span 502: sor juana y su mundo

Texts:

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, *Los empeños de una casa* (Cátedra, 2010)

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, *The Answer / La Respuesta*, 2nd ed. (Feminist Press, 2009)
Course description:
This course will focus on the literary writings of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz in the cultural context of seventeenth-century Colonial Mexico (Nueva España). Students will explore the complex and profound thought of her texts in various genres (poetry, narrative, and theater), and we will analyze her unusual stance as a highly-gifted thinker who drew attention to her unique American and feminine voice in a Spanish patriarchal society.

Course objectives:
Through close readings of primary texts in their cultural context, regular in-class discussions, daily quizzes, two exams, one final exam, in-class presentations, and online collaborative learning throughout the semester, students will:
• hone critical and analytical skills
• improve Spanish grammar and vocabulary
• enhance ability to work productively in groups, both in class and online
• discover the complex issues, both aesthetic and ideological, of Sor Juana within her cultural context
• increase awareness of social, political, and cultural backgrounds of literature
• improve writing skills in Spanish
• improve oral communication skills in Spanish
• implement tools of the literary critic
• find relevance and the impact of these texts in world literature and culture, as well as in their own lives

**Expectations:**
All students must come to each class thoroughly prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that day. Class discussions will be crucial to your understanding of the texts.

⇒ Classes will begin promptly. You must arrive on time.
⇒ Cell phones must be turned off before class begins.
⇒ Check your email regularly for notices, warnings, and messages.

**Nota bene:**
By taking this course, student acknowledges and accepts all rules and responsibilities spelled out in the Standards for Student Conduct: [http://wwwsa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html](http://wwwsa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html). Any student found to violate this code in any way (academic dishonesty, plagiarism, cheating, etc.) will be disciplined to the full extent by SDSU.

**Grades will be distributed as follows:**

- Daily quizzes 20%
- Presentations 20%
- Exam 1 20%
- Exam 2 20%
- Exam 3 20%

**Grade breakdown will be as follows:**
Daily quizzes will test your comprehension of that day’s reading assignment. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of each class, and will be very short. If you arrive late and miss the quiz, there will be no make-ups without written authorization.

Exams will be in the form of essays and textual identification, contextualization, and analysis. Exams 1 & 2 will not be cumulative; the Final Exam will be cumulative. Students must bring a blue book to class on exam days. Do not submit work without accent marks, tildes, etc. Please remember that this is a 500-level literature course. Students should demonstrate both a solid level of grammar and familiarity with the tools of literary analysis in their work. No make-ups without written authorization.

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR**

(Professor reserves the right to make changes as necessary.

All changes will be announced in class.)

**Week 1:**

**8/26:**

• Intro to course.
• Review of Spanish Prosody (see Course Documents on Blackboard)
• Poems: “Hombres necios que acuséis”, “Este, que ves, engaño colorido”, “Rosa divina que en gentil cultura”, “Detente, sombra de mi bien esquivo” (see Course Documents on Blackboard)

**8/28:**

• Review of Spanish Prosody
• Poems: “Hombres necios que acusáis”, “Este, que ves, engaño colorido”, “Rosa divina que en gentil cultura”, “Detente, sombra de mi bien esquivo” (see Course Documents
Week 2:
9/02:
• Review of Spanish Prosody
• Poems: “Hombres necios que acusáis”, “Este, que ves, engaño colorido”, “Rosa divina que en gentil cultura”, “Detente, sombra de mi bien esquivo” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

9/04:
• Review of Spanish Prosody
• Poems: “Hombres necios que acusáis”, “Este, que ves, engaño colorido”, “Rosa divina que en gentil cultura”, “Detente, sombra de mi bien esquivo” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

Week 3:
9/09:
• Poem: “Primero Sueño” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

9/11:
• Poem: “Primero Sueño” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

Week 4:
9/16:
• Poem: “Primero Sueño” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

9/18:
• Poem: “Primero Sueño” (see Blackboard)
• Presentations

Week 5:
9/23:
• Examen 1

9/25:
• “Carta atenagórica”
• Presentations

Week 6:
9/30:
• “Carta atenagórica”
• Presentations

10/02:
• “Carta atenagórica”
• Presentations

Week 7:
10/07:
• “Carta de Sor Filotea de la Cruz”
• Presentations

10/09:
• La respuesta
• Presentations

Week 8:
10/14
• La respuesta
• Presentations

10/16
• La respuesta
• Presentations

Week 9:
10/21:
• La respuesta
• Presentations

10/23:
• Resumen de las 3 cartas
• Presentations

Week 10:
10/28:
• Examen 2

10/30:
• Neptuno alegórico
• Presentations

Week 11:
11/04:
• Neptuno alegórico
• Presentations
11/06:
- Neptuno alegórico
- Presentations

Week 12:
11/11: Veterans Day (Campus Closed)

11/13:
- Neptuno alegórico
- Presentations

Week 13:
11/18:
- Los empeños de una casa
- Video production of play (see Blackboard)
- Presentations

11/20:
- Los empeños de una casa
- Video production of play (see Blackboard)
- Presentations

Week 14:
11/25:
- Los empeños de una casa
- Video production of play (see Blackboard)
- Presentations

11/27: Thanksgiving Break: (Campus Closed from 11/27 - 11/28)

Week 15:
12/02:
- Los empeños de una casa
- Video production of play (see Blackboard)
- Presentations

12/04
- Fiesta de Sor Juana (details TBA)

Week 16:
12/09:
- Examen 3