

Missouri Western State College, Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of English, Foreign Language, and Journalism

English 210-04--Approaches to Literature--Hispanic-American Literature

MWF 10:00-10:50 JGM 302

Spring 2001

Instructor: Dr. Stacia Bensyl

Office: JGM 207-I

Phone: x5936

Office Hours: 8:00-9:00 and 11:00-12:00 MWF, and by appointment

E-mail: bensyl

Required Texts:

Cortina, Rodolfo, ed. *Hispanic American Literature: An Anthology*. Chicago: NTC, 1998.

Assessment methods:

- **Weekly quizzes worth 25 points each (total 300 points)**
- **Three, three-page papers worth 50 points each**
- **An internet assignment reporting on a significant Hispanic individual or aspect of Hispanic culture worth 50 points (2-3 pages)**
- **A mid-term exam worth 100 points (50 points objective and one essay)**
- **A final exam worth 150 points (100 points objective and one essay)**

Classroom expectations:

- **Students should come to class prepared by reading the assignment for that day.**
- **Quizzes cannot be made up. After I collect the quizzes, latecomers will not be given the opportunity to take the quiz. I will drop the lowest quiz score you receive during the semester.**
- **Students should come to class with an open mind. We will be discussing readings from cultures quite different than ours.**
- **Students should not visit, whisper, or talk during lectures.**
- **Turn off or leave at home all electronic beepers, phones, tape-players, etc.**
- **Students should participate in classroom discussion.**

Objectives:

- **Students will have a better understanding of Hispanic culture and literature, especially in the context of Americans of Hispanic descent**
- **Students will be able to discuss and write about Hispanic-American literature and culture**
- **Students will be able to use the internet to research aspects of Hispanic-American literature and culture**

Student Disability:

Any student in this course who has a disability that prevents the fullest expressions of abilities should contact Missouri Western's special needs coordinator, Lois Fox, for possible certification of special needs and expert recommendations for assistance. You should also contact me personally as soon as possible so that we can discuss class requirements.

Academic Honesty Policy:

I abide by all the regulations outlined in the Missouri Western State College Catalog and Student Handbook. I will not tolerate plagiarism or claiming another's work as your own. Please don't cheat! If I find evidence of academic dishonesty, I will pursue the maximum academic penalty for him/her.

Important Due Dates:

Paper #1 due February 12

Paper #2 due March 9

Paper #3 due April 16

Internet assignment due April 23

Mid-term exam--March 7

Final exam--Friday, May 4, 11:30-1:20

Tentative Unit One Outline

Jan. 17 Introduction/classroom standards

1. "The Moths"

Unit I--Family and Childhood

22 "Familia" "To My Father"

24 "Black & White Photo" "Dear Tia"

26 from *Bless Me, Ultima*

29 from *Bless Me, Ultima*

31 "Maria Sabida"

Feb. 2 "Maria Sabida"

5 "My Name"

7 "The Night Before Christmas"

1. "The Night Before Christmas"

Unit One Study Guide

1. What purpose does family serve in Hispanic American culture? What examples do you see in the texts we've read?

Unit II--Coming of Age/Love and Romance

12 First paper due

14

16

1. Presidents' Day--no class

21

23 Bensyl at conference--no class

26

28

Mar. 2

5

7 Mid-term exam

9 Second paper due

12 Spring Break--no class

14 Spring Break--no class

16 Spring Break--no class

19

21

23

26

28

30 Bensyl at conference--no class

April 2

4

6

9

11

13

16 Third paper due

18

20

23

25

27

30

Final Exam: Friday, May 4, 11:30-1:20, in this room