. The preparation, through different stages of research and writing, of a final research paper will be a major component of the course grade.

c. List the major themes, issues, topics, etc. to be covered. Topics change from semester to semester according to faculty members' areas of research and teaching expertise. Those areas may include Spain or Latin America, different historical periods, or specific issues and methodological approaches to literary and cultural analysis.

W Criteria : SPAN 292W is a senior seminar or "capstone" course for Spanish majors, especially for those returning from Study Abroad programs. Although the specific course topic changes to match faculty members' research areas, the course always includes formal academic writing and revision, in Spanish, as a key component and course goal. Writing assignments may include book reviews, shorter textual analyses and commentaries, paper abstracts, and research term papers; all of them are designed to engage and respond to the course materials read and discussed in class. In total, the page requirements of revised text amounts to well over 15 pages, which is the usual length of the term paper alone. In general, the written component requirements amount to 50% or more of the final grade. Writing instruction for drafts and revisions is primarily conducted through written commentary and individual tutorials. Draft revisions are a scheduled component of the course program, with schedule and grading

policies an integral part of the course syllabus. The syllabus will also inform students that they must pass the "W" component of the course in order to pass the course.

Role of Grad Students: none

Supplementary Information: This course proposal is designed to create W-in-the-major offerings for the Spanish major under the new General Education requirements.