



DEPARTMENT OF
**Languages,
Literatures and
Cultures (LLCU)**



WOMEN'S VOICES FROM LATIN AMERICA /

VOCES FEMENINAS DE AMÉRICA LATINA

LLCU 354 / SPAN 354

FALL 2020

Instructor: Dr. D. J. Mennell

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Arabic

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Office: Kingston Hall 401

Telephone: 613-533-2115

Office hours: Mondays 1:00 to 2:30 and Thursdays 8:30 to 9:30, or by appointment.

Texts: Various articles, literary works, videos, photos and websites that the professor will put on OnQ, or which will be brought to class. There is no specific text to purchase for this course.

Course description and objectives:

This course will examine recent contributions to Latin American cultural production and political history by and about women. It will provide an overview of gender issues in Latin America, and the role women have played in their nations' history. At the same time, it will explore the variety of voices that make up the cultural production of women in Latin America in terms of class, ethnicity, race and sexual orientation.

Students will:

1. Gain an understanding of the history of Latin American and women's roles in that history
2. Acquire knowledge of critical theory about women's culture in Latin America
3. Learn to analyze a variety of different genres and texts (poetry, narrative, film, performance art, music, fine art, testimony, graffiti, etc.) from a critical perspective
4. Improve their critical skills both orally and in written format
5. Acquire knowledge about alternative and marginalized voices in the region
6. Understand regional, ethnic and racial differences in women's cultural production

Coursework:

1. An oral presentation of between 10 and 15 minutes on a topic of their choice approved by the instructor. This will be done at home and uploaded on OnQ for everyone to view.
2. A daily response question and/or quizzes regarding the readings and discussions for that day) of 150-200 words on the topic of the week. This will be a personal, critical reaction to the "text". This will also count as **participation**. Responses will be put up in discussion groups on OnQ.
3. Two longer analytical commentaries of 3-4 pages on one of the texts studied in class. The instructor will provide a variety of topics in advance.
4. A final research project of 8-10 pages on a text **NOT** studied in class, due the week after classes end.

THE COURSE WILL BE MOSTLY SYNCHRONOUS ON ZOOM SINCE THIS IS A SEMINAR AND REQUIRES INTERACTION. THERE WILL ALSO BE ASYNCHRONOUS COMPONENTS AS INDICATED ON THE COURSE OUTLINE. FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SYNCHRONOUS MEETINGS, THEY WILL BE RECORDED AND UPLOADED TO OnQ FOR VIEWING.

Grade Distribution:

Daily responses/Participation	20%
Two short commentaries:	30%
Oral Presentation:	15%
Final Project:	35%
Total:	100%

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)	Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100	C	63-66
A	85-89	C-	60-62
A-	80-84	D+	57-59
B+	77-79	D	53-56
B	73-76	D-	50-52
B-	70-72	F	49 and below
C+	67-69		

NB: All students registered in SPAN 354 must do their work in Spanish. This includes written work and oral presentation. The presentations will be held in a separate meeting together.



CLASS SCHEDULE

<p>Thurs. Sept. 10</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Introduction to course content and method of delivery. Discuss the importance of the course topic in the light of recent events and “Black Lives Matter”.</p> <p>Asynchronous material can be found on OnQ and must be completed before the next synchronous class on Monday.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read the articles on OnQ for Monday and answer the questions indicated on OnQ to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short blog on what interests you about the course topic and why.</p>
<p>Mon. Sept. 14</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Theoretical Foundations: Latin American feminism and its limitations. Brief history of women’s roles and rights in Latin America. State of contemporary Latin American gender studies. Need for women to speak in their own voice. Articles to discuss: Debra Castillo and Cynthia Tompkins</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ.</p> <p>Read thepoems on OnQ for Thursday and answer the questions indicated to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short blog on what you took away from the class today. How does this differ from your own experiences?</p>
<p>Thurs. Sept. 17</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Sor Juana poem. Hombres necios (Silly Men). The right to speak. Discuss in class. Optional: Sor Juana’s “Reply”</p> <p>Alfonsina Storni. Early women’s poetry. Poetry as a “naked soul”. Poems to be discussed: “Ancestral Weight”, “I am going to sleep”, “You want me white”.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ.</p> <p>Read the poetry and texts on OnQ for Monday and answer the questions indicated to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Mon. Sept. 21</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>More poets: Black Lives Matter.</p> <p>Julia de Burgos (Puerto Rico). Poems to be discussed: “To Julia de Burgos”, “I was my own path”, “Ay, ay, ay for the kinky haired woman”.</p> <p>Nancy Morejón (Cuba). Poems to be discussed: “Black Woman” “Mother”, “Coffee”</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ.</p> <p>Read the texts about Chicana voices on OnQ for Thursday and prepare the questions indicated to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Get together with another student in the class and indicate how this relates to contemporary social issuesand especially Black Lives Matter. Write some ideas on the discussion page.</p>

<p>Thurs. Sept. 24</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Chicana Voices Living on the Border:</p> <p>Gloria Anzaldua: U.S. Borderlands and Cultural tyranny. Excerpts from "Borderlands".</p> <p>Sandra Cisneros: Living in between. "Woman Hollering Creek"</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read the texts of Julia Alvarez on OnQ for Thursday and prepare the questions indicated to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Mon. Sept. 28</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Latinx in the U.S. Immigrant identities</p> <p>Julia Alvarez: "Names/Nombres" and "Antojos".</p> <p>Discuss marginalization and issues of belonging.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read the short story of Marilyn Bobes on OnQ for Thursday and prepare the questions indicated to be discussed in class.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 1</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Being different.</p> <p>Marilyn Bobes (Cuba). "Someone has to cry". An absent voice.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read the short story by Rosario Castellanos and other information on OnQ.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Mon. Oct. 5</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Fighting the traditional spaces of women.</p> <p>Rosario Castellanos: "Cooking Lesson". Discussion of traditional Mexican family dynamics and expectations.</p> <p><u>FIRST SHORT COMMENTARY DUE (3-4 pages)</u></p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read text by Laura Esquivel on OnQ, and view the film "Like Water for Chocolate" (to be made available).</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 8</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Subverting traditional roles in Mexico.</p> <p>Discuss "Like Water for Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel and its translation into film. The reclaiming of women's space as a source of subversion.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Prepare for Thursday fater Thanksgiving the texts on Testimonial Literature by Rigoberta Menchu, Domitila Barrios de Chungara and the article on Mapuche women.</p>

		<p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Mon. Oct. 12	THANKSGIVING: NO CLASSES	
Thurs. Oct. 15	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Discuss “testimonial” literature and its importance in giving voice to invisible women, especially from the indigenous community.</p> <p>Rigoberta Menchu: “I, Rigoberta Menchu” as voice of the people.</p> <p>Domitila Barrios de Chungara, excerpts from “Let me speak”.</p> <p>Article on interviewing indigenous mapuche women to record their histories.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read information on Eva Peron and the various Latin American women presidents. View clips on OnQ and answer questions.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Mon. Oct. 19	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women in Power: Difficulties and Double Standards. Eva Peron (Video clips) and discussion of women presidents of Latin American countries.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read PowerPoints and articles and view clips posted on OnQ. View “Who am I” by Estela Bravo online. Follow link.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Thurs. Oct. 22	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women and Protest:</p> <p>Mothers and Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo. Motherhood as Weapon. Discuss the representation by Estela Bravo.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read information on protest movements in texts and PowerPoints and view video clips on OnQ.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Oct. 26	FALL BREAK: NO CLASSES	
Mon. Nov. 2	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women and Protest: Using stereotypes to break down barriers.</p> <p>Arpillera Movement in Chile.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View the PowerPoints on Frida Kahlo and prepare for an analysis of her work.</p>

	<p>MMIWG in Canada and Latin America Pia Barros and microcuentos Miss Peru Ciudad Juarez</p> <p>Discuss methods and effectiveness.</p>	<p>Watch “A Fantastic Woman” on Netflix or other online platform. OnQ. Be prepared to discuss the film and questions on Thursday. Also read information on the “Muxe” people of Mexico.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to the film viewed and discussed today.</p>
<p>Thurs. Nov. 5</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Transgender and Double Spirit</p> <p>Discuss the film “A Fantastic Woman”. Discuss the concept of “third gender” and the Muxe people.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View the film “Alanis” by Anahí Berneri on OnQ. Be prepared to discuss and answer questions.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Mon. Nov. 9</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Discuss “Alanis” and the representation of prostitution as choice versus necessity.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read information and PowerPoints on OnQ and answer questions for discussion.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Thurs. Nov. 12</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women Artists.</p> <p>Frida Kahlo: The Intimate “I”. Portraying the inner self and pain. Representing the body.</p> <p>SECOND SHORT COMMENTARY DUE: (3-4 pages)</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>Read PowerPoints on Partnoy and Varo and the artistic movements they represent.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
<p>Mon. Nov. 16</p>	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women and Dictatorship: Raquel Partnoy Women and Surrealism: Remedios Varo.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View video clips and read information on Sosa and Parra and the music they represent.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>

Thurs Nov. 19	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Nueva Canción: Mercedes Sosa and Violeta Parra. What is “Nueva Canción”, what do these singers represent and how do they contribute to culture?</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View video clips and read information on Vargas and Baca and the music they represent.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Mon. Nov. 23	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women Singers Chavela Vargas (Inverted machismo) Susana Baca (Afro-Peruvian folk music)</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View video clips and read information on Tijoux and Downs.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Thurs. Nov. 26	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Contemporary Women singers: Ana Tijoux (Chilean-Indigenous rap) Lilia Downs (Mexican fusion)</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View video clips and read articles on Hadad and her performance art.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Mon. Nov. 30	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Astrid Hadad: Performance Art</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p> <p>View PowerPoint and read the texts by the graffiti artists.</p> <p>ASYNCHRONOUS: Write a short response to one of the texts read and discussed today.</p>
Thurs. Dec. 3	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Women take the streets: Graffiti art. Usurping male domains.</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p>
Mon. Dec. 7	<p>SYNCHRONOUS CLASS: (Approx. 1 hr.)</p> <p>Summary and Review: Postmortem</p>	<p>The synchronous class will be taped and made available for viewing on OnQ .</p>

FINAL PAPER DUE: FRIDAY , December 18, 2020. WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED LATE FOR ANY REASON.