Imagining the Americas: Film, Literature, and Politics in Latin America

(BCUSP 104B & 107E)

VLPA and I & S

Professors Julie Shayne & Patrick Blaine

UW Bothell ~ Autumn 2008

Meeting times: Tues/Thurs 11:00-1:05 & 1:15-3:20

Room: UW1 220

Patrick Blaine's contact information:
Office: UW1 151
Office hrs: Tuesdays 9:45-10:45 and by appointment (Office hours will be held in The Commons in UW2)
Email: pgblaine@u.washington.edu
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Julie Shayne's contact information:
Office: UW1 351
Office hrs: Thursdays 9:45-10:45 and by appointment
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Phone number, during office hours: 425.352.3266

Course Description:

This course examines three topics: Human rights, gender, and diaspora through the cases of Mexico, Cuba, and Chile. We use a combination of film, fiction, poetry, social science, and testimony to understand a host of political and social problems, including: Human rights violations in the region; the ways people respond to injustice; how men and women experience politics differently from one another, and why have so many people from Latin America and the Caribbean left their countries of origin?

Center for University Studies and Programs Learning Goals:

1) Inclusive Practices
2) Critical and Creative Inquiry
3) Ethics and Social Responsibility
4) Quantitative and Qualitative Literacies
5) Communication

Required Texts:

Castillo, Ana. 2007. *The Guardians.* New York: Random House.

Gonzalez, Juan. 2001. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America.* New York: Penguin Books.

Lemebel, Pedro. 2005. *My Tender Matador.* New York: Grove Press.

Schulz, John J. 2008. Please *Don't Do That!: The Pocket Guide to Good Writing.* Spokane: Marquette Books.

Skidmore, Thomas and Peter Smith. 2005. *Modern Latin America.* New York: Oxford University Press.

All required texts are on reserve in the library

E-reserves: https://eres.bothell.washington.edu/eres/coursepass.aspx?cid=1401

Please print out all electronic readings from e-reserves and catalyst

Recommended:

2007. *Vox Compact Spanish and English Dictionary, 3rd edition*. McGraw-Hill.

Additional resources:

Catalyst page: http://catalyst.washington.edu

Course Research Guide: http://library.uwb.edu/guides/cusp104shayne.html

Center for University Studies and Programs: http://www.uwb.edu/CUSP

Evaluation/Grading:
Reading and participation: **10%**
Weekly write-ups: **[5% per paper] 40%**
Research paper: **50% total**

- Library assignments **[5%]**
- Early thoughts/annotated bibliography **[10%]**
- Sentence-based outline **[5%]**
- Rough draft **[5%]**
- Final paper **[25%]**

Total: 100%

Reading and active participation (10%): Active participation is fundamental to the success of this class. You will be expected to come to class, with reading done, prepared to thoughtfully discuss the material. We will watch many films in class. Occasionally we will have in-class free writes after the film. Your thoughtful completion of these free writes will also affect your final participation grade.

Weekly write-ups (40%): Eight weeks this quarter you are required to turn in a **one page** response to a question we will hand out in class. We are **NOT** looking for opinions about the readings but a clear, concisely written indication that you understood the major themes of the week. **Please note:** If you do all eight of the write-ups we will drop the lowest grade from your total. Write-ups are due on **Thursdays:**

October	November	December
2	6	4
9	13	
16	20	
23		

Research paper (50%): For this assignment you will write a research paper related to some aspect of Latin American/Caribbean cultural production, for example: film, fiction, poetry, music, art, theater, etc. You may focus on a specific genre or artist(s) and

inside Latin America/Caribbean or the diaspora. Your topic must be chosen in consultation with us. You must decide on your topic no later than **Tuesday Oct 7.**

Individual assignments for the paper include:

- **Paper topic**. You are required to turn in a one-sentence description of your proposed topic/question. Due at the beginning of class **Tuesday Oct 7.**
- **Library workshop assignments [5% combined].** We will have two required library workshops this quarter to help you with your papers. Each workshop will have a written component due at the beginning of class after the workshop. Due **Tuesday Oct 7** and **Thursday Oct 23.**
- **Early Thoughts** and **Annotated Bibliography [10%].** The Early Thoughts part of the assignment should include your specific research question and your preliminary ideas about the topic. (This should be about one paragraph.) The Annotated Bibliography must include at least three acceptable sources that you have started reading with brief (about one paragraph) summaries. Acceptable sources include: books, book chapters, academic journal articles, MA or PhD theses, films, and primary sources. For this assignment, only one of these sources can be a non-academic source. This assignment is to demonstrate to us that you have begun your research and have a clear sense of what it is that you intend to learn. These are due at the beginning of class on **Thursday Oct 30.**
- A detailed, sentence-based **Outline [5%]**. Outlines must be extremely detailed maps of your final research paper. It is not acceptable to write "Introduction" without a detailed description of what you intend to include. These are due at the beginning of class on **Tuesday Nov 18.**
- **Rough Draft [5%]**. You must turn in at least the first two pages of your paper and bibliography thus far. (Bibliography does not count towards the two pages.) You paper must be in reasonably good shape, formatted as if it were the final paper, adhering to all standard guidelines. These are due at the beginning of class on **Tuesday Nov 25.**
- **Research Paper [25%].** Your final paper must be between five and eight pages with a minimum of five acceptable sources. Of these five, only one may be non-academic. Papers *and* graded rough draft are due **Tuesday Dec 9 at 11:00 am in Professor Shayne's office: UW1 351.**

(Please note:* You will not get a passing grade on your research paper if you do not hand in all of the individual assignments.*)

Policies:

- **Attendance Policy:** Unless a serious illness/injury or emergency intervenes, you are expected to be present every day. If you cannot attend class it is your responsibility to get the notes from someone and check Catalyst for relevant handouts and announcements. Any extended absence requires documentation.
- **Classroom Distractions:** Laptops are NOT permitted in class. Please make sure that all electronic devices are *turned off and put away* during class hours.

- **Grade discrepancies:** Except in cases of miscalculation or other error, your course grade is final and non-negotiable. You MUST keep all graded material until you have received your final grades. If there are any grade discrepancies at the end of the quarter, and you are missing any of your graded originals we will not recalculate your grade. You should feel free to come discuss your grades with us throughout the quarter to gather feedback for future assignments.
- **Late assignments:** Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class. Weekly write-ups and library worksheets will **not be accepted late**. Early thoughts/bibliography and outline assignments will be graded down **one-HALF of a grade** for every day they are late. Final papers will be graded down **one-FULL grade** for every day late. "Late" begins at 11:01 am on the due date. We will waive the penalty in the case of legitimate emergency with acceptable documentation.
- **Absence the day an assignment is due:** If you are not in class the day an assignment is due it is your responsibility to email it to each of us as a word doc by 11:00 am the day it is due so we can see you did it on time. You must also bring us a hard copy when you return to class. If we do not electronically receive your paper on time the paper will be considered late. Additionally, it is your responsibility to confirm that we received your assignment on time. If you are not able to hand deliver your final paper it is your responsibility to get it to a friend so s/he can deliver it and your rough draft for you. We will not accept electronic versions of the final paper.
- **Assignment format:** All assignments must be double-spaced, a minimum of one-inch margins, pages numbered, stapled, no smaller than 11-point font size, with your name on each page. You will need to provide two copies, stapled and numbered independent of each other, for every assignment.
- **Incompletes:** University rules state that "an incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks at the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control."
- **Disability Accommodation:** UW Bothell provides individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations to participate in education programs, activities, and services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation to participate in class activities or to meet course requirements should contact the Disability Support Services at (425) 352-5307. For further information on UW Bothell policy on accommodation, please consult: http://www.uwb.edu/students/services/dss/. If you have a letter from Disability Support Services indicating that you require accommodations, please provide us with a copy as soon as possible so we can make necessary arrangements.
- **Academic Integrity:** We strictly follow the UW Bothell's Policy on Academic and Behavioral Conduct, and the UW Student Conduct Code. In addition to intentional acts of academic dishonesty, there are many forms of plagiarism and cheating that are often committed without knowledge or intent. Please be aware

that any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in a grade of ZERO for the assignment in question, and may result in a FAILING GRADE FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE. Per University policy, all allegations of plagiarism and academic dishonesty are subject to formal investigation and possible sanction by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Be aware that sustained findings of plagiarism and dishonesty can result in your suspension or dismissal from the University. Ignorance of the University's rules and policies is NOT a valid defense! It is YOUR ultimate responsibility to know and follow University policies on academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

For the UW Student Conduct Code, see:
http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html

For additional information, see the UW Bothell Library guide on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

http://www.uwb.edu/library/guides/research/plagiarism.html

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Schulz, John J. 2008. Please *Don't Do That!: The Pocket Guide to Good Writing*. Spokane: Marquette Books.

Library workshop #1: Getting Started – Alyssa Deutschler, Global Studies Librarian. [Workshop will begin at 1:15 in LB1-222]

~ 1st write-up due ~

Tues Oct 7: The Latin American diaspora

Gonzalez, Juan. 2001. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America.* New York: Penguin Books.

"Introduction" pp ix-xx

Ch 12: "Speak Spanish, You're in America!: El Huracán over Language and Culture" pp 206-227

Film: *Letters From the Other Side* (2006) [73 minutes]

Workshop: Understanding Immigration Statistics – Nicole Hoover, Director of Quantitative Skills Center

~ Paper topic due ~

~ 1st library worksheet due ~

Section two: Mexico

Thurs Oct 9: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 8: "Mexico: The Taming of a Revolution" pp. 254-295

Films: *The Last Zapatista* (1995) [30 minutes] – and – *Frida* (2002) [123 minutes]

~ 2nd write-up due ~

Tues Oct 14: Human rights and economic violence

Harvest of Empire

Ch 13: "Free Trade: The Final Conquest of Latin America" pp 228-245

Film: *Maquilapolis* (2006) [60 minutes]

Guest lecture: Representatives from UW Responsible Apparel Purchasing Task Force

Thurs Oct 16: Indigenous peoples and human rights

Selections from *Shadows of Tender Fury: The Letters and Communiqués of Subcomandante Marcos and the Zapatista Army of National Liberation*. 1995. New York: Monthly Review Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

"Prologue: Subcomandante Marcos Introduces Himself." Pp. 21-26.

"Chapter 1: The First Wind." Pp. 32-40.

"Here We Are, The Forever Dead..." Pp. 55-61.

"Letter to Bill Clinton and the People of the U.S.A." Pp. 71-72.

Anzaldúa, Gloria. 2007. "La curandera." Pp. 198-201 in *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza, 3rd Edition*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

Film: *Those With Voice/Los Con Voz* (2008) [55 minutes]

~ 3rd write-up due ~

Tues Oct 21: Women revolutionaries in Chiapas

Selections from *Dissident Women: Gender and Cultural Politics in Chiapas.* 2006. Eds, Speed, Castillo, and Stephen. Austin: University of Texas Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

"Key Women's Documents" pp 3-14.

Library workshop #2: Hands-on Research – Alyssa Deutschler, Global Studies Librarian [Workshop will begin at 11:00. Please meet in LB1-222]

Thurs Oct 23: The Mexican diaspora

Castillo, Ana. 2007. *The Guardians.* New York: Random House.

Film: *A Day Without A Mexican* (2004) [95 minutes]

~ 4th write-up due ~

~ 2nd library worksheet due ~

Section three: Cuba

Tues Oct 28: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 9: "Late Colony, First Socialist State" pp. 296-327.

Film: *Buena Vista Social Club* (1999) [105 minutes]

Thurs Oct 30: Gender and revolutionary Cuba

Shayne, Julie. 2004. "The Women's Movement in Postinsurrection Cuba, 1959-1999." Pp. 135-154 in *The Revolution Question: Feminisms in El Salvador, Chile, and Cuba.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

Film: *Fresa y Chocolate/ Strawberry and Chocolate* (1995) [108 minutes]

~ Early thoughts & annotated bibliography due ~

Tues Nov 4: Human rights and economic violence

The Foreign Assistance Act (1961) (Catalyst/Readings)

United Nations General Assembly: Resolution 184 (2007) (Catalyst/Readings)

Selections from *Cuba: Neither Heaven Nor Hell*. 1999. María López Vigil. Washington, DC: EPICA Books. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

"A History of the US Blockade of Cuba." Pp. 305-306.

"Denial of Food and Medicine: The Impact of the US Embargo on Health and Nutrition in Cuba." Pp. 307-308.

Film: *Barrio Cuba* (2007) [108 minutes]

Thurs Nov 6: Human rights and freedom of speech

Landau, Saul. 2008. "Cuba: A Half-Century of Distorted News and Counting...." Pp. 49-52 in *NACLA Report on the Americas*. May/June. Vol. 41, Issue 3. (Catalyst/Readings)

Guillermoprieto, Alma. 1998. "Love and Misery in Cuba." Pp. 10-15 in *The New York Review of Books*. Vol. 45, Issue 10. June 10. (Catalyst/Readings)

Silvio Rodríguez "Resumen de Noticias" (Catalyst/Readings)

Evenson, Debra. 1994. "Limitations on Freedom of Expression." Pp. 34-40. in *Revolution in the Balance. Law and Society in Contemporary Cuba*. Boulder: Westview Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst) [Feel free to read the entire article]

Workshop: How to Organize a Research Paper – Karen Rosenberg, Writing Center Director [This workshop will start at 1:15 in UW1 120]

~ 5th write-up due ~

Tues Nov 11: Veteran's Day – No class

Thurs Nov 13: The Cuban Diaspora

Harvest of Empire

Ch 6 "Cubans: Special Refugees" pp 108-116

Fusco, Coco. 1995. "El Diario del Miranda/Miranda's Diary." Pp. 198-216 in *Bridges to Cuba: Puentes a Cuba*. Ed., Ruth Behar. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

Film: *Miami-Havana* (2006) [53 minutes]

~ 6th write-up due ~

Section four: Chile

Tues Nov 18: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 4: "Chile: Socialism, Repression, and Democracy" pp. 109-138

Workshop: Non-Profit Organizations and Internships – Crystal Johnson from the Career Center. [We will start this session at 1:15 pm in UW2-105]

~ Outline due ~

<u>Thurs Nov 20</u>: The Popular Unity's answer to economic violence

Popular Unity. 1973 [1970]. "The Popular Unity's Programme." Pp 255-284 in *The Chilean Road to Socialism*. Ed, J. Ann Zammit. Brighton, England: The Kensington Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

Film: *Salvador Allende* (2004) [100 minutes]

~ 7th write-up due ~

<u>Tues Nov 25</u>: Augusto Pinochet and state terrorism

Esquivel Rojo, Elsa. 1989. "To Disappear is Not to Die." Pp. 142-153 in *Fear in Chile: Lives Under Pinochet*. Ed. Patricia Politzer. New York: The New Press. (E-reserve/Catalyst)

Chuchryk, Patricia. 1993. "Subversive Mothers: The Women's Opposition to the Military Regime in Chile." Pp. 86-97 in *Surviving Beyond Fear: Women, Children & Human Rights in Latin America*. Ed., Marjorie Agsoin. Fredonia, NY: White Pine Press. E-reserve/Catalyst)

Film: *Machuca* (2006) [115 minutes]

~ Rough draft due ~

<u>Thurs Nov 27</u>: Thanksgiving – No class

<u>Tues Dec 2</u>: Revolutionaries and queens

Lemebel, Pedro. 2005. *My Tender Matador*. New York: Grove Press.

Film: *The Judge and the General* (2008) [84 minutes]

<u>Thurs Dec 4</u>: The Chilean diaspora

Shayne, Julie. 2008. "The Chilean Solidarity Movement in Transnational and National Perspective" in *They Used to Call Us Witches: Feminism, Culture, and Resistance in the Chilean Diaspora*. Lanham, Md: Lexington Books. (Catalyst/Readings)

Harvest of Empire
"Epilogue" pp 269-273

Film: *Lo que Me Tocó Vivir/The Life I Got to Live* (2008) [47 minutes]

Guest lecture: Veronica Barrera, Director/Producer/Writer of *Lo que Me Tocó Vivir*

~ 8th write-up due ~

Final paper and graded rough draft due Tuesday December 9th at 11:00 am in Professor Shayne's office; UW1 351