



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

ROST 399.01
New Latin American Cinemas
Winter 2022
MWF 11:00-11:50am via Zoom (synchronously)
Zoom link for class sessions will be posted on D2L

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR/COORDINATOR'S NAME: Dr. Nayibe Bermúdez

OFFICE HOURS: MW 12:00-12:50 (Zoom link will be posted on D2L) or by appointment (email to arrange a time)

E-MAIL: nbermude@ucalgary.ca I will typically respond to e-mails within 48 hours during weekdays (weekends and holidays excluded).

TELEPHONE NUMBER: N/A

DESCRIPTION

This course will research the meanings the 'New' in New Latin American Cinemas and its links to contemporary industrial changes taking place in the cinemas of Latin America. The films studied will offer a glimpse of aesthetic changes, film audiences, exhibitions circuits, as well as power struggles defining the field. Social and film theory will guide the discussions.

OBJECTIVES

Moving away from restrictive literary and content-based studies of cinema, this course will pay attention to film theories and techniques. The study of New Latin American Cinemas will likewise help to situate cinemas produced in Spanish-speaking leading films industries in a globalized economic and political order.

OUTCOMES

You will be able to understand the contexts, history, and struggles that have characterized the film industry in several Latin American regions. You will get acquainted with cinema scholarship and the theories that have helped shaped the discipline. You will also learn to analyze film and create structured written material to describe and expose your ideas about narrative and film technique. You will be able to apply useful learning strategies such as discussing main ideas in texts, responding to pointed questions, and other writing skills. Additionally, you will increase knowledge of significant differences between the varied and rich Hispanic cultures and develop an awareness of cinema as an essential element of politics, economics, and culture.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Reading and studying all material is mandatory. Titles, urls, and due dates are reflected on the syllabus. Search in the library or as indicated by typing the full title.

- ✚ Electronic articles and other texts on the course calendar.
- ✚ Films for the course. You can watch a library copy or purchase them online. Make sure they are subtitled. Watching, taking notes, and analyzing these films is mandatory.
- ✚ Rubrics for all activities found on D2L, which form the basis of assignment evaluation.

Other materials may be posted on D2L.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS



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You will find many useful links on D2L.

COURSE NOTES

This course is **synchronous**, which means you **must attend** via Zoom MWF 11:00-11:50am; Zoom link will be posted on D2L. Occasional asynchronous sessions may be scheduled with advanced notice.

- **Important dates:** First day of class: Jan 10. Last day of class: Apr 12. Term break: Feb 20-26.

Assignment due dates excluding homework:

Table with 2 columns: Date and Assignment/Event. Rows include: Monday Jan 10 (First Zoom class session), Monday Jan 17 (First Discussion Forum question/answer), Monday Jan 24 (First discussion moderation), Friday Feb 4 (Film Review due), Feb 20-26 (Reading Week), Friday Mar 4 (Annotated bibliography due), Wednesday Mar 9 (First Experiential Learning presentation), Wednesday Mar 30 (First Video-essay presentation), Monday Apr 11 (Learning Portfolio due), Friday Apr 15 (Video-essay due).

Dates are not expected to change but may under extraordinary circumstances.

- **Guidelines for submitting assignments, and expectations for writing quality:** All assignments must be submitted on D2L by the assigned deadline and comply with the instructions and rubrics. For written work, only word and pdf formats will be accepted. Identify your files with your last name, for example: Rubiobibl.pdf Unidentified files will lose 10 points for each day an identified copy is not posted, until day 5 when an automatic grade of F will be applied.
- **Policy in case of missed or late assignments or inability to post due to technical issues:** it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible if the student wishes to request credit for any missed online activities or to request alternative arrangements to complete a test. Extensions will be granted only in cases of extenuating circumstances; neither other work, other classes, unawareness of class activities, nor lack of attendance constitute an extenuating circumstance.
- **Attendance and participation:** Your attendance is expected. In order for you to do well in the course and learn about film, you must participate actively in every session, so turn your camera on and speak up. Some class sessions may be offered asynchronously, and if so, you will be given plenty of notice of this along with deadlines to complete the work on your own at home. For successful participation, each 50 minutes of class time will require 3 hours of studying, totaling at least 9 hours of homework per week, including viewing films, takings notes on their themes and techniques, reading material, learning theoretical and other concepts, answering guiding questions, preparing for organic discussions, thinking, and recording analytical and critical comments, questions, writing, and working on your assignments. It is expected that students will engage in an escalating and reflective learning process.
- **Class etiquette:** Please show up on time to class and leave when class ends. Use a desk or table to set up your pc. If on campus, find a quiet place where you can concentrate. Participate actively in the course and follow the instructions of your instructor. If the class session is asynchronous, please follow the instructions provided and meet all deadlines.



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- **Guidelines for Zoom meetings and use of technology during class:** Turn your camera on at the beginning of class and wear appropriate clothing. Turn the blur filter in your camera if you are at home. Please give your full attention to the class and follow the instructions set out by your instructor. Use the raise hand function in Zoom if you have a question or type it in the chat. Participate actively, appropriately, and respectfully in all class discussions whether out loud or via chat including in the Zoom breakout rooms and when completing group projects. Please show up on time to class and leave when class ends. 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.
- **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 office hours. Familiarize yourself with Zoom and the use of D2L in advance. We may also use urls and online applications for the completion of interactive tasks.
- **Media policy in case of recording:** Meetings will not be recorded. However, you are required to post mp3 and mp4 audio and video onto D2L in response to assignments. Identify your files. Unidentified audio or video will lose 10 points for each day an identified copy is not posted, until day 5 when an automatic grade of F will be applied.
- **Course evaluation procedure:** Assessments will all be online via D2L. Self-, peer, and TA evaluations, alongside the use of evaluation procedures as stated on rubrics will be observed. See below for more details.
- **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;
 - Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
 - Stable internet connection

ASSESSMENT

Learning Assessment and Evaluation procedure: Find all rubrics on D2L to prepare for successful assignment completion

Active Participation and Homework 35%

Class discussion is the lifeblood of the course—it is how we both create and share new knowledge. Participation includes joining the Zoom session, following instructions given, speaking up during discussions and during activities in breakout rooms, and volunteering to ask and answer questions. Work is not an extenuating circumstance for not attending a lecture. Students whose microphones, or cameras do not work, and who do not respond when called upon to participate will be marked as absent. 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 homework, including freewriting, discussion prompts, response papers, and reflective pieces. Students are expected to participate fully and contribute thoughtfully and meaningfully to class discussions. Failure to abide by the Zoom class etiquette and guidelines listed above will result in a deduction to the participation grade. Grade breakdown: students' questions and answers on D2L discussion forum (10%); discussion moderation (10%); film review (10%); interactive exercises: (5%).

Annotated bibliography (10%)



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Find bibliographic information on the movie assigned to you and annotate it, i.e., provide a summary of each entry along with your own evaluation of the content and form. All entries will follow MLA 8 ed. specifications- links on D2L-, as well as the rules appearing on the rubrics and ancillary material on D2L.

Experiential Learning 15%

Interview a Spanish-speaking film director or another film crew member. Alternatively, find a 'making of' video of one of the films of the course, a series of interviews, or an online lecture on any film technique by a director or any other crew member from Latin America. Please answer the guiding questions and follow the rubric. in 12-15 minutes, present your results to the class. If uncertain, ask the professor in a timely manner.

Video essay (25%).

In the latter part of the semester, students will undertake a multidisciplinary research project and present it as a 10–12-minute video essay. The goal of the project is to study, examine, and interpret a film using concepts studied in the course (transnationalism, new cinema, genre, globalization, etc), film techniques, 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 and links to samples of video essays on D2L. In 3-4 minute, present your thesis to the class plus one-two film techniques you will analyze.

Learning portfolio 15%

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 any idea discussed in the class. In order to construct and present a final narrative for evaluation in about 6-8 pages, please answer the guiding questions and follow the rubric, summarizing your learning, reflecting upon your progress, difficulties, and strategies for success, including additional material you have discovered on your own.

The timely completion of all assignments, in addition to respecting and following all procedures, instructions, and rubrics, is necessary to pass this course. There will be no final exam in this course.

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-96	A = 95-91	A- = 90-86	B+ = 85-81	B = 80-76	B- = 75-71
C+ = 70-67	C = 66-62	C- = 61-58	D+ = 57-54	D = 53-50	F= 49%

The official grade calculation (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied to calculate the final grade.

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:
 - a) 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);
 - b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
 - c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
 - d) 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.



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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 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



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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.

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>.