

**University of North Carolina Wilmington**  
US Latino Literature and Culture

**Course Information**

Instructor: Dr. Amrita Das  
Office: Leutze Hall 286  
Office Hours: T,R 1-2, T 3:30-4:30 or by appointment  
Email: [dasa@uncw.edu](mailto:dasa@uncw.edu) (preferred)  
Office Telephone: 962-2430

Course: SPN 323  
Time: R 3:30-6:15  
Location: Leutze 104

**Pre-requisite: SPN 203 and SPN 305**

**Course Description and Objectives:** A cultural and historical overview with emphasis on literature by the Latinos of the United States since the period of European explorations to the present. The students will be able to discuss and analyze issues of cultural assimilation, biculturalism, racism, immigration, exile among other issues related to the Latinos of the US.

**Required:**

Texts

1. Kanellos, Nicolás. ed. En otra voz: antología de la literatura hispana de los Estados Unidos. Arte Público Press. 2002.
2. Fernández, Roberto G. En la ocho y la doce. Houghton Mifflin. 2001.
3. Other selections. On [BlackBoard](#)

Access to:

1. BlackBoard <<http://ncvista.blackboard.com/>>
2. UNCW Library
3. Active UNCW email account.

**Class Policies**

**Language:** Spanish will be the language of instruction and communication. All assignments will be in Spanish. English or Spanglish will only be used in its proper context.

**Class Behavior:** No food is allowed during class. All cell phones and other electronic gadgets must remain off at all times. Any use of the above-mentioned objects would lead to the student's dismissal from class and earn 0 (zero) participation points for the class. (Please see participation grading criteria below).

**Attendance:** Attendance is compulsory. A student may be absent from 2 (two) classes only. Please use them wisely. Any absence after the second will result in deduction of 10% points from the final grade, and earn 0 participation points and no assignments due that day will be accepted. Tardiness will not be tolerated and being late to class will affect the participation grade.

**Make-up Exam:** There is NO make-up for missed assignments, quizzes, or exams (unless the absence is validated by documentation and the instructor's consent).

**Participation:** Students are expected to come to class prepared for discussion based on the assigned readings. Active participation in class discussions must reflect analytical understanding of the course objectives applied to the text.

**Deadlines:** No late assignment will be accepted, unless it is an emergency, which must be documented and approved by the instructor. No electronic assignment will be accepted. Be organized and follow all deadlines listed in the detailed calendar for this course.

**Electronic resources:** Detailed calendar and other material: other readings and some primary texts will be made available through BlackBoard, or put in Library Course Reserve. Handouts sent through emails or on BlackBoard must be printed for class.

**Academic Honor Code:** All work must be the student's own work. Plagiarizing, on-line translators, use of high-fluency Spanish speakers or any other source other than permitted, is prohibited. Any student found violating this UNIVERSITY POLICY may face up to expulsion from UNCW. Please read the following document for the details about UNCW's honor code <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>

**Disability Services:** Students with disabilities will be accommodated with prior notification to the instructor. Please contact UNCW's Disability services <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/> for further information.

**Safety on campus:** UNCW practices a zero-tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273, Campus Police at 962-222, or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit <http://uncw.edu/wrc/crisis.htm>.

### Evaluation

A 94-100	A- 90-93	B+ 87-89	B 84-86	B- 80-83	C+ 77-79
C 74-76	C- 70-73	D+ 67-69	D 64-66	D- 60-63	F 0-59

**Evaluation components:** The student is responsible to check with the instructor for his or her progress in class.

**Participation and Preparation 15%:** Student will be graded on a 3-point scale for each class. Each component needs to be met with satisfaction for a score of 3.

3: On time, prepared with notes and homework, completion of all instructions and active participation, and use of target language (Spanish) at all times.

2: Late to class, some notes and partial homework, low participation in class activities, or little use of the target language.

1: Late to class, no notes or homework, very little participation in class activities or hardly any use of the target language.

0-Absent, sleeping, use of cell phone or other gadgets or material not pertinent to class, no participation or no use of the target language.

**Quiz 15%:** All readings assigned for class preparation will be tested through short quizzes, based on information in the text.

**Book Report 15%:** Reading of a book by a US Latino author and writing a report. List of texts and report form will be provided on-line.

**Community Outreach Book Drive 20%:** Active participation in the UNCW's Latino Book Club's Book Drive to help local ESL programs. Develop a program to promote the drive, participate in the collection and distribution of the books. A two (2) page report must be turned in by the final exam. The instructor must approve role and project. Report Form will be provided on-line.

**Cultural Events 15%:** Participation in three (3) cultural events that are associated with the US Latino culture. One (1) page report must be turned in within a week of the event participation. Report Form will be provided on-line.

**Mid Term 15 %:** Short answers, identification, and essay type questions on the issues and texts reviewed in class.

**Final 15%:** Short answers, identification, and essay type questions on the issues and texts reviewed in class.

**Calendar** (Detailed Calendar will be provided via BlackBoard site)

August 20: Classes begin

August 27: Community Outreach project details

September 24: MID TERM EXAM

November 5: Book Report due

November 19: Last day of Class

FINAL EXAM

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 3:00-6:00