LAST 211: Latin America: People, Places, and Popular Culture
University of Calgary
Fall 2017

Professor A. Kiddle
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Office Phone: (403) 220-7710
Office: SS644
Office Hours: T/R 10-11, and by appointment

Course Description and Goals:

This course provides an introduction to Latin American Studies through an examination of Latin American popular culture. Multi-disciplinary approaches to topics as diverse and telenovelas and Judas burnings will provide students with some of the tools for understanding the rich diversity of Latin America’s peoples and places.

Students will gain an understanding of Latin American history, geography, and politics that prepares them for more advanced classes in the field of Latin American Studies. Students will develop their oral presentation skills, research skills, analytical abilities, and writing skills through film and image analyses, as well as a final research project to be presented using the online platform Storify.

Required Readings:

Additional readings will be posted on d2l.

Course Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Film Review</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image Analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Requirements:

Participation: Participation accounts for 10 percent of your final mark in this class. Your contribution to the discussion should be substantive and demonstrate a thorough familiarity with the works under consideration.

Film Review: Choose one of the films we view in class and write a three-page review. Due one week after the film is shown.
Image Analysis: Choose to analyse either a photograph from the Chambi Collection, a Latin American comic strip, or a retablo or exvoto. Due one week after the chosen form of popular culture is discussed in class.

Quizzes: Students will complete weekly d2l quizzes to ensure that they have done the readings.

Final Project: Using the online platform Storify, students will research and present an investigation into a topic of their choosing. Students will choose a topic of contemporary importance in Latin America (e.g. violence against women, water rights, etc.) and incorporate into the project examples of how the issue is represented in popular culture (music, comics, telenovelas, etc.). Students must use scholarly sources (i.e. books, journal articles, etc.) in addition to internet sources.

Course Policies:

Late assignments that are not accompanied by a legitimate excuse will be penalised one third of a letter grade per day (e.g. From B + to B).

Students who anticipate difficulty meeting a deadline (for academic or personal reasons) should request an extension at least 48 hours before an assignment’s due date.

Students will treat the instructor and fellow students with respect. Refrain from disruptive behaviour. Turn your cell phones off. Be punctual.

Course Outline:

Week 1: September 12 and 14, 2017

Introduction

Week 2: September 19 and 21, 2017

Piñatas, Puppets, and Judases

Week 3: September 26 and 28, 2017

Photography


**Week 4: October 3 and 5, 2017**

**Capoeira**


**Week 5: October 10 and 12, 2017**

**Retablos and Exvotos**
Film: *El Favor de los Santos: The Sacred Iconography of Retablos and Exvotos* (57 min.)
[http://www.artstor.org/content/mexican-retablos-jorge-durand-and-douglas-massey](http://www.artstor.org/content/mexican-retablos-jorge-durand-and-douglas-massey)


**Week 6: October 17 and 19, 2017**

**Football**
Film: *Pele: The King of Football* (48 min.)


**Week 7: October 24 and 26, 2017**

**Comics**


**Week 8: October 31 and November 2, 2017**

**Baseball**

Week 9: November 7 and 9, 2017

**Tango**

**Film: Tango Negro (93 mins.)**


Week 10: November 14 and 16, 2017

**Lucha Libre**

**Film: Tales of Masked Men (55 min.)**


Week 11: November 21 and 23, 2017

**Telenovelas**

**Film: Telenovelas: Love, TV, and Power (59 min.)**


Week 12: November 28 and 30, 2017

**Rap and Reggaetón**


Week 13: December 5 and 7

**Presentation of final projects in class**
Completed Final Projects Due December 8, 2017

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Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary’s copyright policy, see http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright.
Red Box Policy:
Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name** and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:
The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-55</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plagiarism:
Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one’s work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one’s own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student’s Handbook* ([http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf](http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf)), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author’s language and ideas as one’s own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts’ associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):
At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):
The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

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 [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Campus Resources for Mental Health

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or
skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services](https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/)).

**Other Useful Information:**

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Student Union Information: [http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/).
- Graduate Student Association: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/).
- Student Ombudsman Office: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds)

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