

LA COMPAÑERA

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HIGHLIGHTED SPRING LTAM COURSES



Helena Kaufman's Latin American Studies 110 is a Portuguese for Spanish Speakers course. It is an intensive language course focused on building communication skills quickly using the students' knowledge of Spanish. The idea is to give students a solid base in the language that they can use when going off-campus to a Portuguese speaking country, conducting research, or just as a point of departure for further study. Completion of Spanish 103 is required. We will be using *Ponto de Encontro Portuguese as a World Language* textbook, audio, and video materials. The textbook introduces students to Portuguese in all the richness of its cultural contexts -- from Portugal and Brazil, to Moçambique, Angola, Guiné Bissau, and Cabo Verde.



Professor Alfred Montero's Latin American Politics (POSC 221) introduces students to the political culture, regimes, and political history of the region. It covers virtually all of Latin America though it focuses especially on Mexico and South America. For the first time, students enrolled in the course may opt to join a two-credit 'trailer' discussion section that is run exclusively in Spanish. The one-hour per week discussion section will focus on a single short text or video/audio item. Students interested in the Spanish-language discussion section must contact Prof. Montero after enrolling in POSC 221 so that they may fill out an independent study form designed for the two-credit trailer.



Professor Andrew Fisher's course on the Mexican Revolution (HIST 272) begins with an examination of the historical origins of the conflict before delving into both its domestic and international dimensions. The second half of the term focuses on the emergence of an authoritarian post-revolutionary state, its efforts to transform the nation's economy, society and culture, as well as the challenges these projects generated among grassroots movements and political, artistic, and intellectual dissidents. This course is unique because students will have the opportunity to work with a special portfolio located in Carleton's Special Collections that contains 16 posters by graphic artists depicting the revolutionary Emiliano Zapata. Each student will work with a poster to deconstruct and determine the use of the images to reference Zapata and how it translates to the present. The students' analyses will be displayed in an exhibition in the library next fall.

SPRING 2013 LTAM COURSE OFFERINGS

LTAM 200. Issues in Latin American Studies This required course for Latin American Studies concentrators and majors explores issues pertinent to the study of Latin America, including an examination of what constitutes Latin American area studies and Latin America itself, the history of the field, the perception in and outside of academia, the way such perceptions shape public policy, the contributions of Latin America to the arts, culture, economics, and the changing nature of Latin American Studies in the face of globalization. Designed by the faculty in Latin American Studies, the course will include regular guest lectures from among these faculty. 6 Credits. Professor Silvia Lopez. Tues/Thurs 1:15-3pm

LTAM 398. Latin American Forum This colloquium will explore specific issues or works in Latin American Studies through discussion of a common reading, public presentation, project, and/or performance that constitute the annual Latin American Forum. Students will be required to attend two meetings during the term to discuss the common reading or other material and must attend, without exception, ALL events of the Forum which take place during fourth week of spring term (on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning). A short integrative essay or report will be required at the end of the term. Intended as capstone for Latin American Studies concentrators. 2 Credits. Professor Silvia Lopez. Date/Time-TBA

SPAN 207. Exploring Hispanic Culture Designed for the person who wants to develop greater fluency in speaking, writing, and reading Spanish in the context of a broad introduction to Hispanic culture. Short stories, plays, poems, films, and short novels are read with the goal of enhancing awareness of Hispanic diversity and stimulating classroom discussion. Prerequisite: Spanish 204 or proficiency. 6 Credits. Professor Jorge Brioso. Tues/Thurs 1:15-3pm

SPAN 262. Myth and History in Central American Literature In this course we study the relationship between myth and history in Central America since its origins in the Popol Vuh, the sacred texts of the Mayans until the period of the post-civil wars era. The course is organized in a chronological manner. We will study, in addition to the Popol Vuh, the chronicles of Alvarado, some poems by Rubén Darío and Francisco Gavidia, some of the writings of Miguel Ángel Asturias and Salarrué. The course will end with a study of critical visions of the mythical presented by more contemporary authors such as Roque Dalton and Luis de Lión. 6 Credits. Professor Yansi Perez. MWF 5A.

SPAN 358. The Spanish Civil War Considered by many historians the beginning of the II World War, the Spanish Civil war served as the arena where the main ideologies of the twentieth century--Capitalism, Fascism, and Communism--first clashed. The result was not only one of the bloodiest wars in history, but also was of the most idealistic, with 40,000 volunteers from all over the world willing to die in defense of a country they did not even know. This course will explore the meaning of the war through a variety of mediums and disciplines, including literature, history, graphic arts, and films. Prerequisite: Spanish 205 or above. 6 Credits. Professor Humberto Huergo. Tues/Thurs 1:15-3pm.

SPAN 371. Yours Truly: The Body of the Letter This course will focus on letters and their significance as acts of symbolic and material exchange, as objects that bear the mark of the bodily act of writing, and as a staging of the scene of writing itself. We will study different types of letters (love letters, secret letters, literary letters, letters imbedded in other texts, etc.), but always as the site of production of a modern and gendered self. Letters by: Flora Tristan, Victoria Ocampo, Teresa de la Parra, Virginia Woolf, Rosa Luxemburg, Simone de Beauvoir and theoretical texts by Monsiváis, Chartier, Bouver, Derrida, Deleuze and Guattari, among others. Prerequisite: Spanish 205 or above. 6 Credits. Professor Silvia Lopez. MW 1:50-3:35pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wynia Memorial Lecture: Prof. Luigi Manzetti

"Corruption and the Dark Side of Left Wing Populism in Argentina Under the Kirchners" by Prof. Luigi Manzetti, Southern Methodist University

Date: Friday, February 22nd, 2013

Time: 4:30 pm

Duration: 1 hour, 30 minutes

Location: Gould Library Athenaeum

Sponsored by: Political Science

Much of the recent literature focusing on the "new" Latin American left has compared governments of the "pragmatic socialist" and "left wing populist" varieties in terms of their effects on economic and social policies. Very little attention has been paid to how corruption has accompanied a weakening of checks and balances in the case of left wing populist presidencies. Prof. Manzetti will argue that the more the executive branch concentrates political power and becomes less accountable to institutional checks and balances, the greater the chances that corruption and misuse of scarce government funds will take place. He illustrates this in the case of consecutive husband and wife presidencies of Néstor and Cristina Fernández Kirchner in Argentina.

Luigi Manzetti holds a PhD in political science from the University of Iowa and has previously taught at Duke University and the University of Siena (Italy). He specializes in issues that include governance, corruption, and market reforms in Latin America. His latest book is entitled *Neo-liberalism, Accountability, and Reform Failures in Emerging Markets* (Penn State Univ Press, 2010). Prof. Manzetti has been a consultant for the US Agency on International Development, the United States Information Agency, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"Adventures of an Alum in Cuba: Kathryn Schmidt '12 as a Witness for Peace"

Date: Thursday, February 21st, 2013

Time: Common Time (12-1pm)

Location: LDC 104

Sponsored by: Latin American Studies

Kathryn Schmidt '12 is excited to share stories, reflections, and photos from her experience on the December Witness for Peace professional organizer delegation to Cuba at Carleton, the community that she credits for piquing her interest in this beautiful and historically significant country. She was able to live out her studies of Latin American politics and culture on this eleven-day delegation to see firsthand current Cuban reality and meet with experts from all segments of society such as doctors, lawyers, economists, farmers, cooperatives, religious leaders, and more. All are welcome, and there will be plenty of food and time for Q&A!

Brief bio:

Kathryn Schmidt is a 2012 Carleton grad who majored in International Relations and minored in Latin American Studies and Mandarin. She has been involved with Witness for Peace-Upper Midwest since interning for a Regional Organizer in the summer of 2011 and plans to pursue a career in social justice related to Latin America. Kathryn is currently in Northfield until June teaching Zumba and continuing some projects with Witness for Peace.

INTERVIEW WITH KRISTI WERMAGER

Last week I interviewed Kristi Wermager, the Bibliographer and Curator of Special Collections at the library, about the role Special Collections will play in Professor Andrew Fisher's HIST 272 course on the Mexican Revolution. This portfolio is one of 50 portfolio groups. Kristi found this portfolio through a vendor and contacted Andrew and they decided to purchase the portfolio with the intention of using it in this class.

This portfolio contains 16 images by graphic artists depicting the revolutionary Zapata. The images were distributed by Justseeds to promote social and environmental revolutions and issues.



Kristi Wermager noted the unique learning opportunity that Special Collections offers to students who enroll in Andrew's course:

“History is not just words, it is also images. These images can make it easier for students to enter another period and relate to those periods more directly.”

