

**Imagining the Americas:
Film, Literature, and Politics in Latin America
(BCUSP 104E & 107E)
VLPA and I & S**

**Professors Julie Shayne & Patrick Blaine
UW Bothell ~ Autumn 2009
Meeting times: Tues/Thurs 11:00-1:05 & 1:15-3:20
Room: UW1-202**

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contact information:**

Office: UW1-151

**Office hrs: Tuesdays 9:45-10:45 and
by appointment (Office hours will be
held in The Commons in UW2)**

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**Julie Shayne's
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by appointment**

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425.352.3683**

"When you say 'America' you refer to the territory stretching between the icecaps of the two poles."

Diego Rivera, Mexican muralist

Course Description:

This course explores four main themes: human rights, revolution, gender, and Latin American immigration. We will focus our analyses on Mexico, Cuba, and Chile and use a combination of film, fiction, social science, and testimony to understand a host of political and social problems. These issues include: human rights violations in the region; the ways people respond to injustice vis-à-vis revolution; how men and women participate in politics differently from one another, and what accounts for the mass exodus of Latin Americans from their countries of origin.

Center for University Studies and Programs Learning Goals:

- 1) Inclusive Practices
- 2) Critical and Creative Inquiry
- 3) Ethics and Social Responsibility
- 4) Quantitative and Qualitative Literacies
- 5) Communication

Required Texts:

Castillo, Ana. 2007. *The Guardians*. New York: Random House.

Gonzalez, Juan. 2001. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*. New York: Penguin Books.

Skármeta, Antonio. 2008. *The Postman, 2d ed*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Skidmore, Thomas and Peter Smith. 2005. *Modern Latin America, 6th ed.* New York: Oxford University Press.

Subcomandante Marcos. 1999. *The Story of Colors. La Historia de los Colores.* El Paso, Tx.: Cinco Puntos Press.

All required texts are on reserve in the library

E-reserves: <https://eres.bothell.washington.edu/eres/coursepass.aspx?cid=1401>

Please print out all electronic readings from e-reserves and blackboard

Recommended:

2007. *Vox Compact Spanish and English Dictionary, 3rd edition.* McGraw-Hill.

Additional resources:

Blackboard page: <http://bb.uwb.edu/>

Course Research Guide: <http://libguides.uwb.edu/bcusp104shayne>

Center for University Studies and Programs: <http://www.uwb.edu/CUSP>

Evaluation/Grading:

Reading and participation: **5%**

Weekly write-ups: **40%**

Research paper: **55% total**

- Early thoughts/annotated bibliography [**10%**]
- Sentence-based outline [**10%**]
- Rough draft [**10%**]
- Final paper [**25%**]

Total: 100%

Reading and active participation (5%): Active participation is fundamental to the success of this class. You will be expected to come to class, with reading done, prepared to thoughtfully discuss the material. Occasionally we will have in-class free writes. Your thoughtful completion of these free writes will also affect your final participation grade.

Weekly write-ups (40%): Seven weeks this quarter you are required to turn in a **one page** response to a question we will hand out in class. We are **NOT** looking for opinions about the readings but a clear, concisely written indication that you understood the major themes of the week. **Please note:** If you do all seven of the write-ups we will drop the lowest grade from your total. Write-ups are due on **Thursdays:**

October	November	December
8	12	10
15	19	
22		
29		

Research paper (55%): For this assignment you will write a research paper related to some aspect of Latin American/Caribbean cultural production, for example: film, fiction, poetry, music, art, theater, or fashion. You may focus on a specific genre or artist(s) and inside Latin America/Caribbean or the diaspora. Your topic must be chosen in consultation with us. You must decide on your topic no later than **Tuesday Oct 7**.

Individual assignments for the paper include:

- **Paper topic.** You are required to turn in a typed, one-sentence description of your proposed topic/question. Due at the beginning of class **Tuesday Oct 13**.
- **Early Thoughts** and **Annotated Bibliography [10%]**. The Early Thoughts part of the assignment should include your specific research question and your preliminary ideas about the topic. (This should be about one paragraph.) The Annotated Bibliography must include at least three acceptable sources that you have started reading with brief (about one paragraph) summaries. Acceptable sources include: books, book chapters, academic journal articles, MA or PhD theses, films, and primary sources. For this assignment, only one of these sources can be a non-academic source. This assignment is to demonstrate to us that you have begun your research and have a clear sense of what it is that you intend to learn. These are due at the beginning of class on **Thursday Nov 5**.
- A detailed, sentence-based **Outline [10%]**. Outlines must be extremely detailed maps of your final research paper. It is not acceptable to write “Introduction” without a detailed description of what you intend to include. These are due at the beginning of class on **Tuesday Nov 17**.
- **Rough Draft [10%]**. You must turn in at least the first two pages of your paper and bibliography thus far. (Bibliography does not count towards the two pages.) Your paper must be in reasonably good shape, formatted as if it were the final paper, adhering to all standard guidelines. These are due at the beginning of class on **Thursday Dec 3**.
- **Research Paper [25%]**. Your final paper must be between five and eight pages with a minimum of five acceptable sources. Of these five, only one may be non-academic. Papers *and* graded rough draft are due **Tuesday Dec 15 at 11:00 am in Professor Shayne’s office: UW1-146**.

(Please note: You will not get a passing grade on your research paper if you do not hand in all of the individual assignments.)

Grade scale:

A	95-100 (4.0-3.9)
A-	91-94 (3.8-3.5)
B+	88-90 (3.4-3.2)
B	85-87 (3.1-2.9)
B-	81-84 (2.8-2.5)
C+	78-80 (2.4-2.2)

C	75-77 (2.1-1.9)
C-	71-74 (1.8-1.5)
D+	68-70 (1.4-1.2)
D	65-67 (1.1-0.9)
D-	61-64 (0.8-0.7)
E	60 and below (0.0)

Policies:

- **Seasonal and swine flu shots:** Please get your flu shots ASAP. Please follow the UW guidelines regarding preventing the spread of the flu this season. You can find them on our Blackboard page under external links.
- **Attendance Policy:** Unless a serious illness/injury or emergency intervenes, you are expected to be present every day. If you cannot attend class it is your responsibility to get the notes from someone and check Blackboard for relevant handouts and announcements.
- **Classroom Distractions:** Laptops are NOT permitted in class. Please make sure that **all** electronic devices are *turned off and put away* during class hours.
- **Grade discrepancies:** Except in cases of miscalculation or other error, your course grade is final and non-negotiable. You **MUST** keep all graded material until you have received your final grades. If there are any grade discrepancies at the end of the quarter, and you are missing any of your graded originals we will not recalculate your grade. You should feel free to come discuss your grades with us throughout the quarter to gather feedback for future assignments.
- **Late assignments:** Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class. Weekly write-ups and Research papers will **not be accepted late**. Early thoughts/bibliography and outline assignments will be graded down **one-HALF of a grade** for every day they are late. "Late" begins at 11:01 am on the due date. We will waive the penalty in the case of legitimate emergency or illness.
- **Absence the day an assignment is due:** If you are not in class the day an assignment is due it is your responsibility to email it to each of us as a word or pdf doc by 11:00 am the day it is due so we can see you did it on time. You must also bring us a hard copy when you return to class. If we do not electronically receive your paper on time the paper will be considered late. Additionally, it is your responsibility to confirm that we received your assignment on time. If you are not able to hand deliver your final paper it is your responsibility to get it to a friend so s/he can deliver it **and** your rough draft for you. We will not accept electronic versions of the final paper and we will not grade the final paper if the graded rough draft is not also submitted.
- **Assignment format:** All assignments must be double-spaced, a minimum of one-inch margins, pages numbered, stapled, no smaller than 11-point font size,

with your name on each page. You will need to provide two copies, stapled, and numbered independent of each other, for every assignment.

- **Incompletes:** University rules state that “an incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks at the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student’s control.”
- **Disability Accommodation:** UW Bothell provides individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations to participate in education programs, activities, and services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation to participate in class activities or to meet course requirements should contact the Disability Support Services at (425) 352-5307. For further information on UW Bothell policy on accommodation, please consult: <http://www.uwb.edu/students/services/dss/>. If you have a letter from Disability Support Services indicating that you require accommodations, please provide us with a copy as soon as possible so we can make necessary arrangements.
- **Academic Integrity:** We strictly follow the UW Bothell’s Policy on Academic and Behavioral Conduct, and the UW Student Conduct Code. In addition to intentional acts of academic dishonesty, there are many forms of plagiarism and cheating that are often committed without knowledge or intent. Please be aware that any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in a grade of ZERO for the assignment in question, and may result in a FAILING GRADE FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE. Per University policy, all allegations of plagiarism and academic dishonesty are subject to formal investigation and possible sanction by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Be aware that sustained findings of plagiarism and dishonesty can result in your suspension or dismissal from the University. Ignorance of the University’s rules and policies is NOT a valid defense! It is YOUR ultimate responsibility to know and follow University policies on academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

For the UW Student Conduct Code, see:

<http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html>

For additional information, see the UW Bothell Library guide on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

<http://www.uwb.edu/library/guides/research/plagiarism.html>

~ **You will find links to both of these on our course Blackboard page** ~

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**Class schedule:** Please read this carefully, and consult it regularly. Reading assignments may change throughout the quarter so please check your email/blackboard regularly and listen for such announcements in class. You are expected to complete the readings by the date they immediately follow.  
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Thurs Oct 1: Why study Latin American culture, politics, and history?

Film: *30 Days* (2007) [45 minutes]

Section one: Human Rights, Gender, and Diaspora

Tues Oct 6: What are human rights? ~ Physical and economic violence

Shayne, Julie and Patrick Blaine. 2009. "Important Terms, People, Dates" handout from day one. (Blackboard/Course documents)

Wright, Thomas. 2007. "The Latin American Human Rights Crisis." Pp. 17-43 in *State Terrorism in Latin America: Chile, Argentina, and International Human Rights*. Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

Skidmore, Thomas and Peter Smith. 2005. *Modern Latin America*. New York: Oxford University Press.

"Statistical Appendix." Pp. 456-459

Film: *Father Roy: Inside the School of Assassins* (1997) [57 minutes]

Thurs Oct 8: Gender and politics

Shayne, Julie. 2009. *They Used to Call Us Witches: Chilean Exiles, Culture, and Feminism*. Lanham, Md.: Lexington Books. (Blackboard/Course documents/Readings)

"Chapter 5: Gender, Emotions, and Culture in the Solidarity Movement," pp. 202-205

"Chapter 6: Exile and Feminism," pp. 221-225, in

Please note: Both chapters are available in their entirety but you are only required to read the pages specified here.

Library workshop #1: Getting Started – Alyssa Deutschler, Global Studies Librarian. [Workshop will begin at 1:30 pm; please meet in LB1-222]

~ **1st write-up due** ~

Tues Oct 13: The Latin American diaspora

Gonzalez, Juan. 2001. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*. New York: Penguin Books.

"Introduction" pp ix-xx

Ch 12: "Speak Spanish, You're in America!: El Huracán over Language and Culture" pp 206-227

Film: *Letters From the Other Side* (2006) [73 minutes]

~ **Paper topic due** ~

Section two: Mexico

Thurs Oct 15: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 8: "Mexico: The Taming of a Revolution" pp. 254-295

Films: *The Last Zapatista* (1995) [30 minutes] – and – *Frida* (2002) [123 minutes]

~ **2nd write-up due** ~

Tues Oct 20: Human rights and economic violence

Harvest of Empire

Ch 13: "Free Trade: The Final Conquest of Latin America" pp 228-245

Film: *Maquilapolis* (2006) [60 minutes]

Thurs Oct 22: Indigenous peoples and human rights

Subcomandante Marcos. 1999. *The Story of Colors. La Historia de los Colores.* El Paso, Tx.: Cinco Puntos Press.

Film: *Zapatista* (1999) [56 minutes]

~ **3rd write-up due** ~

Tues Oct 27: Women revolutionaries in Chiapas

Kampwirth, Karen. 2002. "Also a Women's Rebellion: The Rise of the Zapatista Army." Pp. 83-115 in *Women & Guerrilla Movements: Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chiapas, Cuba.* University Park, Pa.: The Pennsylvania State University Press. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

Library workshop #2: Hands-on Research – Alyssa Deutschler, Global Studies Librarian [Workshop will begin at 11:00 am. Please meet in LB1-222]

Thurs Oct 29: The Mexican diaspora

Castillo, Ana. 2007. *The Guardians.* New York: Random House.

Film: *Under the Same Moon/La Misma Luna* (2007) [109 minutes]

~ **4th write-up due** ~

Section three: Cuba

Tues Nov 3: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 9: "Late Colony, First Socialist State" pp. 296-327.

Film: *Che: Part One* (2008) [134 minutes]

Thurs Nov 5: Gender and revolutionary Cuba

Shayne, Julie. 2004. "The Women's Movement in Postinsurrection Cuba, 1959-1999." Pp. 135-154 in *The Revolution Question: Feminisms in El Salvador, Chile, and Cuba.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

Film: *Seven Days Seven Nights* (2005) [106 minutes]

~ **Early thoughts & annotated bibliography due** ~

Tues Nov 10: Human rights and economic violence

Cohen, Roger. 2008. "The End of the End of the Revolution." In *The New York Times Magazine*. Sunday, December 7. (Blackboard/Course documents/Readings)

Sierra, J.A. 2007. "Economic Embargo Timeline" and "About the Author." From <http://www.historyofcuba.com/> (Blackboard/External Links)

Film: *Barrio Cuba* (2007) [108 minutes]

Thurs Nov 12: Human rights and freedom of expression

Olavarria, Margot. 2008. "Rap and Revolution: Hip-Hop Comes to Cuba." In *NACLA: Report on the Americas*. 35(6): 28-30 (Blackboard/Course documents/Readings)

Film: *Inventos: Hip Hop Cubano* (2005) [50 minutes]

Workshop: How to Organize a Research Paper – Karen Rosenberg, Writing Center Director [Workshop will begin at 1:30 in class]

~ 5th write-up due ~

Tues Nov 17: The Cuban Diaspora

Harvest of Empire

Ch 6 "Cubans: Special Refugees" pp 108-116

Fusco, Coco. 1995. "El Diario del Miranda/Miranda's Diary." Pp. 198-216 in *Bridges to Cuba: Puentes a Cuba*. Ed., Ruth Behar. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

Film: *Miami-Havana* (2006) [53 minutes]

~ Outline due ~

Section four: Chile

Thurs Nov 19: Historical overview

Modern Latin America.

Ch 4: "Chile: Socialism, Repression, and Democracy" pp. 109-138

Film: *Machuca* (2006) [115 minutes]

~ 6th write-up due ~

Tues Nov 24: The Popular Unity's answer to economic violence

Popular Unity. 1970. "Popular Unity Program." Pp 257-285 in *Salvador Allende reader: Chile's voice of democracy*. Ed, James D. Cockroft. New York: Ocean Press. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

Film: *Salvador Allende* (2004) [100 minutes]

Thurs Nov 26: Thanksgiving ~ No class

Tues Dec 1: Augusto Pinochet and state terrorism

Politzer, Patricia. 1989. *Fear in Chile: Lives Under Pinochet*. Translated by Diane Wachtell. New York: Pantheon Books. (E-reserve/Blackboard)

“Poor Hungry, and Oppressed: Blanca Ibarra Abarca,” pp. 154-173
“A Pinochet Diehard: Elena Tesser de Villaseca,” pp. 93-99.

Film: *The Archeology of Memory* (2008) [88 minutes]

Recommended viewing: *Chile, Obstinate Memory* (1997) [58 minutes]

Thurs Dec 3: Chilean exiles

Shayne, Julie. 2009. “Chapter 2: Testimonies.” Pp.70-89 in *They Used to Call Us Witches: Chilean Exiles, Culture, and Feminism*. Lanham, Md: Lexington Books.
(Blackboard/Course documents/Readings)

Film: *Lo que Me Tocó Vivir/ The Life I Got to Live* (2008) [47 minutes]

Guest lecture: Veronica Barrera, Director/Producer/Writer of *Lo que Me Tocó Vivir*

~ **Rough draft due** ~

Tues Dec 8: The postman and the poet

Skármeta, Antonio. 2008. *The Postman, 2d ed.* NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Film: *The Judge and the General* (2008) [84 minutes]

Thurs Dec 10: Conclusion

Harvest of Empire

“Epilogue” pp 269-273

Film: *The Motorcycle Diaries* (2004) [126 minutes]

~ **7th write-up due** ~

**Final paper and graded rough draft due Tuesday December 15th
at 11:00 am in Professor Shayne’s office; UW1-146**