



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

**Faculty of Arts**

**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

Span 632.01

Critical Analysis of Hispanic Film: Neoliberalism in Latin American Cinemas  
Fall 2022

MF 12:30-1:45

Lecture via Zoom (synchronously)

Zoom link for class sessions will be posted on D2L

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Dr. Nayibe Bermúdez Barrios

**OFFICE HOURS:** WF 10:00-10:50 (Zoom link will be posted on D2L) or by appointment (email to arrange a time)

**E-MAIL:** [nbermude@ucalgary.ca](mailto:nbermude@ucalgary.ca) I will typically respond to e-mails within 48 hours during weekdays (weekends and holidays excluded).

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** N/A

**DESCRIPTION**

Description: This course explores the representation of the political and socio-economic model known as neoliberalism. Films focusing on immaterial labour, the market, private neighbourhoods, social relations, among other concerns, will be used to discuss cinematographic technique, genres, social and film theory. This course relies on close and attentive reading and examination of academic texts, both in English and Spanish, the careful and timely critical viewing of films, and the planning and completion of daily activities both individually and in group.

**OBJECTIVES**

Moving away from restrictive literary and content-based studies of cinema, this course will pay attention to film theories and techniques. Likewise, the study of neoliberalism and its impacts will help to situate Latin-American cinemas in a globalized economic and political order. Concurrently, the social spaces generated by neoliberalism and the correlates of gender, ethnicity, social class, affect, among others, will also be explored. These guiding objectives are also closely linked to the acquisition of visual literacy.

**OUTCOMES**

Al final del curso podrás describir, analizar y evaluar la conexión entre conceptos teóricos y el contenido y la estructura formal de recientes filmes de varios países latinoamericanos. También podrás entender los contextos nacionales, regionales y transnacionales necesarios para comprender la discusión sobre el impacto del neoliberalismo. Asimismo, obtendrás las herramientas para estudiar y discutir los temas de los filmes dentro de sus contextos, analizar sus técnicas, hacer investigación bibliográfica y enfocarte en las preguntas principales, debatir con el resto de la clase, estar al tanto de tus procesos de aprendizaje, hacer una crítica cinematográfica y un video-ensayo de análisis.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

- ✚ Danielian, Jeff, Uriah Donnelly, and William Schaff. *The Reel Classroom: An Introduction to Film Studies and Filmmaking*. Routledge, 2021. Digital edition available at the TFL (library). All other books and articles are reflected on the course syllabus. Search in the library by typing the full title.
- ✚ Downloaded or printed electronic articles and other texts on the course syllabus.
- ✚ Access to films provided by the library. You can also purchase them online, but make sure they are subtitled.
- ✚ Downloaded or printed course syllabus on D2L.



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✚ Downloaded or printed rubrics for all activities on D2L.

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates.
- A current and updated web browser.
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external).
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone.
- Zoom
- Adobe reader.
- Word with Spanish keyboard and dictionary activated.
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled.
- Stable internet connection.

**RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS**

- ✚ *Bateman, John A. Film Text Analysis: New Perspectives on the Analysis of Filmic Meaning. Routledge, 2016.* Digital edition available at the TFL (library).

**COURSE NOTES**

- *Important dates.*  
First day of class: Sept 8. Last day of class: Dec 7. No class Sept 30; Oct 10 (statutory holidays).  
Term break: Nov 7-13.  
Discussions, student moderation, etc., will be carried out daily, starting the second week. For all due dates, see the syllabus on D2L.
- *Attendance and participation.*  
Attendance, organic discussions, moderation, etc, will count towards the grade for attendance and participation. Attendance at all course meetings, and planning and preparation of assignments in advance of class is expected. For successful participation, each 75 minutes of class time will require 4 hours of studying, totaling at least 8 hours of homework per week, including viewing films, taking notes on their themes and techniques, reading material, learning theoretical and other concepts, preparing for organic discussions, and working on your assignments. It is also expected that students will engage in an escalating and reflective learning process.
- *Class etiquette.*  
No eating. Cell phones, and or headphones are only to be used if needed for the class. Multitasking is a myth that I do not condone.
- *Guidelines for Zoom meetings, and use of technology during class*  
Zoom links and passwords will be provided on D2L for office hours. Familiarize yourself with Zoom and the use of D2L in advance. I may also use urls and online applications for the completion of interactive tasks.
- *Media policy in case of recording*  
The class sessions may be recorded and posted to D2L, if I am asked ahead of time. You are not permitted to share these recordings with anyone not enrolled in the course.
- *Course evaluation procedure (online via D2L)*  
Assessments will all be online via D2L.

**ASSESSMENT**

- ❖ *Participación 10%*  
Class discussion is the lifeblood of the course—it is how we both create and share new knowledge. Some discussions will be in small groups, others in the full class, but we will have some discussion every day. Many of our discussions will be primed by either in-class or out-of-class writing, including freewriting, discussion prompts, response papers, and reflective pieces to be completed on the Discussion Forum on D2L. Students are expected to participate fully and contribute thoughtfully and meaningfully to class discussions.



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- ❖ **Crítica cinematográfica 15%**  
Choose a film from the course and use the prompts on D2L to write about it. Follow the instructions as to number of paragraphs and details appearing on the rubrics and ancillary material on D2L.
- ❖ **Bibliografía anotada 15%**  
Find bibliographic information on the movie assigned to you and annotate it, i.e., provide a summary of at least seven entries (articles and one book) along with your own evaluation of the content and form. All entries will follow MLA 8 ed. specifications-links on D2L-, as well as the rules appearing on the rubrics and ancillary material on D2L.
- ❖ **Moderación 20%**  
You are to moderate a class during the semester. This consists in explaining concepts, asking questions to your classmates, commenting on the answers, and providing clarifications and statements of your own always referring to the films of the course. Follow the instructions appearing on the rubrics and ancillary material on D2L.
- ❖ **Ensayo analítico (ensayo 30%; presentación del ensayo 10%) 40%**  
In the latter part of the semester, students will undertake a multidisciplinary research project and present it to the class. The goal of the project is to study, examine, and interpret a film using concepts studied in the course (transnationalism, new cinema, genre, globalization, etc), film techniques, and relevant material from disciplines such as economics, political science, cultural studies, etc. In addition to completing preparatory steps along the way, each student will be required to make a brief oral presentation on your research. Length 12-15 pages. Refer to the rubrics on D2L.

There will be no final exam in this course.

The timely completion of all assignments, in addition to respecting and following all procedures and rubrics, is necessary to pass this course.

#### **GRADING SCALE**

*A+=100; A=93-99; A- =86-92; B+=81-85; B=76-80; B- =71-75; C+=67-70; C=62-66 C- =58-61; D+=54-57; D=50-53; F<53%*

*The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark.*

#### **INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT**

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

##### **Academic misconduct**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**



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Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations> .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**



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Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.