

HP105-30 Introduction to the Hispanic World

27/28

Department

School of Modern Languages and Cultures

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

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Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This introductory module offers first-year students a broad and engaging exploration of the diverse cultures, histories, and societies that make up the Hispanic world. Across six thematic blocks, students will begin with a general overview of the historical and linguistic development of the Hispanic World. The following blocks then focus on key artistic and cultural genres—including poetry, fiction, film, visual culture, and performance—providing accessible entry points into major works, movements, and writers. Through guided readings, discussions, and multimedia materials, we place particular emphasis on developing skills of analysis and argumentation, through the close reading of primary texts which centre on iconic figures and authors, equipping students with foundational knowledge and skills.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The aim of this module is to introduce students to major cultural landmarks from across the temporal, geographical, and disciplinary range covered within Hispanic Studies. It will allow

students to engage with different genres and with canonical authors whose work has been influential in a Hispanic context and beyond. In all cases, emphasis will be placed on the close analysis of primary material, in order (i) to foster the critical skills of literary and visual analysis; (ii) to develop students' linguistic abilities alongside work done in language modules; (iii) to increase students' awareness of the range and diversity of Hispanic culture.

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 1-3: The Hispanic World – A General Introduction

Week 4-7: Poetry across the Hispanic World: an exploration of major poetic voices, introducing students to foundational texts and techniques of poetic analysis, engaging with Golden Age lyric poetry, modernismo or Latina/Chicana poetry.

Week 8-10: Narrative: a study of narrative genres, such as the Latin American short story or excerpts from longer fiction. Texts may include works by authors such as Cervantes, Jorge Luis Borges, Emilia Pardo Bazán, Rosario Castellanos or others representing major narrative movements of the Hispanic world (e.g. magical realism, etc.).

Week 11-13: Film and Audio-Visual Cultures: an introduction to the cinematic traditions and contemporary screen cultures of the Hispanic world, examining film language, key directors, and cultural contexts.

Weeks 14-16: Visual Cultures: a survey of visual expression, including painting, photography, and graphic arts. Examples may include Francisco de Goya, Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo or Maruja Mallo.

Weeks 17-20: An examination of performance traditions such as theatre, dance, and live art, ranging from early modern dramatic texts by Lope de Vega to the lyrical and performative culture of tango and other popular genres.

Learning outcomes

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

- An awareness of a range of genres within Hispanic culture, exploring examples drawn from different areas of the discipline, including literature, film, visual arts and music.
- An ability to analyse complex literary texts and other cultural output, making use of scholarship where appropriate
- An ability to marshal information and present a clear and cogent argument anchored in the analysis of primary material
- An ability and willingness to engage with other cultures, appreciating their distinctive features (Level 4)
- Knowledge, awareness and understanding of one or more cultures and societies, other than their own (Level 4)

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 influential cultural figures and genres from different areas of the Hispanic world will be enhanced through lectures and seminars which engage with 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	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	264 hours (88%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Preparation for seminars, including reading the primary text and any tasks specified by the module tutor; carrying out research for assessed work, guided by the module bibliography; planning and

writing assessments.

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 A3

Weighting Study time Eligible for self-certification

Assessment component

Written Assignment 1 (1,000-1,250 words) 25%	Yes (extension)
Textual/film analysis (20%) and bibliography (5%)	

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Argumentative task (1250-1500 words) 35%	Yes (extension)
Argumentative task (25%) and annotated bibliography (10%)	

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Written Assignment 3 (2000-2250 words) 40%	Yes (extension)
Final essay	

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 Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UHPA-QR34 Undergraduate English and Hispanic Studies
- Year 1 of UHPA-R400 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4L1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Economics (4-year)
- ULNA-R4RF Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and French
 - Year 1 of R4RF Hispanic Studies and French
 - Year 1 of R4RF Hispanic Studies and French
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4RG Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and German
- ULNA-R4V1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and History
 - Year 1 of R4V1 Hispanic Studies and History
 - Year 1 of R4V1 Hispanic Studies and History
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4RH Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Italian
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4Q1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Linguistics
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4W4 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Theatre Studies
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4T6 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Arabic
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4T1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Chinese
- Year 1 of UHPA-RP43 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Film Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4RK Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with German
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4RL Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Italian
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4T2 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Japanese
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4Q2 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Linguistics
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4R5 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Portuguese
- Year 1 of UHPA-R4R7 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies with Russian
- Year 1 of ULNA-R902 Undergraduate Modern Language Studies
- Year 1 of UFRA-R900 Undergraduate Modern Languages
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9L1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Economics (4-year)
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics

- Year 1 of UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
- Year 1 of UPOA-M16H Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies (3 year degree)
- RV41 Hispanic Studies and History