**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
School of Languages and Literature  
Fall 1: 2020**

**Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement:**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

# I. General Information

## A. Course Name

SPAN 3316 Hispanic-American Culture through Film

## B. Instructor

Dr. Jesús Romero

## C. Contact Information

**Phone:** (806) 291-1108

**Email:** romeroj@wbu.edu

## D. Office Location and Hours

212C Gates Hall

Virtual office hours to be posted on weekly assignments

## E. Course Description

This course will explore crucial aspects of Hispanic-American culture through the optics of film. It will examine the Hispanic-American experience and diversity through films that describe the complexity of its culture; it will examine the aesthetic contributions of filmmakers, and will introduce students to the most important films in Hispanic-American culture, as well as to the foundations of film appreciation and analysis. The class is conducted in Spanish.

## F. Prerequisites

Junior or Senior standing

## G. Required text

There is no textbook for this class.

# II. Course Outcome Competencies

Upon the conclusion of this course, students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. think critically about films and other expressions of popular Hispanic-American culture.

2. be thoroughly familiar with the most important Hispanic-American filmmakers.

3. gain the tools necessary for critical interpretation of films.

4. develop their skills in writing analytical essays that focus on the medium of film.

5. acquire sufficient background to function well in more concentrated classes either at Wayland or Graduate School.

The more the student puts into the course, the higher his or her outcome competencies will be.

**Some of the required films for this course include profanity, extreme violence, nudity, sexual and other graphic scenes that students might find disturbing.** It is not the professor’s intention to offend anyone, but the films that will be viewed are considered culturally relevant and crucial to the goals of the course from an academic standpoint. Students are hereby informed of the graphic and disturbing content of some films. Due to the course content, no minors are allowed as visitors.

# III. Course Evaluation and Grading

## A. Reportes cinematográficos & Cuestionarios

**The student will write short reflection papers titled *reportes cinematográficos* (approximately 3 pages long)** for each one of the movies viewed in class, except for the last one. A hard copy of the papers will be turned in at the beginning of class on the due dates. No paper will be accepted late. Reflection papers will be typewritten in Spanish or English, double-spaced, on 12-point Arial or Times font, and will faithfully follow the MLA (Modern Language Association) 8th Edition format.

**The student will write, in Spanish, thoughtful answers to the *cuestionarios s/*he will receive from the professor at the beginning of each session.** The student will begin to complete the *cuestionarios* as s/he views each film but will turn in the completed form at the beginning of class on due dates. No *cuestionarios* will be accepted late.

## B. Storyboard & Reseña rítica

**The student will create a storyboard of one movie scene of his/her choosing on PowerPoint. This scene must be from one of the movies viewed in class.** It will be turned in on the week of final exams.

**The student will write a *reseña crítica* (film review) on one of the movies assigned by the professor that were not viewed in class.** The review will be of publication quality. It will be evaluated on the following criteria:

* Clarity, coherence and intellectual rigor in the views and arguments expressed.
* Quality and relevance of details, examples, references used to support the arguments.
* Excellent use of the conventions of written Spanish, such as accent marks, punctuation, spelling and proper syntax.
* Evidence of original thought and not the mere repetition of arguments from somebody else.

## C. Online Discussions and PowerPoint Cultural Presentation

**Every Monday the professor will post a new question (or questions) to the discussion board (Tablero de discusión)**. The goal is to encourage online conversation within our academic community. **Students will have to respond to the weekly post by Wednesday at 12:00 pm.** The professor expects responses to be 15-200 words in length. **Students will also respond to another student’s post (100-150 words) by Sunday at 12:00 pm.**

The question posed each week is designed to start a conversation on a particular topic regarding our scheduled films. Students may post other questions that interest them, raise an issue derived from the material discussed in our discussion board, or to share any other material related to the topic.

**Once a week, one student will be asked to briefly summarize key points from the discussion, which can be read by the entire class. All students will do this at least once during the course.**

It is expected that students will conduct themselves with the utmost integrity and respect as they engage each other in dialogue. Posts that do not meet these standards will not be given credit.

## D. Communication with Students

The professor will communicate important developments **by e-mail and Blackboard Announcements**.

**The professor will respond to student e-mails within 24 hours** and will provide feedback on course content within 48 hours.

Regular email through the Wayland system is the most efficient way to get in touch. The professor will post his availability or “virtual office hours” weekly. Students can also contact the professor at (210) 633-6257. He lives in Central Time Zone.

Deadlines for most weekly assignments and online discussions are no later than midnight Sunday, Central Time of the following week.

To receive a grade, students must turn in assignments on time. **No late assignments will be accepted** unless there are exceptional circumstances that students clear with the professor in advance whenever possible.

# IV. Grading System

## A. Course Grade

The following criteria will be used to determine each student’s final course grade:

| Reportes cinematográficos | 20% |
| --- | --- |
| Cuestionarios | 20% |
| Reseña de cine | 20% |
| Storyboard | 20% |
| Tablero de discusión | 20% |
| Total | **100%** |

## B. Grading Scale

| **Letter grade** | **Percent** |
| --- | --- |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

## C. Grading System

| **Letter Grade** | **Grade Description** |
| --- | --- |
| A | **Excellent, Superior**  This grade is given for work that exhibits unquestionable excellence and outstanding quality. |
| B | **Above Average**  The grade given for work that is clearly high quality. |
| C | **Average**  The grade given for the kind of work most students do most of the time. |
| D | **Weak**  The grade given for work which does not exhibit the basic understanding expected, but which does show some elementary development and comprehension. |
| F | **Failing**  The grade given when student clearly fails to comprehend the fundamentals of the course, and shows no significant development throughout the semester. |

**Policy 9.4.1.:“Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”**

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty**: Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

## D. Attendance Requirements

As stated in the WBU Catalog, students should make attendance and participation a priority, making every effort to complete weekly activities. Students are responsible for making up any missed assignments.

Attending and participating online mean completing all assigned weekly core activities, such as Examencitos, Discussions, etc. Evidence of these efforts will be tracked in Blackboard.

If a student fails to participate for a week without alerting the professor, the professor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director.

Students missing more than 25% of scheduled core activities may receive an F and should consider dropping the course.

All absences, including university-sponsored events, must be cleared in advance.

Unforeseen circumstances and emergencies will be accepted if documented. This could include medical records, military deployment letter, or other evidence.

**VII. Bibliography**

Abrams, Nathan e Ian Bell y Jan Udris. Studying Film. London: Arnold, 2001.

Boggs, Joe y Dennis Petrie. The Art of Watching Films. McGraw-Hill, 2006.

Casetti, Francesco y Federico di Chio. Cómo analizar un film. Barcelona: Ed. Paidós, 1990.

Chanan, Michael. “New Cinemas in Latin America”, The Oxford History of World Cinema, ed. Geoffrey Nowell-Smith. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Chatman, Seymour. Story and Discourse: Narrative Structure in Fiction and Film. Cornell University Press, 1980.

Corrigan, Timothy. A Short Guide to Writing About Film. Pearson, 2014

Corrigan, Timothy y Patricia White. The Film Experience. An Introduction. Bedford/St. Martin, 2008.

Fuentes, Carlos. El espejo enterrado. México: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1992.

Gac-Artigas, Priscilla. Hoja de ruta. Cultura y Civilización de Latinoamérica. Academic Press, 2010.

Gianetti, Louis. Understanding Movies. New York: Prentice Hall, 2001.

King, John. Magical Reels. A History of Cinema in Latin America. New York: Verso, 2000.

Maciel, David R. El Norte. The U.S. Mexican Border in Contemporary Cinema. California: San Diego State University, 1990.

Martin, Michael T., ed. New Latin American Cinema. Vols. I-III. Detroit: Wayne University Press, 1997.

Norieg, Chon A. ed. Latin American Cinema and Video. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2000.

Piper, Jim. Get the Picture? The Movie Lover’s Guide to Watching Films. New York: Allworth Press, 2008.

Stevens, Donald F., ed. Based on a True Story. Latin American History at the Movies. Delaware: Rowland and Littlefield Publishers, 1997.

# Petition for Permission to Turn in or Make up Assignments After an Absence

This form must be completed if you have either missed or are planning to miss a scheduled class, and you wish to be allowed to make up or turn in any missed assignments. If this petition is approved, your grade for the missed assignment will be made up by counting the next assignment or quiz twice. If you missed an exam, you will be allowed to take an alternate exam. Petitions will only be approved if you have a valid and adequately documented reason for missing the assignment. However, if the petition is not approved, your grade on the missed assignment will be a 0.

Keep in mind that this petition is only for turning in or making up missed assignments and not to have the absence excused. Your absence will still count.

Be sure to attach to this form all appropriate supporting documentation, such as medical forms, police reports, letter from the athletic department, etc. ***All documentation will be verified!***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTOR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

COURSE AND CLASS TIME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF ABSENCE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

REASON: \_\_\_\_\_ Medical \_\_\_\_\_Accident \_\_\_\_\_Family problem \_\_\_\_\_WBU sponsored \_\_\_\_\_Other (explain clearly)

EXPLANATION of your reason: (please be brief but clear and use additional paper if needed)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the DOCUMENTATION you are providing to support your petition (permission will not be granted without documentation, and all documentation will be verified):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This document is (check one): \_\_\_\_\_an original \_\_\_\_\_a copy

*I declare that the information provided on this form is true and accurate. If any statements or documents are false, I understand that I will be subject to any applicable university discipline and penalties, and I will not have my petition approved.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# ACCEPTANCE AND AGREEMENT OF SYLLABUS AND COURSE DESCRIPTION

**SPANISH 2302: Intermediate Spanish II**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby attest that I have received and carefully read the Course Description and Syllabus for Spanish 2302. I acknowledge that I am fully aware of the responsibilities and expectations for this course.

I also am aware of the grading and attendance policies and the behavioral expectations during the class period, and my signature signifies my knowledge and acceptance of said policies for this course, especially, but not limited to:

* + - absences
    - arriving late
    - cell phone use
    - excessive talking, rude or disrespectful behavior

I acknowledge that I am fully aware of the consequences for not following any of the guidelines and expectations for grading, attendance and behavior as outlined in the Course Description and Syllabus.

Finally, I realize that not signing and/or not turning in this agreement does not exempt me from having to follow the policies and regulations set forth in the Course Description and Syllabus. This merely attests that I have received the aforementioned document.

***Signature***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Date***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Please sign and turn this form in no later than Wednesday, January 16, 2019***