

Spanish 4324  
History, Memory, and Politics in Contemporary Argentine and Chilean Literature  
Spring 2001

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Office hours: MWF, 1:30 – 2:30, or by appt.

**Description:** This course focuses on the narrative and drama that Argentine and Chilean authors have created during the past half century to reflect on and communicate the unique cultural and socio-historical reality of the Southern Cone. Starting with Borges, we will read and discuss novels, short stories, and plays that recreate, question, and criticize recent political events, particularly the years of the Dirty War, the *desaparecidos*, and the return of democracy. Pre: Span. 3304 or consent; minimum intermediate-high level of oral proficiency.

**Texts:** *9 dramaturgos hispanoamericanos*  
Dorfman, Ariel. *La muerte y la doncella*  
Valenzuela, Luisa. *La realidad nacional desde la cama*  
Allende, Isabel. *De amor y de sombra*  
Skármeta, Antonio. *El cartero de Neruda*  
fotocopias

**Grading:**

20%	Participation in class discussions
20%	Midterm exam
20%	Final exam
30%	Final paper
10%	Journal

**Participation:** Students are expected to have read thoroughly each day's assignment and to be prepared for class discussion. This is a discussion course, so the more you prepare, the better the class will be! More than two absences will result in a lower participation grade.

**Journal:** During the semester, each student is required to watch 4 videos from the following list:

*Camila*  
*La historia oficial*  
*Il Postino* (basis for *Ardiente paciencia*)  
*Kiss of the Spider Woman* (movie version of *Beso de la mujer araña*)  
*Of Love and Shadows* (movie version of *De amor y de sombra*)  
*Death and the Maiden* (movie version of *La muerte y la doncella*)

*House of the Spirits* (movie version of *La casa de los espíritus*, another novel by Allende)

All of these videos are available for free rental at the CAM (Center for Alternative Media) in the University Library or for rental at Blockbuster and/or Moovies. After watching the video, the student will write a 2-pp. response in Spanish, relating the movie to the work on which it is based or to the socio-political context that is being studied in class. This journal will be turned in on the last day of class.

**Exams:** No make-up exams will be given unless prior notice is received.

**Final paper:** This paper will be a research paper based on the narrative of Isabel Allende. Among many possibilities, the student can discuss a specific aspect (thematic, structural, historical, feminist, etc.) of the novel *De amor y de sombra* or some characteristic that is repeated throughout Allende's work. Another possibility is to link the novel to its specific historical-political context. Each paper should include at least 10 sources, of which no more than 5 can be from the internet. A preliminary bibliography is due by April 12. The professor will instruct the students on the use of the electronic MLA bibliography and the proper MLA format for research papers. Requirements: 10-12 pp. long for undergraduates and 15-25 pp. long for graduate students; double-spaced; one-inch margins; 12-point font; MLA format. The grade will be lowered one letter grade for each calendar day late.

## Programa

16	enero	Introducción a la clase; video
18		"El sur" (fotocopia)
23		"El matadero" (fotocopia)
25		<i>Preso sin nombre, celda sin número</i> ; "De noche..."(fotocopias)
30		"Los censores"; "Los mejor calzados" (fotocopias)
1	feb	<i>Beso de la mujer araña</i> , cuadros 1-6
6		<i>Beso</i> , cuadros 7-9
8		<i>El señor Galíndez</i> (fotocopia), 157-177
13		<i>El señor Galíndez</i> , 178-201
15		<i>Potestad</i> (fotocopia)
20		<i>Realidad nacional desde la cama</i> , 7-35
22		<i>Realidad</i> , 35-68
27		<i>Realidad</i> , 68-105
1	mar	EXAMEN PARCIAL

13		<i>Flores de papel</i> , en <i>9 dramaturgos</i> , escenas 1-3
15		<i>Flores de papel</i> , escenas 4-6; evaluaciones
20		<i>Concierto de aniversario</i> (fotocopia)
22		<i>El cartero de Neruda</i> , 9-47
27		<i>Cartero</i> , 49-88
29		<i>Cartero</i> , 89-140
3	abr	<i>De amor y de sombra</i> , 13-57
5		<i>De amor</i> , 57-99
10		<i>De amor</i> , 99-144
12		<i>De amor</i> , 144-188; bibliography due
17		<i>De amor</i> , 188-237
19		<i>De amor</i> , 237-268; Se entrega el diario
24		<i>La muerte y la doncella</i> , primer acto
26		<i>La muerte</i> , segundo acto
1	mayo	<i>La muerte</i> , tercer acto; se entrega el trabajo final

EXAMEN FINAL: sábado, 5 de mayo, 7:45 a.m.