

# Department of Romance Studies



Parque de la memoria. Buenos Aires, Argentina

## Hispanic Studies Fall 2023

### 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](http://www.brandeis.edu/departments/roms)

#### NOTES ABOUT FALL 2023 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](mailto: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](http://www.brandeis.edu/romance-studies/courses)

- **If you have never studied Spanish before:** Email Professor González Ros ([elenag@brandeis.edu](mailto: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 Bilingualism, or other official test score:** Please email your standardized exam score to Professor González Ros ([elenag@brandeis.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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 11:15 AM–12:05 PM, Castro
- (3) M,W,Th 9:05–9:55 AM, Mederos

*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. Consent code required (please see instructions above).*

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.



Leonora Carrington (British/Mexican 1917–2011)  
De la hierba santa

#### HISP 105A Oral Communication through Cultural Topics, Salud

(3) M,W,Th 11:15 AM–12:05 PM, Reyes de Deu  
*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 in box 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.

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) M,W 4:05–5:25 PM, Herrera Díaz

*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.



El Abrazo de la Serpiente (2015), dir. by Ciro Guerra

### HISP 122B Made in las Américas: Stories about Growing up Latinx

(1) T,F 11:10 AM–12:30 PM, Durán

*(Taught in English)*

This course examines what it means to grow up Latinx in a multicultural United States through a focus on Latinx young adult literature and Latinx youth culture. Surveying a range of literary works that address the development of Latinx children and adolescents, we will pay special attention to coming-of-age stories that explore how Latinx negotiate ethno-racial identity, find and assert their own voice, and gain a greater understanding about their cultural differences. We will explore what intimate knowledge Latinx youth share and how they make meaning of critical, even ostensibly trivial, life moments to construct their ever-evolving sense of self and their relationship to both Latinx and non-Latinx communities.

### HISP 158A Latina/x Feminisms

(1) T,F 9:35–10:55 AM, Durán

*(Taught in English)*

This course explores the theoretical frameworks and literary productions of feminisms developed by Latina/xs. It introduces students to a diversity of backgrounds and experiences (Chicana, Dominican American, Cuban American, Salvadoran American, and Puerto Rican authors) as well as a variety of genres (i.e. fiction, poetry, short stories, drama). Using intersectionality as a theoretical tool for analyzing oppressions, students will explore the complex politics of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, and race in the lives of Latina/xs. They will also explore Latina/x feminists' theoretical and/or practical attempts to transcend socially-constructed categories of identity, while acknowledging existing material inequalities.



*La Ofrenda*, Ester Hernandez, from National Chicano Screenprint Taller, Smithsonian American Art Museum and its Renwick Gallery.

### HISP 164b Studies in Latin American Literature Topic for fall 2023: Divine Meditations: Race, Religion, and Myth in Latin America

(1) M,W 5:40–7:00 PM, Herrera Díaz

*Prerequisite: HISP 109b or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor. Course may be repeated for credit.*

This course will explore the intersection of race, religion, and myth in Latin America from colonial times until the present. By analyzing a wide array of media (i.e., maps, paintings, photographs, comics, literary texts, performances and films), we will focus on how Afro-Atlantic and Indigenous cosmogonies and identities have shaped colonial, imperial, and national realities, often challenging dominant representations of gender, labor, race, and identity. The course is divided into four units: Nation, Gender, Capitalism, and Borders. Over the course of the semester, we will examine a variety of marginalized and transgressive identities such as maroons, malandros, zombies, shamans, ghosts, and spirits and

discuss their influential role in Latin American transcultural practices and experiences.

### HISP 198A Fiction and Truth. Experiential Research Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies

(1) W 2:30–5:20 PM, Rosenberg

Required for Hispanic Studies majors, but open to minors and other programs. This year, the topic of the research seminar is Fiction and Truth. How does literature intertwine with reality, fiction with history, narrative and identity? We will study texts and watch films (in Spanish and English) that present themselves as having a commitment to truth, to reflect on their strategies of representation and authority. The reflection will accompany students through the process of choosing and developing their essay or multi-media project, which might focus on literature or other artistic and cultural media. Along this path, we will revisit a number of topics and problems central to Hispanic Studies, particularly when it pertains to the students' paper topics. The class will be strongly shaped by students' own developing interests. Taught in both English and Spanish; the final project might be completed in either language.

### Undergraduate Advising Head for Hispanic Studies:

*Professor Zoila Castro, [zoilacastro@brandeis.edu](mailto:zoilacastro@brandeis.edu)*

Shiffman 103

### Director of Spanish Language Program:

*Professor Elena González Ros, [elenag@brandeis.edu](mailto:elenag@brandeis.edu)*

Shiffman 113

### Hispanic Studies Faculty:

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Updated 8/1/23

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