



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

SPAN 532.1-SPAN 632.1
Neoliberalism in Latin American Cinemas
Fall 2020
WF 14:00-15:15 Synchronous on Zoom
Lab TBA
COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. N. Bermúdez-Barrios, PhD.

OFFICE HOURS: Zoom link and password will be provided on D2L for each meeting, 13-13:50 WF

E-MAIL: nbermude@ucalgary.ca I will respond to e-mails within 48 hs during weekdays.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: N/A

DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the representation of the political and socio-economic model known as 'Latin-American' neoliberalism. Films focusing on finances, job conditions, the market, global endeavours, among other concerns, will be used to discuss the effects of neoliberalism, cinematographic technique, genres, and film theory. This course relies on close and attentive reading and examination of academic texts, both in English and Spanish, the careful and timely critical viewing of films, and the planning and completion of daily activities both individually and in group.

OBJECTIVES

Moving away from restrictive literary and content-based studies of cinema, this course will pay attention to film theories and techniques. Likewise, the study of neoliberalism and its impacts will help to situate Latin-American cinemas in a globalized economic and political order. Concurrently, the social spaces generated by neoliberalism and the correlates of gender, ethnicity, social class, affect, among others, will also be explored. These guiding objectives are also closely linked to the acquisition of visual literacy.

OUTCOMES

Al final del curso podrás describir, analizar y evaluar la conexión entre conceptos teóricos y el contenido y la estructura formal de recientes filmes de varios países latinoamericanos. También podrás entender los contextos nacionales, regionales y transnacionales necesarios para comprender la discusión sobre el impacto del neoliberalismo. Asimismo, obtendrás las herramientas para estudiar y debatir los temas de los filmes dentro de sus contextos, analizar sus técnicas, escribir ensayos académicos y estar al tanto de tus procesos de aprendizaje.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

📌 King, John, y Gilberto Bello. *El carrete mágico: Una historia del cine latinoamericano*. Bogotá: Tercer Mundo Editores, 1994. Descarga en <http://filosofia.uaq.mx/diidxaza/fils/carretem.pdf>

📌 Electronic articles and other material. Titles and urls will be reflected on the syllabus. Reading and studying all material is mandatory. You can either download or print it out.

📌 A list of films found on the syllabus. You can purchase these films online. Make sure they are subtitled.

📌 A further requirement for this course is a willingness to work hard and an openness to reconsidering your mental models about film viewing, film criticism, and theory, writing and thinking about film, and meaningful and constant class participation and attendance.




Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates.
- A current and updated web browser.
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external).
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone.
- Zoom
- Adobe reader.
- A cell phone with a camera, any video application, and cables to upload audio and/or videos onto Nearpod and/or D2L.
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled.
- Stable internet connection.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

-  Díez Fernández, Federico y José Martínez Abadía. *Manual básico de lenguaje y narrativa audiovisual*. Paidós, 1999. Descarga en <https://sixtoon.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/manual-basico-de-narrativa-y-lenguaje-audiovisual.pdf>

COURSE NOTES

- *Important dates.*

The class will be conducted on WF 14:00-15:15 on synchronous Zoom meetings. Most discussions, debates, student moderation, etc., will be carried out daily. For written assignment due dates, see the syllabus on D2L. No meetings on Nov. 11-13. Classes end on Dec. 9. The Learning Portfolio will be due on Dec. 16.

- *Guidelines for submitting assignments, and expectations for writing quality.*

It is expected that all assignments will be completed on or before the due date. For written work, only word and pdf formats will be accepted (no google docs, Share Point, or jpeg). All papers will follow *MLA 8 ed.* specifications-links on D2L-, as well as the rules appearing on the rubrics and ancillary material on D2L. Most of the writing exercises will be asynchronous, although some will require in-class synchronous writing. Mark any document with your last name and date. You may choose to submit audio answers as mp3 or videos as mp4. Unmarked documents and/or files will not be accepted and will receive an F.

- *Policy in case of missed or late assignments.*

Extensions will be granted only in cases of extenuating circumstances; neither other work, unawareness about class activities, nor lack of synchronous attendance constitute an extenuating circumstance.

- *Attendance and participation.*

Synchronous attendance, organic discussions, film technique activities, group debates, discussion moderation, informational interview, will count towards the grade for attendance and participation. Attendance at all course meetings, and planning and preparation of assignments in advance of class is expected. For successful participation, each 75 minutes of class time will require 4 hours of studying, equalling at least 8 hours per week. You will use this time for viewing films, taking notes on their themes and techniques, reading material, learning theoretical and other concepts, answering guiding questions, contributing to organic discussions, thinking and recording analytical and critical comments, questions, and answers, and writing essays and shorter pieces. It is also expected that students will engage in an escalating and reflective learning process (Find all rubrics on D2L).

- *Class etiquette.*

Use of a camera and a microphone for face participation are part of class etiquette. Raising your hand on Zoom is recommended. You can also write your questions and contributions on the general chat section on



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

Zoom during synchronous meetings. No eating. Cell phones, and or headphones are only to be used if needed for the class. Multitasking is a myth that I do not condone. The same rules apply to the lab.

- *Guidelines for Zoom meetings and use of technology during class (other than guidelines mentioned in last section).*

Zoom links and passwords will be provided on D2L for each meeting. Familiarize yourself with Zoom and the use of D2L in advance. We may also use urls, Nearpod, and or LinkedIn for the completion of interactive tasks.

- *Media policy in case of recording.*

Meetings will not be recorded. However, you are welcome to post mp3 and mp4 audio and video onto D2L in response to assignments. Mark any archive with your last name and date. Unmarked audio or video will not be accepted and will receive an F.

- *Course evaluation procedure*

Self-, peer, and TA evaluations, alongside the use of evaluation procedures as stated on rubrics will be observed. See below for more details.

ASSESSMENT

Learning Assessment and Evaluation procedure

- ✚ Participation 30%

Class discussion is the lifeblood of the course—it is how we both create and share new knowledge. Some discussions will be in small groups, others in the full class, but we will have some discussion every day. Many of our discussions will be primed by either in-class or out-of-class writing, including freewriting, discussion prompts, response papers, and reflective pieces. Students are expected to participate fully and contribute thoughtfully and meaningfully to class discussions. Periodically throughout the semester you will receive feedback on your class participation. Grade breakdown: discussion moderation (10%), group debates (6%), informational interview (8%), lab and other activities: (6%).

- ✚ Journal (10%) (Find rubric on D2L)

For the 'Journal', written in Spanish, obtain now a bound notebook or digital notebook (only word or pdf) for keeping a journal of your reflections. Use the journal to keep track of thoughts you have as you read, ideas that arise as a result of class activities, developments in discussions. Use it also to self-evaluate your learning. Date your entries. You should make entries at least twice a week, but certainly every time you have a pertinent thought that you want to remember, new vocabulary, an insight that grows out of your film watching, or an observation you make based on assignments and activities, whether in or out of class. I will pick up journals around midterm and again at the end of semester. Four random entries will be picked to respond to (formative assessment) and assign a grade (summative assessment). The journal should be used for self-reflection and self- evaluation. It is about daily performance.

- ✚ Learning portfolio 20% (Find rubric on D2L)

At the end of the course, you will be asked to submit a learning portfolio in which you will reflect upon the changes in your thinking about economics, politics, and Latin-American films, their themes, techniques, and contributions to thinking neoliberalism. Everything you are asked to write as part of homework assignments is eligible for inclusion in your portfolio. In addition, everything your fellow students write in this course, every reading you do for this course and every comment and learning your lab interactions produce are eligible for inclusion in your portfolio, provided you react to them in a meaningful and thoughtful way. The learning portfolio is about the broad picture and the development of abilities to connect theories, synthesize knowledge, and apply information to your own analysis. Your success with this final assignment will depend in large measure on your continuous effort throughout the semester. This is not a course in which you can put off work, think about it later, copy and paste (plagiarize), or cram and do well. Keep an eye out for topics that really engage you early on and pursue them in your writings.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

✚ Analytical paper (20%) (Find rubric, sample, and *MLA* 8 ed. links on D2L)

✚ Final Research Project (20%).

In the latter part of the semester, students will undertake a multidisciplinary research project. The goal of the project is to study, examine, and interpret a film using concepts (such as neoliberalism, capitalism, social spaces, affect, etc), film techniques studied in the course, and relevant material from disciplines such as economics, political science, cultural studies, etc. In addition to completing preparatory steps along the way, each student will be required to make a brief oral presentation on your research. More information about this assignment will be made available during the semester. Refer to the rubrics on D2L.

The two papers will help you develop your skills in critical thinking and persuasive writing. The rubric for them emphasizes thesis development, use of evidence, analysis of film technique with examples, and clarity of expression—all components of good writing and thinking that we will work on in class.

The timely completion of all assignments, in addition to respecting and following all procedures and rubrics, is necessary to pass this course.

GRADING SCALE

A+=100; A=93-99 A- =86-92; B+=81-85; B=76-80; B- =71-75; C+=67-70; C=62-66 C- =58-61; D+=54-57; D=50-53 ; F<53%

The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark.

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.