HP214-15 Latin American Counterpoints: Cultural Representations of Slavery in the 20th Century

26/27

Department
School of Modern Languages and Cultures
Level
Undergraduate Level 2
Module leader
Fabienne Viala
Credit value
15
Module duration
10 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module explores the importance of slavery, its consequences in Latin American societies and its representation in contemporary Latin American music, film and literature.

Module web page

Module aims

Since the anti-slavery texts written by authors of the criollo elite in the 19th century, the representation of the slave or indentured servant took new shapes in popular culture and slavery is a constant reservoir of images in Latin American literature, music and cinema, often dependent on contemporary, social and political agendas. We will discuss how Indian and African slavery affect the national imaginations in 20th century Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Weeks 1-5: Cuba's literature and slavery

1. Introduction: Defining slavery in Latin America.
2. El Reino de Este Mundo, A new perspective on slavery
3. Carpentier and La Nueva Novela Latino Americana
4. Esteban Montejo's Testimonio
5. Slavery revisited by the Cuban Revolution

Week 7 to 10
7. Rosario Castellanos's Literary Indigenismo
8. Legacies of Slavery in Ciudad Real
9. Mayra Santos Febres and the Puerto Rican Afro Latina perspective
10. Reenactment of bondage and Techniques of Memorialisation in Fe en Disfraz

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate relevant factual knowledge of twentieth-century narrative and its socio-political context in the Spanish Americas
- Develop their linguistic grasp of the target language and close reading literary analysis of the primary texts
- Compare the history and legacies of Transatlantic Slavery in the Spanish Caribbean to Latin American Indigenous exploitation in the continental Americas

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

International

All modules delivered in SMLC are necessarily international. Students engage with themes and ideas from a culture other than that of the UK and employ their linguistic skills in the analysis of primary materials from a non-Anglophone context. Students will also be encouraged to draw on the experiences of visiting exchange students in the classroom and will frequently engage with theoretical and critical frameworks from across the world.

Subject specific skills

This module will develop students' linguistic skills through engaging with primary materials in the target language. It will build students' capacity to engage with aspects of Hispanic culture through

analysis of this primary material and through seminar discussion aimed at deeper critical thinking. In particular, students' awareness of slavery in the 20thc will be enhanced through lectures and seminars which engage in scholarship in the field.

Transferable skills

All SMLC culture modules demand critical and analytical engagement with artefacts from target-language cultures. In the course of independent study, class work and assessment students will develop the following skills: written and oral communication, creative and critical thinking, problem solving and analysis, time management and organisation, independent research in both English and their target language(s), intercultural understanding and the ability to mediate between languages and cultures, ICT literacy in both English and the target language(s), personal responsibility and the exercise of initiative.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Tutorials	1 session of 2 hours (1%)
Private study	130 hours (87%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Assessed essay Essay 1	50%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Assessed essay Essay 2	50%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in the course of the module in a number of ways. Feedback should be understood to be both formal and informal and is not restricted to feedback on formal written work. Oral feedback will be provided by the module tutor in the course of seminar discussion. This may include feedback on points raised in small group work or in the course of individual presentations or larger group discussion.
Written feedback will be provided on formal assessment using the standard SMLC Assessed Work feedback form appropriate to the assessment. Feedback is intended to enable continuous improvement throughout the module and written feedback is generally the final stage of this feedback process. Feedback will always demonstrate areas of success and areas for future development, which can be applied to future assessment. Feedback will be both discipline-specific and focussed on key transferrable skills, enabling students to apply this feedback to their future professional lives. Feedback will be fair and reasonable and will be linked to the SMLC marking scheme appropriate to the module.

Availability

Courses

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 2 of UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies