



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course name:	Women Writers in 20 th Century Spain
Course number:	LITT 3103 CSCS
Programs offering course:	Liberal Arts, Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society and Communication, New Media and Journalism – Spanish Programs
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3 credits
Contact hours:	45 hours
Term:	Fall 2019

Course Description

This course will study the narrative of a group of Spanish women writers from the 20th and 21st century. We will analyze their literary relevance as well as the important part played by these writers in portraying a cultural reality: the evolution of the woman's role in Spanish society.

The course begins by analyzing the situation of women in society and the need to express themselves through literature. We will explore the concept of *feminism* in relation to women's social reality in the past and present. We then continue the course focusing on the women from Spain; their presence in Spanish history, society, culture and above all their importance in Spanish literature as writers.

We will begin by reading present day Spanish writers and then continue with their predecessors and Spanish women writers that inspired them.

Spanish writers, *Espido Freire*, *Almudena Grandes*, *Ana Maria Moix*, *Carmen Riera* and *Ana Rossetti* represent the Spanish writers of the 21st century that we will be reading.

The semester will continue with readings and analysis of great Spanish women writers of the 22th century: Rosa Chacel, Carmen Laforet, María Teresa León, Ana María Matute.

Learning Objectives

Our aim is to read, analyze and understand a wide and varied panorama of twentieth and twenty-first century literature written by Spanish women. Selected works correspond to different literary genres (poetry, novel, short story). We will also focus on providing the student with tools to gain the ability to articulate critical essays about the texts read for the course.

The student will analyze certain thematic, stylistic and argumentative aspects in order to examine the historical, social and political situations relevant to the works covered. Study and analysis of the texts will assist in a greater understanding in the evolution of the role of women in Spain in the last century and in the present-day Spain. Class discussions are an essential part to the course. After each reading, the student is encouraged to provide her/his opinion on the contrasts or similarities they find between the texts and their own experiences as students presently living in Spain and interacting with Spanish culture and society on a daily basis.

Course Prerequisites



All readings will be in Spanish. The texts are university-level. It is important that students have a high/advanced knowledge of Spanish language.

4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent). Students need to have a GPA of at least 2.5.

Methods of Instruction

The class will be structured around lectures, class discussion, text analysis and independent projects. The texts will be used to make an introduction to the period of time in which they are written, and the most significant aspects of each work will be studied. The focus will be on the reading material, class discussion and critical analysis of different literary pieces, which is the most important aspect of the course.

The aim of the course is to familiarize the student with women writers and works from 20th and 21st century Spain. We will also focus on providing the student with tools to gain the ability to articulate critical essays about the texts read for the course and changes on the woman's role in Spanish society.

Course Requirements

Presentation: Each student will be responsible for a brief presentation in class (10-12 minutes) concerning one of the various authors studied in class.

Written Assignments: Students will submit written assignments according to instructions given on the first day of class. The student will be able to choose the content of the assignment from the themes/topics discussed and analysed in the classroom. Each assignment should have a minimum of three hours dedicated to it.

Exams: There will be two exams consisting of several questions concerning the works covered in class and issues brought up in class debates. There is a writing element that will consist of analysing the ideas, themes and various structures. The midterm and the final have the same structure; written compositions.

Participation and Attendance: Students should participate actively in class. A great amount of importance will be placed on the discussions of readings and topics that the student has read and prepared prior to class, with direction from the professor. Besides their reading material, some of these topics will require the student to bring researched articles and videos for class discussions

Out of classroom activities:

Other forms of femininity in Sevilla:

1. Visit to Madre de Dios Convent (1496). Active nuns, contemplative nuns. After the visit we will eat typical pastries made in the convent and speak with the nuns.
2. Visit to San Nicolás Church. Sevilla's passion for the mother figure. "La Virgen de la Candelaria".
3. Visit to Rafael Ortiz gallery. Contemporary feminine art.



Assessment and Final Grade

CIEE classes are not graded on a curve nor is there extra credit work. The final grade will be based upon the following criteria:

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| • Mid Term Exam | 25% |
| • Final Exam | 25% |
| • Oral Presentations and Written Assignments | 25% |
| • Participation and Class Attendance | 25% |

Attendance policy

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind. If a student misses class twice without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 5 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 6 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence. Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

* Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Program Manager if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure

Linguistic Resource Center

Students are encouraged to use the Linguistic Resource Center for help with class activities as well as for the final essay

Weekly Schedule

1st Week

- Course Introduction.I
- Women Writers and Feminist Literature.
- Feminism (past and present).

First reading: *La Niña Extranjera*. Ana Rossetti.

Second reading: *Nuestra Familia*. Espido Freire.

2nd Week

What is literature?

- Introduction to literary criticism.

First reading: *Amor de Madre*. Almudena Grandes.



Second Reading: *El reportaje*. Carmen Riera.

3rd Week

- Literature and Commitment
- Poetry.

Reading: *El mapa de la espera*. Ana Rossetti.

4th Week

- Projects presentation
- Analysis and questions on projects and presentations.

5th Week

- Spanish women in the 2nd Republic (1931-1936).
- Spanish women in the civil war (1936-1939).

First reading: *Sistema pedagógico*. María Teresa León.

Second Reading: *Letrados en las vallas*. Maria Teresa Leon.

6th Week

- Review of readings and class content.
- MID TERM EXAM.

7th Week

- Spanish women in the dictatorship.

Reading: *Pecado de Omisión*. Ana María Matute.

8th Week

- Post war realism.

Reading: *Nada*. Carmen Laforet.

9th Week

- The 50's decade
- Spanish "Alienation".

Lectura: *La Conciencia Tranquila*. Carmen Martín Gaité.

10th Week

- The 60's decade.
- Experimental novel.

First reading: *Las Virtudes Peligrosas*. Ana María Moix.

Second reading: *Fueron Testigos*. Rosa Chacel

11th Week

- Spanish women in the transition to democracy (1975-1981).
- Reading: *Correo Urgente*. Ana María Moix.

12th Week



- Review. Final papers handed in.
- FINAL EXAMS.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA BÁSICA.

- Grandes, Almudena. *Modelos de mujer*. Editorial Tusquets
- Laforet, Carmen. *Nada*. Editorial Destino
- Laforet, Carmen. *Carta a don Juan*. Editorial Menos Cuarto
- Navajo, Ymelda, ed. *Doce relatos de mujeres*
- Rossetti, Ana. *El mapa de la espera*. Editorial Polibea
- VV.AA. *Relatos de mujeres (1)*. Editorial Popular
- VV.AA. *Relatos de mujeres (3)*. Editorial Popular

Other Readings

- Basanta, A. *La novela española de nuestra época*. Anaya, 1990. *La literatura de la postguerra: La narrativa*. Cincel, 1981.
- Brown, G.G. *Historia de la literatura española VI. El siglo XX*. Ariel, 1981.
- Corrales Egea, J. *La novela española actual*. DU, 1971.
- Davies, C. *Contemporary Feminist Fiction in Spain*. Berg, 1994.
- Folguera, P. (coord.). *El feminismo en España. Dos siglos de historia*. Ed. Pablo Iglesias, 1981
- Fuente, Inmaculada de la. *Mujeres de la posguerra*. Editorial Planeta, 2002.
- Lázaro Carreter, F/E. Correa Calderón. *Cómo se comenta un texto literario*. Cátedra, 1983.
- Lopez, Francisca. *Mito y discurso en la novela femenina de posguerra en España*. Ed. Pliegos, 2016.
- Martinell Gifre, E. *Al encuentro de Carmen Martín Gaité*. Barcelona. 1997.
- *El mundo de los objetos en la obra de Carmen Martín Gaité*. Universidad de Extremadura, 1996.
- Silva Ortega, May. *Mujeres, política y medios de comunicación*. Fundación Audiovisual de Andalucía, 2008.
- Sobejano, G. *Novela española de nuestro tiempo*. Prensa Española, 1975.
- Rico, F. *Historia crítica de la literatura española: Domingo Yndurain. Epoca contemporánea, 1939-1980*. Crítica, 1980.
- Wellek, R. and A. Warren. *Theory of Literature*. Harvest, 1970.

It is recommended that students purchase a good Spanish language dictionary, for example: *Diccionario para la enseñanza de la lengua española para extranjeros*. Manuel Alvar. Editorial Vox.

Recommended Links

www.cervantesvirtual.com