Recent Spanish Film

COURSE DESIGNATOR  TLDO 3810  Language of Instruction  Spanish
NUMBER OF CREDITS  3 credits  Contact Hours  45 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Our modern times are characterized by the primacy of audiovisual means of communication. This course is designed to increase the students’ analytical capacity with respect to this audiovisual language by studying ten Spanish films, through which they will come to know the most important styles of Spanish cinematography. Through these films, students will also come to a deeper understanding of social and political topics of high relevance to Spanish society in the 20th century.

INSTRUCTOR
TBD

COURSE GOAL
- For students to develop the skills necessary to analyze the visual techniques of film
- For students to reflect personally on the films seen in class and the topics discussed

METHODOLOGY
For each film to be studied, the professor will present an introductory class to impart to the student the historical, cultural, and societal information they need to understand each film. The film will then be viewed in class with commentary by the professor, and following several of the films, students will write a critical analysis or participate in a debate related to the film’s topic.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
Spanish 1004

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS
TBD

GRADING

CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.</td>
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Grading Rubric
Summary of how grades are weighted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analyses</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debates</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Grade</td>
<td>100%</td>
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CLASS SCHEDULE

**WEEK 1**
- Introduction to the course
- View Film: *Bella Epoque* by Trueba
- Work in groups on debate

**WEEK 2**
- Epic Political Films: Propaganda of Franco’s dictatorship during the War
- View Film: *Raza* by José Luis Saénz de Heredia
- Work in groups on debate

**WEEK 3**
- Structural Film: Social crisis during political transition, end of the dictatorship
- View Film: *Cría Cuervos* by Carlos Saura
- Work in groups on debate

**WEEK 4**
- Postmodern film: postmodern comedy, melodrama in the postmodern democracy at the end of the century
- View Film: *Chacha chá* by Antonio del Real
- Group work on debate

**WEEK 5**
- Debate: Film and power in Franco’s dictatorship
- Critical Analysis: *Raza* or *Cría Cuervos*
- Film: *Abre los Ojos* by Alejandro Amenabar

**WEEK 6**
- Pedro Almodóvar and postmodern melodrama at the end of the 20th century
- Course evaluations
- View Film: *Carne Trémula* by Pedro Almodóvar
- Work in groups on debate
WEEK 7

• Debate: Film and postmodern Spanish society
• Critical Analysis: Chachachá or Abre Los Ojos
• Review for Exam
• Midterm Exam

WEEK 8

• No classes

WEEK 9

• Dark humor in the postmodern Spanish melodrama
• View Film: El Día de la Bestia by Alex de la Iglesia
• Work in groups on debate

WEEK 10

• New realism in the 21st century
• Spanish civic films in the 21st century
• View Film: En Bolas by Achero Mañas
• Work in groups on debate

WEEK 11

• Evil in postmodern film and Spanish civic film: compare En Bolas and El Día de la Bestia
• Critical Analysis: El Día de la Bestia or En Bolas
• View Film: Te Doy Mis Ojos by Iciar Bollaín
• Work in groups on debate

WEEK 12

• The sinister and terrifying in Gothic film of the 21st century
• Postmodern film during the crisis of the 21st century: the evolution of Almodóvar and Gothic film
• View Film: El Orfanato by José Antonio Bayona
• Work in groups on film

WEEK 13

• Women and the sinister in the 21st century: compare Te Doy Mis Ojos and El Orfanato
• View Film: El Fiel que Habito by Pedro Almodóvar

WEEK 14
• The Evolution of Amodóvar: El Fiel Que Habito compared to Carne Trémula
• Review
• Final Exam

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student’s responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonesty grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.
Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT
The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.