



CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course name:	Spanish Literature: Women in Contemporary Spain
Course number:	LITT 3003 ALSP
Programs offering course:	Alicante Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2019

In this course students explore contemporary themes in Spanish literature with professors who are experts in the field. Through reading critical and literary texts, students explore the theme of women in Spanish literature and as writers of texts. The course examines selected prose, novels, short stories, and memoirs by important Spanish women writers since the mid-19th century. Students explore themes of gender, such as relationships, sexuality, women and nature, women and politics, women and creativity, and myths of femaleness.

Learning Objectives

Students will study the life and works of the most representative women writers of the Spanish literature. Students will know the status of women in the Spanish literature scene and its relationship with the social historical context.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

Sessions will combine lectures with the in-class discussion of readings from the books and films included in the syllabus. Students will be expected to participate actively in class sessions and make insightful contributions to foster class debate.

Assessment and Final Grade

Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Final Paper	20%
Oral Presentation	15%
Class participation	20%

Course Requirements



Midterm Exam

It will consist of three parts: 10 short answer, essay about a specific topic (2 options will be given) and a text commentary. The short answer will be about 50 words long and the essay and text analysis will be 250 words each minimum.

Final Exam

The final exam will be based on all the content covered from the midterm until the final exam day. The final exam consists of three parts: 10 short answer, 1 essay of a specific topic (2 options will be given) and a text commentary. The short answer will be about 50 words long and the essay and text analysis will be 250 words each minimum.

Final Paper

The student may choose between three types of project: a) a literary critical analysis, b) a comparative analysis of different novels from the same author, c) study of a concrete element in an author literary work.

Proposed readings and authors (all books could be found at the University of Alicante Library or Fnac bookstore):

- *Contra el Viento*, Ángeles Caso
- *Caperucita en Manhattan*, Carmen Martín Gaité
- *Primera Memoria*, Ana María Matute
- *El despertar de la señorita Primm*, Natalia Sanmartín Fenollera
- *La ridícula idea de no volver a verte*, Rosa Montero
- *Queda la noche*, Soledad Puértolas
- *Atlas de geografía humana*, Almudena Grandes
- *Melocotones helados*, Espido Freire
- *Algún amor que no mate*, Dulce Chacón
- *Amor o lo que sea*, Laura Freixas

The project will have an extension of 3,000 words (10-12 pages). Students can include pictures and other material that then consider necessary. The project format is: Font: Times New Roman (or similar), Font size: 12, Interline: 1.5, Format of document: .doc (Microsoft Office Word). MLA citation format.

The project will be submitted by email and also printed. The student is responsible to make sure that the teacher receives the document in word format (.doc). If there is any problem receiving or opening the document is student responsibility to solve the problem. If the problem persists it will be a 0 in the final grade. It is important to save a copy of the documents in USB or similar to avoid last minute "technical problems".



CIEE ACADEMIC POLICIES

Papers and assignments submission

According to CIEE Alicante academic norms all assignments, paper, readings, etc. must be turned in on the due date. Late submissions of coursework/assignments during the course of the term of study are not accepted.

If an exception is granted by the Academic Director, the new deadline for the assignment will be set for the next earliest possible date for the student for reasonably submit the assignment.

Course Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify (via e-mail with a copy to the Resident Director or Program Coordinator) their instructor beforehand if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class during their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the professor and the RD or PC and provide appropriate documentation.

For CIEE courses, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent (student will be reminded of the policy). Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or events, etc. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused.

An absence in a CIEE course will be only considered excused if:

- 1) A doctor's note is provided. The UA medical center does not generally provide class absence notes. In the case a doctor's absence note is extremely necessary, students will need to go to the Vithas International Hospital to be examined.
- 2) A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
- 3) Evidence is provided of a family emergency

Persistent absenteeism (students exceeding 10% of the total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policy in more than one class) will lead to a written warning from the RD, notification to the home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reductions in class grade(s).

- 1) Since each CIEE Alicante course is 45 hours, 10% of the total course hours are 4.5 hours.
- 2) Students who miss more than 4.5 hours of class without justification will see their final grade reduced by -5%. For instance, students achieving a grade of 89.00 out of 100 points and missing more than 4.5 hours of class will see their grade reduced from 89.00 (B+) to 84.00 (B).

Students with unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course. Written warnings and home school notifications will happen well before the absenteeism causes the student to fail the course so that the student has an opportunity for corrective actions.



Likewise, if any CIEE group organized activity/informational session (e.g. Intercultural development sessions) is scheduled during class hours, attendance to this activity or session is also mandatory for all students enrolled in courses that meet during that block of time. Not attending these CIEE group organized activities/sessions during regular class hours will result in an absence.

Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment may result in failing the course or being expelled from the program. Students are expected to adhere to the US American and norms.

Important principles:

- 1) Final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from other person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an "open book" basis).
- 2) The same written paper may not be submitted in more than one course.
- 3) Any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with the course

Add/Drop

The add/drop period last for 1 week after the start of the courses. After the end of the add/drop period, the student's registration is considered final, and no course(s) may be changed or deleted from the student's CIEE Academic Record.

Withdrawal from a course

Students are required to register in 5 courses during their studies at CIEE Alicante. Each CIEE course is worth 3 credits (45 contact hours) and each Universidad de Alicante course is worth 4 credits (60h - unless the course has more than 60h of instruction). If exceptional circumstances warrant, the student may request permission from the Center Director to withdraw from a course. However, a student participating in a semester program is not allowed to drop below 12 US semester credits.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

- 1.1 The first week will be an Introduction to the course and to the concept of women's literature. We will review the different approaches and controversy about the topic.
- 1.2 We will study the XXth century Spain socio-political context and specially the situation of women.
Class debate: women's writing vs feminist literature.



Week 2

- 2.1 Introduction of the two movements Realismo and Naturalismo.
- 2.2 Life and works of one of its more relevant representative: Emilia Pardo Bazán.
Excerpt: *En tranvía*.

Week 3

- 3.1 Students will learn about Spanish Modernismo and The Generation of 98.
- 3.2 Life and works of Carmen de Burgos.
Excerpt: *La flor de la playa*.

Week 4

- 4.1 Introduction to the avant-gard movements in Europe and the influence they had in Spanish Arts. We will study the main characteristics of two generations of authors: Generation of 14 and Generation of 27.
- 4.2 Life and works of Rosa Chacel.
Selection of poems.

Week 5

- 5.1 General review.
- 5.2 During this week we will have the Midterms exams.

Week 6

- 6.1 Film projection: *La voz dormida*, a film adaptation of the novel with the same name written by Dulce Chacón. It's the story of a women's jail after the Spanish Civil War.
- 6.2 Debate about the film.

Week 7

- 7.1 After the tragic event that was the Spanish Civil War, we arrive to postwar literature and a new emergent movement: Social Realism.
- 7.2 Analyze works of Ana María Matute and Carmen Laforet.

Week 8

- 8.1 Along with the Transition to Democracy come freedom so new trends and styles started showing up. We will focus on life and works of Carmen Martín Gaité. Passage: *Usos amorosos de la posguerra Española*. Passage: *Entre visillos*.
- 8.2 Literary Coffee, that means, we will have class down town in a café close to the Main Theatre where artists usually gather.



Week 9

- 9.1 Film projection: *La plaza del diamante*, a film adaptation of the novel with the same name written by Mercè Rodoreda. It's the story of a woman and her personal evolution in times of hunger, worries and uncertainty.
- 9.2 Debate about the film.

Week 10

- 10.1 Since the production during the Transition and first democratic years was very productive, we will study and compare the works of several writers: Almodena Grandes. Passage: *Modelos de mujer*.
- 10.2 Elvira Lindo. Passage: *Lugares que no quiero compartir con nadie*. Rosa Montero. Selection of articles.

Week 11

- 11.1 Nowadays we have a large amount of literary options, styles and genres. In this unit we will establish the most important contemporary trends, its characteristics and main themes. We'll see how new technologies have influenced literature and will have a look from the traditional image of women to cyberfeminism.
- 11.2 We will study different excerpts from the works of Lucía Etxebarria. Passage: *Amor, curiosidad, Prozac y dudas*. Passage: *La eva futura*. Students will have their ORAL PRESENTATIONS during this week.

Week 12

- 12.1 To conclude with the new trends in literature, we will study the life and work of Espido Freire as a representative of a young Spaniards generation. Passage: *La generación de las mil emociones*. FINAL PAPER

Week 13

- 13.1 General review
- 13.2 General review

Week 14

- 14.1 Final exam

Readings

- Arraiga Flórez, Mercedes. 2003 *Literatura escrita por mujeres, escritura femenina y literatura feminista*. IV Seminario de la Asociación de Estudios de Mujeres (AUDEM), nº 4. Universidad de Sevilla.
- Prados, Emilio (et al). 2006. *Mujer y literatura en el siglo XX*. Actas del seminario *Mujer y literatura del siglo XX*, 2005. Centro Cultural Generación del 27, Málaga.



- Selections of excerpts from the following readings:
- Burgos, Carmen. La flor de la playa. Ed. Castalia, 1989.
- Chacel, Rosa. Selection of poems.
- Etxebarría, Lucia. La Eva futura / La letra futura. Destino, 2001.
- _____. Amor, curiosidad, prozac y dudas. Ed. Plaza & Janés, 1997.
- Freire, Espido. La generación de las mil emociones. Ariel, 2008.
- Grandes, Almudena. Modelos de mujer. Tusquets Editores, 2009.
- Laforet, Carmen. Nada. Ed. Desdtino, 2006.
- Lindo, Elvira. Lugares que no quiero compartir con nadie. Seix Barral, 2013.
- Martín Gaité, Carmen. Usos amorosos de la posguerra española. Ed. Anagrama, 1994.
- _____. Entre Visillos. Destino, 2001.
- Matute, Ana María. Los de la tienda. Ed. Plaza & Janés, 1999.
- Montero, Rosa. Selection of articles from the national newspaper El Pais.
- Pardo Bazán, Emilia. En Tranvía. Ed. Fundación José Antonio de Castro, 2005.