

Department of Romance Studies



Parque de la memoria. Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hispanic Studies Spring 2024

Upper-Level Courses

All schedule information is tentative. Please see <https://www.brandeis.edu/registrar/registration/schedule.html> for the latest information.

www.brandeis.edu/departments/roms

NOTES ABOUT SPRING 2024 HISP COURSES

- All classes will be in-person.
- If you would like to enroll in a Spanish language course (HISP 10–108), you **always** have the option of emailing the Director of the Language Program, Elena González Ros, elenag@brandeis.edu, who will be happy to help you enroll.
- If you are sure of your placement, you may also place yourself on the waitlist for the class you want to take. (Do not worry if the enrollment limit is 0. This is a WorkDay workaround so that we can make sure students are placed in the right level.)
- **More details below and at:** www.brandeis.edu/romance-studies/courses

- **If you have never studied Spanish before:** Email Professor González Ros (elenag@brandeis.edu) to secure your spot in HISP 10. You may also place yourself on the waitlist (don't worry if enrollment is set at 0).
- **If you are already taking a language class:** You will receive an email from our office before registration opens. Please respond a.s.a.p. to the email stating which section you prefer. We will enroll students in the order in which we receive responses.
- **If you have an AP score, Seal of Biliteracy, or other official test score:** Please email your standardized exam score to Professor González Ros (elenag@brandeis.edu), and she will place you in the right class for you.
- **All other students in Spanish (including heritage speakers)** should contact Professor González Ros (elenag@brandeis.edu) to ensure correct placement.

All courses are conducted in Spanish, unless otherwise noted.

HISP 104B Peoples, Ideas, and Language of the Hispanic World

- (1) M,W,Th 10:10–11:00 AM, Castro
- (2) M,W,Th 12:20–1:10 PM, Castro
- (3) M,W,Th 1:20–2:10 PM, Peary

Prerequisite: HISP 32 or 34. Permission required (please see instructions above).

Participants will expand their language skills in Spanish while deepening their understanding of Hispanic cultures. Students will explore how their identity and those of others is expressed through language, images, and cultural practices.

HISP 105A Oral Communication through Cultural Topics - Sustainability

- (1) M,W,Th 1:20–2:10 PM, Castro

Prerequisite: HISP 104b or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left).

How do we persuade others to enact meaningful change? In this special topics section of HISP 105, students will improve their speaking skills as they explore issues of sustainability in the Spanish-speaking world. We will reflect about the global consequences of individual actions, debate about the feasibility of ecotourism, and tell the stories of indigenous and Latin American climate activists.

HISP 105A Oral Communication through Cultural Topics - Salud

(3) M,W,Th 9:05–9:55 AM, González Ros

Prerequisite: HISP 104b or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left).

Students will improve their oral communication skills through active participation in practical tasks in contexts related to the way the Spanish-speaking world views the concepts of health and wellbeing. Students will present information, conduct interviews, persuade and debate, among other communicative functions. This course is appropriate for students in any field where they would interact with Spanish speakers regularly.

HISP 106B Spanish for Written Communication through Contemporary Culture

- (1) T,Th 2:20–3:40 PM, Turpin
- (2) T,Th 3:55–5:15 PM, Turpin

Prerequisite: HISP 105a or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left). [WI]

Students will develop their writing skills in order to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and for different audiences. Examples may include creative, professional, and academic texts.

HISP 108A Spanish for Heritage Speakers

(1) M,W,Th 12:20–1:10 PM, Mederos

Prerequisite: HISP 105a or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left). [WI, Cross-listed with LACLS]

Designed specifically for students who grew up speaking Spanish and who would like to enhance existing language skills while developing higher levels of academic proficiency. Assignments are geared toward developing skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking about U.S. Latino/as and the Spanish-speaking world. Students may use this course to fulfill the foreign language requirement.

Please see specific course prerequisites for enrollment in each HISP class listed below (above 108).

HISP 111B Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture

(1) T,Th 2:20–3:40 PM, Reyes de Deu

Prerequisite: HISP 106b, or HISP 108a, or permission of instructor. Taught in Spanish. [DJW; Cross-listed with COML, IGS, LACLS, and MUS]

Examines key Latin American texts of different genres (poems, short stories and excerpts from novels, chronicles, comics, screenplays, cyberfiction) and from different time periods from the conquest to modernity. This class places emphasis on problems of cultural definition and identity construction as they are elaborated in literary discourse. Identifying major themes (coloniality and emancipation, modernismo and modernity, indigenismo, hybridity and mestizaje, nationalisms, Pan-Americanism, etc.) we will trace continuities and ruptures throughout Latin American intellectual history.

HISP 85A Introduction to U.S. Latinx Literatures and Cultures (Taught in English)

(1) T,F 11:10 AM–12:30 PM, Durán

[DEIS-US; DJW; DL; Cross-listed with LACLS, ENG]

This discussion-based course introduces students to U.S. Latinx cultural productions and to the interdisciplinary questions that concern U.S. Latinx scholars, peoples, and communities. Latinxs have played a vital role in the history, politics, and cultures of the United States. U.S. Latinx literary works, in particular, have established important socio-historical and aesthetic networks that highlight Latinx expression and lived experiences, engaging with issues including biculturalism, language, citizenship, systems of value, and intersectional identity. Though the Latinx literary tradition spans more than 400 years, this course will focus on 20th and 21st century texts that decolonize nationalist approaches to Latinidades and therefore challenge existing Latinx literary “canons.”

HISP 142B Literature, Film, and Human Rights in Latin America

(1) T,Th 3:55–5:15 PM, Rosenberg

Taught in Spanish in spring 2024. Prerequisite: HISP 109b or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.

[WI; Cross-listed with CAST, IGS, & LACLS.]

Examines literature, film (fiction and non-fiction) and other artistic expressions from Latin America, in

conversation with the idea of human rights—from the colonial arguments about slavery and the 'natural rights' of the indigenous, to the advent of human rights in the context of post-conflict truth and reconciliation processes, to the emergence of gender and ethnicity in the human rights framework, to the current debates about rights of nature in the midst of a global ecological crisis.



Normalistas de familia 11 de noviembre de 2021 por Lagartija Tirada al Sol, una banda de artistas. Trabajan sobre la escena, hacen libros, radio, video y procesos educativos.

HISP 164B Studies in Latin American Literature Topic for spring 2024-- Staging Transgression: Latin American Theater and Performance

(1) M,W 2:30–3:50 PM, Herrera Díaz

Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: HISP 109b or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor. Course may be repeated for credit. [fulfills OC in spring 2024; DJW; Cross-listed with CAST, COML & LACLS]

This course explores an array of rituals, performances, and plays in Latin America from colonial times to the present. We will examine the transgressive nature of theater and performance in multiple dimensions: as alternative sites of cultural memory versus hegemonic texts and archives, as disruptors of media boundaries and realities, and as transformational acts that frequently challenge structures of power and oppression. Special attention will be devoted to Black theatrical practices and aesthetics: religious ceremonies, spirit possession, carnival, and related subgenres and movements such as Teatro bufo (a variant of Cuban blackface) and Teatro Experimental do Negro (one of the first and most influential Afro-Brazilian theater groups). Our discussions will include not only works by renowned playwrights (Nelson Rodrigues in Brazil, Lola Arias in Argentina,

Eugenio Hernández Espinosa in Cuba, and Sergio Blanco in Uruguay, among others), but also collective initiatives like Grupo Cultural Yuyachkani in Perú and Lagartijas Tiradas al Sol in Mexico. A critical question to be addressed is how the complex and unstable relationship between theater and categories such as space, liveness, hauntology, and the body can problematize Latin American experiences of nationhood, political violence, forced disappearance, and racial and gender narratives.

Also taught by Hispanic Studies Faculty:

LACLS 1A Into to US Latinx Lit and Culture (Taught in English)

(1) T,F 9:35–10:55 AM, Durán

[NW, OC, Cross-listed with IGS]

Provides a broad overview of the histories, cultures, and politics that continue to shape the Americas; specifically of the vast regions and populations of what came to be labeled as "Latin America," "the Caribbean" and what we now call "Latinx" populations in the USA. The class provides an introduction to Latin American, Caribbean and Latinx Studies. It draws from different disciplines and fields of study that compose this field, such as history, anthropology, literature, visual arts, film, political science, among other perspectives and methodologies.

Undergraduate Advising Head for Hispanic Studies:

Professor Zoila Castro, zoilacastro@brandeis.edu

Shiffman 103

Director of Spanish Language Program:

Professor Elena González Ros, elenag@brandeis.edu

Shiffman 113

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