University of California, San Diego  
Global Seminars I  
Summer 2019

**LTAM 110**  
Literature and Politics in Latin America

**Monday & Tuesday**  
Lectures & discussions  
1:00pm-4:00pm

**Wednesday, Thursday Excursions**  
(* Except July 12th Sunday Excursion)

**(Santiago, Chile)**

Summer Session I  
June 29-August3  
Global Seminar  
UCSD

**Professor: Babak Rahimi**  
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**Description:**
This course examines Latin American politics through literary works ranging from poetry to novels. It surveys Central and South America, focusing on culture, literature and politics, especially from Modernismo movement to post-Boom counter-culture in contemporary era. We will do close reading of writings of Roberto Bolaño, Jorge Luis Borges, José Donoso, Gabriela Mistral, Pablo Neruda, Antonio Skarmeta, among others. Our critical analytical study of various literary texts will be contextualized within local and global politics of the Cold War and post-Communist era. The course will also explore themes such as class, gender, race and political activism through characters and narrative structure of key text.
DESCRIPTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

The basic goals of the course are as follow:

1. To acquire basic understanding of Latin American literature (in translation) from a historical, political and literary perspective.
2. To understand how the local histories can be connected with global cultures.
3. To gain familiarity with non-European cultures.
4. To gain knowledge of Latin American history and society in the context of global politics.
5. To engage in intensive university-level writing and to improve one’s analytical and critical skills.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. Course Reader (Cal Copy)

2. Curfew, José Donoso

3. The Savage Detectives, Roberto Bolaño

4. The Postman, Antonio Skarmeta

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Assignments:

Assignments and grades will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Group Assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursion reviews</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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EXAMS:

- **Reading Group Assignments:** In the beginning of the summer term the class will be divided up into a number of groups (27 students in total: 3 students in each group; a total of 9 groups). Each group will be responsible for reading, discussing and summarizing the assigned novel or secondary source during the lecture day, when the readings are due. Each group will also write up a collective essay on the Sunday of that week (submit at 11:59pm to religion101ucsd@gmail.com). We will have a total of 3 Reading Group Assignments for the summer term. For each essay submitted members of the group will receive credit. The essay should not be more than 500 words (excluding the references) and should make reference to the reading assignment. You may use MLA or any other reference style. Write the topic (the assignment you have discussed), your group name and members of that group on top of the paper. As for the name of the group, you can choose any name you like. My suggestion: choose the name of your favorite anime. The essays should be an analytical reflection and a summery of the assignment discussed in class. As for who writes the essay, you can rotate authors on a weekly basis.

- **Literary Project:** 2500 to 3000 words (excluding references) literary work (diary, poetry, etc.) on literature and the everyday.

- **Excursion reviews:** 200 to 300 words review of excursion. They can be informal. I simply want to hear about your reflections. No need to make references. Due: everyday Sunday at 11:59pm, religion101ucsd@gmail.com

- You must complete all parts of the writing assignment, attend section, and submit all exams in order to pass the course.

CLASS POLICY & GUIDELINES:

**Attendance and Participation**
Active participation for each week comprises 10% of your grade. Students are expected to come to the lectures and are required to attend the sections. Students are also expected to have read the assigned reading materials and be prepared to talk about the reading material and lectures during discussion sessions. You can certainly ask questions during the lectures.

**Late Papers**
You must complete all assigned papers in a timely manner to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized 1/3 of a grade for each class that they are late.
Plagiarism
The major part of your course assignments and exams involves writings based on your assigned reading. So, make sure to cite your sources, either quoted directly or paraphrased, so to avoid plagiarism. In other words, submit your own original work! See me if you have any questions regarding what constitutes plagiarism. If you are caught cheating you will automatically fail the course.

Assistance
In case of disability that may require accommodation, please see me. 😊

Schedule for the course

- Monday and Tuesday: 1:00pm – 4:00pm in class
- Wednesday and Thursday – Excursion only day.
- There will be no scheduled activity on Fridays, Mondays and weekends, except on July 12th, Neruda’s birthday.

Schedule of Lectures

WEEK 1: July 2-6

June 29, Monday: Orientation in the morning

*1:00pm-4:00pm: Introduction to LTAM 110
(Lecture in a Classroom)

* A tour of the city.

June 30, Tuesday: Introduction to the course and cultural politics in the Twentieth Century

Lecture Site:

1. Plaza de Armas
2. Santuario de la Inmaculada Concepción
July 1, Wednesday: Colonial and Nineteenth-century Literature

**Lecture Site:**
1. Grand Santiago Tower
2. Barrio Brasil

**July 2, Thursday: Excursion**
1. Museo Historia Nacional
2. Castillo Hidalgo

**July 3, Friday: No Class**

**WEEK 2: July 9-13**

**July 6, Monday: Romanticism and Realism**

**Lecture Site:**
1. Palacio de los Tribunales de Justicia
2. Estación Central.

**July 7, Tuesday: Modernismo I**
1. Centro Gabriela Mistral

**July 8, Wednesday: Excursion**
1. La Chascona house
   Barrio Bellavista
2. Santiago Museum of Contemporary Art
3. Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes

**July 9, Thursday: Excursion**
1. Los Andes (outside of Santiago)
July 10, Friday NO CLASS

July 12, Sunday: Excursion to Isla Negra

WEEK 3: July 16-20

July 13, Monday: Modernismo II

Lecture site:

1. Palacio de la Moneda
2. Cripta de Bernardo O'Higgins

July 14, Tuesday: Modernismo III

1. TBA

July 15, Wednesday: Excursion

1. La Sebastiania, valparaíso

July 16, Thursday: Excursion

1. Metropolitan Cathedral
2. Centro Cultural Palacio de la Moneda y Plaza de la Ciudadania
2. Plaza Nunoa
3. Plaza de La Constitucion

July 17, Friday NO CLASS

July 20-24

July 20, Monday: The Boom and the Age of Magical Realism

1. Basílica de La Merced

July 21, Tuesday: The Boom and post-Communism

1. El palacio Falabella

July 22, Wednesday: Excursion
La Serena

July 23, Thursday: Excursion

La Serena

July 24, Friday:
La Serena

July 27-August 31

July 27, Monday: Post-Boom and Post-modernity

July 28, Tuesday: Subaltern literature

The Swell Mining Town

July 29, Wednesday: Excursion

The Swell Mining Town

July 30, Thursday: Excursion

No lecture

July 31, Conclusion & Goodbye dinner