

Introduction to Reading Hispanic Literature

Last Updated: Sun, 01/11/2026

Course prefix: SPAN

Course number: 3050

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
34799

Instructor First Name: Antonio

Instructor Last Name: Cardentey

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

Through close reading of major literary works by Spanish and Latin American authors, this course fosters intercultural competency and critical understanding of the Hispanic world. By examining how literature reflects and challenges the diverse experiences of Spanish-speaking societies --including Latino/a communities in the United States-- students will gain insight into the cultural perspectives, values, and histories that shape contemporary life across the Spanish-speaking world.

Course learning outcomes:

- Develop reading skills and strategies through the comprehension and interpretation of literary works in Spanish.
- Identify and discuss cultural variations across the Spanish-speaking world as represented in literature, in relation to their historical, geographical, and social contexts.
- Compare and contrast Hispanic cultural practices, products, and perspectives with those of the students' own cultures.
- Critically reflect on the relationship among language, culture, and ideology.
- Collaboratively design a creative project that integrates literary analysis with a social issue connected to students' professional and/or personal interests.

Required course materials:

Literatura y arte, **11th ed.** by Lynn Sandstedt / Ralph Kite. **ISBN:** 9781133956815.

A used copy from Amazon, eBay, AbeBooks, etc. is fine.

Grading policy:

- Preparation and Homework 10%
- In-Class Participation 25%
- Oral Presentation 15%
- Literary Debates 20%
- Final Project 30%

Attendance policy:

Class attendance is mandatory and will be tracked through Canvas. Students are allowed up to three (3) unexcused absences. After that, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional unexcused absence. Exceptions to this policy will be made only in cases of [official Georgia Tech events](#), [illness](#), or [personal emergencies](#). Students must submit appropriate documentation to the [Office of the Dean of Students](#) within one week of the absence. Arriving late or leaving early will count as one-third of an absence (3 tardies or early departures = 1 unexcused absence).

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy

- Intercultural Competence