ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

Division    Humanities

Course Title  Latin American Humanities

Semester and Year Submitted   SPRING 2019

Credit Hours   3

Prepared by   Eddie Gert

Hours Per Week:  Class   3  Lab   0

Course Description (as it appears in Catalog):

The goal of this course is to give the student an appreciation of Latin American civilizations as vital cultures with their own traditions, customs, values, ideals, ethics and myths, and an understanding of their relationship to other civilizations. This course is an interdisciplinary study of the cultural accomplishments of Latin America from its pre-Columbian beginnings to the present. The artistic, literary, musical, and philosophical movements and creators will be emphasized to provide a comprehensive understanding of the development and influence of Latin American culture. May be taken as credit for Humanities General Education Requirements. Prerequisite: ENGL 1113 or Concurrent Enrollment

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Text(s):   Open source material provided online

Author
Publisher
Copyright Date
ISBN#
Reading Level
Supplemental Materials:   (Other books, audio visual aids, etc.)

None
Rationale:
By becoming aware of the various movements in literature, events in history, fine arts works, musical movements, and various forms of popular culture, we will attempt to determine the “general” character of Latin America, and to realize the philosophical and ideological relationships underlying the principles of the Latin American arts. We will study how people at different points in Latin American history have defined their identity and how that has been manifested via the arts. We hope to come away with an appreciation for both individual artists and innovations, while at the same time being aware of the dynamic interplay and synchronistic nature of the field of humanities and history.

Expected Outcomes (Course Objectives):
1. Recognize, recall, and relate the major socio-political events and figures; major artistic movements, works, and artists; major literary movements, works, and authors; and major philosophical/religious movements and figures in Latin American culture.
2. Recognize and identify the interrelationships among the various socio-political, creative, and philosophical developments in Latin American culture.
3. Recognize and relate basic human concerns and the common humanity that links people of all times.
4. Discuss, evaluate, and communicate, orally and in writing, how major historical events, such as warfare, scientific and technological advancement, as well as colonialism and political theory, have affected cultural production from Pre-Colonial America to the present.
5. Discuss, evaluate and communicate, orally and in writing, independent conclusions about major works of artistic, philosophical, and literary expression from Pre-Colonial America to present-day Latin America.

Methods of Instruction:
Methods will vary with the professors but may include the following: audio-visual presentations, lectures, small group discussions, and research projects. Professors should also encourage students to attend art galleries, theater performances, and other cultural events.

Assessment (Including Critical Thinking Measurements):
Methods may vary with professor but could include the following:
1. Objective and essay exams
2. Oral presentations
3. Written reports
4. Attendance/participation grades
5. Research project
6. At least 10 pages of credited writing for assessment, inquiry, learning, thinking, and/or communication. (These pages may include but are not limited to the following: journals, exploratory writing, and discussion board postings, etc.)
Learning Objectives:

Unit 1 – Introduction to the Humanities: (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
1. Recall the importance of art to people and history.
2. Identify key terms to understanding the Humanities.
3. Define Humanities.
4. Recall the role of artists in defining the cultural identity of America.
5. Discuss the power of images.

Unit 2 – Pre-Columbian Art, Architecture, and Literature : (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
1. Differentiate between the Pre-classic, Classic, and Post-Classic eras in Mesoamerica and Central America
2. Describe the major pre-Columbian cultures in South America including the Nazca and Inca
3. Popol Vuh
4. Mayan calendar
5. Architectural Finds Chichen Itza, Teotiuacán, Tolum, Macchu Picchu
6. Pre-Columbian instruments and music

Unit 4 - Post colonial Latin America and the Fight for Independence: (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
1. Explain the system of viceroyalty government of the 17th and 18th Centuries.
2. Define mestizo and Creole and describe how these grew out of colonialism.
3. Discuss the caste system of post-colonial Latin America.
4. Compare how Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Academic Realism, and Modernism affected the art and architecture of Latin America.
5. Explain the fight for independence from European rule and its depictions in art and literature.
6. Describe the gaucho culture and its representations in art and literature.
7. Define the positivist philosophy and its importance in post-independence nation building.
8. Compare the poetics of modernism.

Unit 5 – 20th and 21st Centuries: (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
1. Describe the purpose and importance of the Mexican muralist movement.
2. Summarize how art and poetry were used for socio-political critique.
3. Explain communist expansion in Latin America and how art was used as propaganda.
4. Describe how music was used as a form of protest.
5. Identify and distinguish avant-garde Argentine writers.
6. Define the Rupture Generation and compare to the muralist movement.
7. Identify feminist artists and authors and how they used their work to fight against machismo.
8. Define Magic Realism and describe its use in literature and its influence in art.
9. Identify and differentiate different styles of music and dance in Latin America.