

Hispanic-American Literature: The Short Story (A005702)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Spanish	Gent	independent work	0.0h
			practical	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
			lecture	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Van Hoey, Eva	LW07	lecturer-in-charge
Logie, Ilse	LW07	co-lecturer
Vervaeke, Jasper	LW07	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Iberian-Romance Languages)	5	A

Teaching languages

Spanish

Keywords

Spanish-American literature, 20th and 21st centuries, short story

Position of the course

This advanced course introduces students to the genre of the short story and to the major aesthetics and poetics of Spanish-American narrative of the 20th and 21st century.

Exchange students can take this course. No knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

This course deals with the short story in Spanish-American literature of the 20th and 21st centuries.

After a theoretical introduction on the features of the genre, a selection of short stories (which can change every year) will be analyzed, both by writers who belong to the canon (Juan Rulfo, Julio Ramón Ribeyro, Julio Cortázar, Silvina Ocampo...) and by lesser known contemporary authors. Different aesthetics are considered (realism, the fantastic, magical realism, testimony, experimentation...), as well as

specific authorial poetics, different narrative perspectives (e.g. the child narrator) and different critical paradigms. The stories are always framed within their context. The course also has a diachronic dimension and pays attention to well-defined variants such as the "microcuento".

This course also includes a number of interactive practical sessions during which specific aspects of the course (reading and analytical skills) are further explored using a selection of stories written by the Chilean author Roberto Bolaño.

Initial competences

- To have completed the courses "Spanish language proficiency" or to have acquired a sufficient language ability by other means (level B2).
- To have completed the courses "History and Culture of the Spanish-speaking World" and "Spanish-American Literature: overview" or to have acquired the necessary knowledge by other means.
- To be familiar with text analysis.

Final competences

- 1 To have acquired thorough knowledge of the major poetics, movements and concepts of Spanish American literature of the 20th and 21st centuries.
- 2 To have acquired the ability to understand and interpret 20th and 21st-century Spanish-American short stories.
- 3 To be able to orally and in writing report on modern and contemporary Hispano-American literature in advanced Spanish, with or without the use of GEN-AI tools. The latter should be used responsibly.
- 4 To have acquired advanced mastery of Spanish, including fluent speaking ability.
- 5 To have acquired the ability to apply literary paradigms, analytical methods and interpretive techniques.
- 6 To have acquired the ability to explain a literary or cultural subject in a critical way and in an academically responsible form.
- 7 To have acquired a strong awareness of language and its role in human interactions and cultural production.
- 8 To have acquired the ability to think analytically about cultural, historical and literary problems.
- 9 To show intellectual curiosity and a lifelong commitment to learning.
- 10 To have acquired the ability to report orally and in writing in Spanish to both specialists and a broader audience
- 11 To be able to collect and contextualize both analog and digital sources of information in a structured manner. To be capable of critically assessing these sources for relevance, reliability, and validity.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Practical, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The course is taught on campus and are not recorded. In addition to the lecture sessions in one group, each consisting of two teaching blocks, about five practical sessions, each consisting of one teaching block, are organized into two groups, covering exercises in close reading and the preparation of the presentations. This course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI). Students must be able to justify their written assignments orally.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: El cuento hispanoamericano de los siglos XX y XXI

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : No

Type: Reader

Name: El cuento hispanoamericano de los siglos XX y XXI
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Other
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : No

References

These are included in the reader

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support in seminars and on Ufora. Supervision of the presentation, feedback on the presentation. For individual problems: meetings by appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Presentation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment form

Examen: periodic evaluation: oral exam with written preparation. In the exam, alongside knowledge questions, mainly insight-based questions are asked. Students can be examined on their ability to analyze passages from the texts studied as well as from new texts.

Non-periodic evaluation:

Participation: attending the lectures and the seminar is mandatory. Active preparation is expected from the students, which involves preparation and contribution during the classes (reading primary texts, posing questions on Ufora, participating in discussions during class). This part of the evaluation can not be repeated in the second examination. Unjustified absence during the lectures and the seminar sessions will result in a lower grade.

Presentation: students will deliver a presentation. This part of the evaluation cannot be retaken in the second examination if deemed insufficient. Students may be asked to attend guest lectures and/or extracurricular activities. Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation cannot pass the course. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9). The evaluation takes into account the student's language skills.

Calculation of the examination mark

Exam (60%)
Presentation (20%)
Participation (20%)

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required as part of the final grade
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Individual feedback can be given by appointment

