



## **CIEE Seville, Spain**

<b>Course title:</b>	Women Writers in 20th Century Spain
<b>Course code:</b>	LITT 3103 CSCS
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society, Communications, New Media and Journalism Spanish, Liberal Arts
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Spanish
<b>U.S. semester credits:</b>	3.00
<b>Contact hours:</b>	45.00
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2023

### **Course Description**

This course will study the narrative of a group of Spanish women writers from the 20th and 21st century. We will analyze their literary relevance as well as the important part played by these writers in portraying a cultural reality: the evolution of women's role in Spanish society.

The course begins by analyzing the situation of women in society and the need to express themselves through literature. We will explore the concept of feminism in relation to women's social reality in the past and present. We then continue the course focusing on the women from Spain; their presence in Spanish history, society, culture and above all their importance in Spanish literature as writers.

We will begin by reading present day Spanish writers and then continue with their predecessors, those Spanish women writers that inspired them.

To the first group, inscribed in the 21st century, belong: Espido Freire, Almudena Grandes, Ana Maria Moix, Carmen Riera and Ana Rossetti; to the second, in the 20th century: Rosa Chacel, Carmen Laforet, María Teresa León, and Ana María Matute.

### **Learning Objectives**

By completing this course, students will:

- Analyze and understand a wide and varied panorama of 20th and 21st century literature written by Spanish women.
- Articulate critical essays about the texts read and discussed the course.
- Categorize certain thematic, stylistic and argumentative aspects in order to examine the historical, social and political situations relevant to the works covered.
- Appraise the role of women in Spain in the last century and in present-day Spain.
- Examine the contrasts or similarities found between the assigned texts and students' own experience while living in Spain, interacting with Spanish culture and society on a daily basis.

### **Course Prerequisites**

All readings will be in Spanish. The texts are university-level. It is important that students have a high/advanced knowledge of Spanish language. 4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent). Students need to have a GPA of at least 2.5.

### **Methods of Instruction**

The class will be structured around lectures, class discussion, text analysis and independent projects. The texts will be used to make an introduction to the period of time in which they are written, and the most significant aspects of each work will be studied. The focus will be on the reading material, class discussion and critical analysis of different literary pieces, which is the most important aspect of the course.

The aim of the course is to familiarize the student with women writers and works from 20th and 21st century Spain. We will also focus on providing the student with tools to gain the ability to articulate critical essays about the texts read for the course and changes on the woman's role in Spanish society.

### **Out of classroom activities:**

Other forms of femininity in Sevilla:

1. Visit to Madre de Dios Convent (1496). Active nuns, contemplative nuns. After the visit we will eat typical pastries made in the convent and speak with the nuns.
2. Visit to San Nicolás Church. Sevilla's passion for the mother figure. "La Virgen de la Candelaria".
3. Visit to Rafael Ortiz gallery. Contemporary feminine art.

## **Linguistic Resource Center**

Students are encouraged to use the Linguistic Resource Center for help with class activities as well as for the final essay.

## **Assessment and Final Grade**

1.	Mid Term Exam	25%
2.	Final Exam	25%
3.	Four Written Assignments	15%
4.	Oral Presentation	10%
5.	Participation	25%
	TOTAL	100%

## **Course Requirements**

### **Mid Term Exam**

### **Final Exam**

There will be two exams consisting of several questions concerning the works covered in class and issues brought up in class debates. There is a writing element that will consist of analysing the ideas, themes and various structures. The midterm and the final have the same structure; written compositions.

### **Four Written Assignments**

Students will submit written assignments according to instructions given on the first day of class. Each written assignment will be in Spanish and will have a minimum extension of three pages, except for the final assignment which will have a minimum extension of five pages. There will be a total of four written assignments during the semester. Each assignment should have a minimum of three hours dedicated to it.

### **Oral Presentation**

Each student will be responsible for a brief presentation in class (10-12 minutes) concerning one of the various authors studied in class.

### **Participation**

Students should participate actively in class. A great amount of importance will be placed on the discussions of readings and topics that the student has read and prepared prior to class, with direction from the professor. Besides their reading material, some of these topics will require the student to bring researched articles and videos for class discussions

## **Attendance**

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor's note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single

class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

***N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.***

### **Weekly Schedule**

#### **Week 1**

Class: Course Introduction.I

- Women Writers and Feminist Literature.
- Feminism (past and present).

First reading: *La Niña Extranjera*. Ana Rossetti.

Second reading: *Nuestra Familia*. Espido Freire.

#### **Week 2**

Class: What is literature?

- Introduction to literary criticism.

First reading: *Amor de Madre*. Almudena Grandes.

Second Reading:*El reportaje*. Carmen Riera.

#### **Week 3**

Class: Literature and Commitment

- Poetry.

Reading: *El mapa de la espera*. Ana Rossetti.

Due: first written assignment.

#### **Week 4**

Class: Projects presentation

Analysis and questions on projects and presentations.

#### **Week 5**

Class: Spanish women in the 2nd Republic (1931-1936).

- Spanish women in the civil war (1936-1939).

First reading: *Sistema pedagógico*. María Teresa León.

Second Reading: *Letreros en las vallas*. Maria Teresa Leon.

#### **Week 6**

Class: Review of readings and class content.

- Due: second written assignment.
- MID TERM EXAM.

### **Week 7**

Class: Spanish women in the dictatorship.

Reading: *Pecado de Omisión*. Ana María Matute.

### **Week 8**

Class: Post-War Realism

Reading: *Nada*. Carmen Laforet.

### **Week 9**

Class: The 50's decade

- Spanish "Alienation".

Reading: *La Conciencia Tranquila*. Carmen Martín Gaité.

Due: third written assignment.

### **Week 10**

Class: The 60's decade

- Experimental novel.

First reading: *Las Virtudes Peligrosas*. Ana María Moix.

Second reading: *Fueron Testigos*. Rosa Chacel

### **Week 11**

Class: Spanish women in the transition to democracy (1975-1981).

- Reading: *Correo Urgente*. Ana María Moix.
- Oral presentations in class

### **Week 12**

Class: Review

- Due: first written assignment handed in.
- FINAL EXAMS.

## **Course Materials**

### **Readings**

- Grandes, Almudena. *Modelos de mujer*. Editorial Tusquets
- Laforet, Carmen. *Nada*. Editorial Destino
- Laforet, Carmen. *Carta a don Juan*. Editorial Menos Cuarto
- Navajo, Ymelda, ed. *Doce relatos de mujeres*
- Rossetti, Ana. *El mapa de la espera*. Editorial Polibea
- VV.AA. *Relatos de mujeres (1)*. Editorial Popular
- VV.AA. *Relatos de mujeres (3)*. Editorial Popular

### ***Other Readings***

- Basanta, A. *La novela española de nuestra época*. Anaya, 1990. *La literatura de la postguerra: La narrativa*. Cíncel, 1981.
- Brown, G.G. *Historia de la literatura española VI. El siglo XX*. Ariel, 1981.
- Corrales Egea, J. *La novela española actual*. DU, 1971.
- Davies, C. *Contemporary Feminist Fiction in Spain*. Berg, 1994.
- Folguera, P. (coord.). *El feminismo en España. Dos siglos de historia*. Ed. Pablo Iglesias, 1981
- Fuente, Inmaculada de la. *Mujeres de la posguerra*. Editorial Planeta, 2002.

- Lázaro Carreter, F/E. Correa Calderón. Cómo se comenta un texto literario. Cátedra, 1983.
- Lopez, Francisca. Mito y discurso en la novela femenina de posguerra en España. Ed. Pliegos, 2016.
- Martinell Gifre, E. Al encuentro de Carmen Martín Gaité. Barcelona. 1997.
- El mundo de los objetos en la obra de Carmen Martín Gaité. Universidad de Extremadura, 1996.
- Silva Ortega, May. Mujeres, política y medios de comunicación. Fundación Audiovisual de Andalucía, 2008.
- Sobejano, G. Novela española de nuestro tiempo. Prensa Española, 1975.
- Rico, F. Historia crítica de la literatura española: Domingo Yndurain. Epoca contemporánea, 1939-1980. Crítica, 1980.
- Wellek, R. and A. Warren. Theory of Literature. Harvest, 1970.

It is recommended that students purchase a good Spanish language dictionary, for example: *Diccionario para la enseñanza de la lengua española para extranjeros*. Manuel Alvar. Editorial Vox.

### **Online Resources**

[www.cervantesvirtual.com](http://www.cervantesvirtual.com)