Span 342: Mexican Civilization  
Spring 2016  
San Diego State University  
Schedule Number: 23217  

COURSE INFORMATION  
Professor: Dr. Felipe Quintanilla  
Email: fquintanilla@mail.sdsu.edu  
Class Days: T & TH  
Class Times: 0930-1045  
Class Location: AH 4131  
Office Hours: MW 1000-1200 & by appoint  
Office Hours Location: AL 669
Course Overview
The major currents and characteristics of Mexican culture, as expressed through the centuries in literature, philosophy and the arts.

Outcomes

• Al concluir el curso el alumno reconocerá los aspectos fundamentales de la producción cultural mexicana más representativa de los períodos claves, desde un enfoque integral que privilegia tanto la alta cultura, así como la masiva y la popular.
• Se analizará una visión evolutiva de la cultura mexicana, desde su geopolítica y sus factores socio-económicos, pero sobre todo, se enfatiza el análisis de las ideologías dominantes y periféricas en sus productos artísticos.
• Se examinará el desarrollo histórico y cultural de la nación en relación con las tendencias ideológicas y artísticas universales, con una especial atención a los intercambios culturales con los Estados Unidos.
• Se estudiaron textos culturales antológicos característicos de personalidades y momentos significativos de la trayectoria cultural de México.
• Se aplicaran al análisis de textos culturales algunos enfoques teóricos y críticos post-estructuralistas mediante la continua incorporación de conceptos y modelos representativos.

Enrollment Information

Prerequisite
Spanish 301, 302, or 381 or 382; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Adding/Dropping Procedures
It is the student’s responsibility to add/drop class. Please refer to SDSU’s Schedule of Classes for deadlines and procedures.

Texts and materials
• Poniatowska. Hasta no verte Jesús Mío. (amazon.com)
• CourseKey: higher education, classroom engagement software. $25

NB: A number of required films will be made available through the media center reserve at the main SDSU library. Alternatively, these films may also be streamed online from the comfort of your own homes at a minimal additional cost via Amazon.com

NB: All additional readings will be made available electronically via BB.

Optional Texts
• Escalante Gonzalbo, Pablo. Nueva historia mínima de México: El Colegio de México,
2004

- ----- El cuento hispanoamericano. (México, F.C.E., 1986.)

Course Assessment and Grading

Grade Breakdown

Mini papers (4*5%) .................................................................20%
Mini paper peer responses .....................................................10%
Final creative project ..............................................................10%
Participation .............................................................................10%
Midterm exam .........................................................................20%
Final Exam ...........................................................................30%

Assignments

Mini Papers (4*5% of the final grade)

Every student must write a total of 4 mini papers. The entries must consist of original thought pieces on the material covered by the end of the week in question. Each entry, or “one page paper,” must be between 300-500 words long and contain at least 1 image to illustrate the line of argument. The paper should reflect a strong focus on the work/s by one or two of the authors/creators studied in class, as well as, potentially (but not obligatory), trace parallels between these works to texts beyond the course. The argument must be clear, coherent, and well supported while engaging closely with the text/s. The thesis or main idea/s must be clearly stated at the beginning of each post.

No summaries, please; you must assume that your reader (i.e., your classmates and the profe) have already read the primary sources. In sum, each entry should be an original, albeit brief, critical text demonstrating your ability to zero-in into a particular sub-topic related their text/s of choice so as to present an evocative and original observation. Each post must incorporate at least one scholarly secondary source that is relevant to the chosen topic. Works cited must be formatted according to MLA standards.

The number of quotations must be kept at a minimum, and, wherever possible, paraphrasing is encouraged. The posts are each due every Sunday following the respective week on which the works in focus have been selected.
*Late paper or commentary submission will be automatically penalized 1% for each day beyond the due date.*

Note: On 5 occasions throughout the semester you must also, additionally, make an intelligent response to a different fellow student from the class. Provide constructive feedback, delve deeper into one of the points your colleague has explored, and/or suggests further direction of inquiry. This response should be between 100-120 words in extension. This latter portion of the journal assignment is worth an additional 10% of the final grade. NB: To get the full credit for this component, you must keep a record of your five responses and submit these responses via Blackboard on the last day of the classes (May 5th).

**Final Creative Project (10% of the final grade)**
For this assignment, you may form (max 2 person) groups in order to put together a creative project based on one of the literary or filmic text as seen in class. (Log onto BB and navigate your way to Assignments/Final Creative Project to form your groups). If you have a very specific vision, you are encouraged to carry out this project on your own! Of course, the work of a two person group higher the stakes.

The final product may be as simple as:
- A short story or creative essay
- A chapter from your very own American graphic novel
- A Youtube video in the form of a audio/visual poem
- A Youtube video in the form of a witty breakdown of a work as seen in class
- A short or documentary (to be uploaded to Youtube as well)
You may make use of as many resources as you see fit (cell phones, camcorders, DSLRs, animation, puppets, photographs, voice over narration, interpretative dance etc.). However, for collaborative video, I do encourage you to make use of the free online resource, WeVideo.
Each group must also provide a 400-500 word (double spaced, times new roman, 12 font size) description, justification and discussion of the development of the project, the form, the content and relevance of the interpretation to the original text.
Due date: Work must be uploaded to class journal by the evening of May 1st.

**Midterm Exam (20%) & Final Exam (30%)**
The form of the midterm and final exam will entail short answer questions based on the material covered up until the respective dates; thus, before sitting down to do these components, make sure you have completed all the readings, screened all of the assigned films and class lectures, and studied all of your class notes. You will have 1 hour and three hours, respectively, to carry out these components. In each case, respond in full and complete sentences (and in single bullet points where required) to the best of your ability.

**Success in a Blended Course**
A blended course offers some flexibility in the sense that some instructional activities will be completed at a time convenient to you. Even more important, the online activities
will require that you play a very active role in the learning process. In this course, online instruction does not mean passively listening to recorded lectures prior to a test.

This online course offers the advantage of learning anyplace and anytime. Despite this flexibility, to succeed in the hybrid learning environment students should keep in mind the following requirements:

- A computer - PC or Macintosh- with a stable Internet connection. Higher speed Internet connections (cable modem, DSL) are strongly recommended.
- Basic computer skills - email, surf the Internet, and create basic word processor files.
- Microsoft Office 2010, or higher (Must include Word and PowerPoint).
- A reliable email address that will not change from the beginning until the end of the semester.
- A "technology back-up" plan. Students should plan out an alternative location to do assignments and quizzes in the event their computer or Internet connection is not working!
- Time. Blended learning courses require as much time as traditional lecture/seminars. The primary difference is that the online component allows flexibility.
- Self motivation. Online students must be "self starters" and have the ability to work with a minimum of supervision. Students who procrastinate are rarely successful in distance learning courses.

Students are also required to:
- Make use of the online course materials available via Blackboard. Access to these materials is available once you have registered to the course.
- Participate in asynchronous online discussions.
- Complete readings and assignments by the dates indicated on the syllabus.
- Check email on a daily basis.

**Grade Scale**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>91-93</td>
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**Grade Expectations**

In order to earn an A in this course, students have to comply with the following criteria:

- excellent and consistent preparation;
- active and thoughtful participation in individual and group activities;
- outstanding ability to move easily from theory to application; that is, to apply the concepts, terms and strategies studied in class;
- high levels of competency during exams, quizzes, online discussions and written assignments;

**If you miss class…**

Communicate with another classmate to keep up. In other words, it is on you to make sure you come prepared to dive right into the next class. You have 3 absences to use for unexpected events. Any absences beyond that will have an effect on your grade. An A might magically turn into an A- or B+ and so on.

NB: Attendance will be taken via the CourseKey software, so please make sure to always have a personal charged device at the beginning of every class.

If you go past your allotted number of absences, a letter from your advisor or from the Dean’s office will be required in order to be exempted. Otherwise you are good!

Please take the time to jot down the names and contact info of 2 classmates:

Name_____________email_____________ phone (Optional): __________
Name_____________email_____________ phone (Optional): __________
**Due dates for Graded assignments**

Exams: If you missed an exam you will be able to take a make up only if you have a document excuse of an extraordinary circumstance, otherwise you will receive a 0 for the exam.

**Course Structure and Conduct**

This course is a hybrid course. Remember that hybrid or online courses require as much or more effort as "traditional" courses do.

Structure of the course:
- Lecture-discussion (T/TH) with a hybrid component activity end of each week.
- You will be tasked with work at an individual basis as well as in limited group activities
- Technology Utilized in the Course: Blackboard, Youtube and other online tools.

**Estimated time commitment**

4-6 hours of independent reading and screening of films outside of the classroom.

**Guidelines for students' participation**

In calculating each student's participation points, the instructor will take into consideration the following:

1. End of the week activity
2. Total number of hours logged
3. Total number of log-ins
4. E-mail activity (number of emails initiated, number of emails replied to)
5. Total number of discussion forum posts
6. Peer evaluation results

At the end of the course, students will be ranked from first to last for each category (i.e. worst to best). The number of participation points allocated will then be based on each student's overall relative ranking score.

**Netiquette**

Netiquette is online etiquette. It is important that all participants in online courses be aware of proper online behavior and respect each other.

Use appropriate language for an educational environment:

1. Use complete sentences
2. Use proper spelling and grammar
3. Avoid slang and uncommon abbreviations

4. Do not use obscene or threatening language

Remember that the University values diversity and encourages discourse. Be respectful of differences while engaging in online discussions. For more information about Netiquette, see *The Core Rules for Netiquette* by Virginia Shea.

**Interacting with…**
I'll try to respond within 24-48 hours to emails sent me from within Blackboard. For quick questions, the turnaround time may be much shorter. (If Blackboard is not working or for non-course-related communications, write to me using my outside email address: fquintanilla@.mail.sdsu.edu)

For questions that involve, say, the clarification of a philosophical concept, you may want to call me in my office at (619) 594-5177. Email is to be preferred. My regular office hours are MW 10 AM-12PM Pacific Time.

**Usage and Style of Email Messages**
Learning how to write polite, professional, and well-worded e-mail messages is considered an integral part of a university education. I will respond to e-mail messages between 24 and 48 hours after you send an email (except for weekends/holidays). No class summaries will be available via email. Below see a guide sheet to help with this kind of email.

*Style standards for email messaging*

Be sure to choose an appropriate subject heading that describes the content of your email. Begin your message with:

- “Buenos días/buenas tardes etc., profesor Quintanilla,” (neutral)
- “Estimado profesor/doctor Quintanilla,” (formal)
- “Estimado Profe,” (very informal yet polite)*

In the main body of the text, summarize in Spanish your question, concern, or information.

End your message with: “Atentamente” (neutral, professional)
- “Muy atentamente” (neutral, professional)
- “Agradeciéndole, como siempre, su inapreciable ayuda” (very formal)
- “Esperando su grata respuesta, le saluda atentamente” (very formal)
- “Quedo a la espera de sus noticias” (if your message contained a question or a request, rather formal)
- “Cordialmente” (professional but friendly)
- “Un saludo” (neutral, friendly)
- “Un abrazo” (friendly, only if you know a person well).
Then sign your name. If you would like to add additional observations to your message, you can write “PD” or “Pdta.” after your signature and then add whatever you would like to add.

**Students with Disabilities**
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. You can also learn more about the services provided by visiting the Student Disability Services website.
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 accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Student Services**
A complete list of all academic support services is available on the Academic Success section of the SDSU Student Affairs website.
For help with improving your writing ability, the staff at the SDSU Writing Center is available in person and online.
Counseling and Psychological Services offers confidential counseling services by licensed psychologists, counselors, and social workers. More info can be found at their website or by contacting (619) 594-5220 or psycserv@mail.sdsu.edu.

**Exam and Midterm Instructions**

**Suggestions for successful completion**
Choose the best answer, then click the little arrow on the bottom right to advance to the next question.
Test must be completed the first time it is launched.
Do not resize or refresh the browser window while taking the exam. Be aware that going onto another browser tab or window will close out the exam. In other words, do not change screens during the assessment.
You can't go backwards. If you attempt to do so the exam will crash. Be sure of each answer before submitting it and moving on.
If you have trouble for some reason email me (_____@mail.sdsu.edu) immediately with an explanation of what happened. I will view your exam attempt. Please avoid having to do this by following all the previous instructions.
Upon completion of the exam click on "Save and Submit" and check your score. Then go to "My Grades" to be certain the score has been recorded. If your score has not been recorded in "My Grades" you must contact me immediately via email.
**Academic Honesty**
SDSU respects the intellectual property of others and we ask our faculty & students to do the same. The University adheres to a strict policy regarding cheating and plagiarism. These activities will not be tolerated in this class. Become familiar with the policy (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html). Any cheating or plagiarism will result in failing this class and a disciplinary review by Student Affairs.
It is best to assume that any material (e.g., graphic, html coding, text, video, or sound) on the Web is copyrighted unless specific permission is given to copy it under a Creative Commons License. More information about the use of copywritten material in education as part of the TEACH Act and Copyright Fair Use Guidelines. Whenever possible, you should attribute the original author of any work used under these provisions.
Examples of Plagiarism include but are not limited to:

- Using sources verbatim or paraphrasing without giving proper attribution (this can include phrases, sentences, paragraphs and/or pages of work)
- Copying and pasting work from an online or offline source directly and calling it your own
- Using information you find from an online or offline source without giving the author credit
- Replacing words or phrases from another source and inserting your own words or phrases
- Submitting a piece of work you did for one class to another class

If you have questions on what is plagiarism, please consult the policy (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html) and this helpful guide from the Library:(http://infodome.sdsu.edu/infolit/exploratorium/Standard_5/plagiarism.pdf)

**Turnitin**
Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You may submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included. Another option is that you may request, in writing, that your papers not be submitted to Turnitin.com. However, if you choose this option you will be required to provide documentation to substantiate that the papers are your original work and do not include any plagiarized material.

**Technical Support for Blackboard**
Student support for Blackboard is provided by the Student Computing Center, located on the 2nd floor of Love Library. They can be reached at 619-594-3189 or scc@rohan.sdsu.edu
### Weekly schedule

#### Week 1 Introduction

- **Jan 19**
  - Introduction
  - MLA format & Research tips.
  - Intro to *CourseKey*

- **Jan 21**
  - *El alma de México*. 15-35
  - Charla del profe: *Varios México*

#### Week 2 - Mesoamérica

- **Jan 26**
  - *El alma de México*. 49-155
  - Proyección: *El espejo enterrado*.

- **Jan 28**
  - Handout (BB)
  - Tradición Nahuatl (Garganigo 4-18)

#### Week 3 - El Encuentro

- **Feb 2**
  - *El alma de México*. 157-199
  - Hernán Cortés (1485-1547). “Segunda Carta…”

- **Feb 4**
  - Bernal Díaz del Castillo. *De Historia verdadera de la conquista de la Nueva España.*
  - XXIX (37-39) & LXXXVIII (118-120)

#### Week 4

- **Feb 9**
  - Paz. *El laberinto de la soledad.*
  - Tuñón. *Historia ilustrada de México. Mujeres.* 29-50

- **Feb 11**
  - Valdéz. *Los Vendidos*
  - Handout (BB)

#### Week 5

- **Feb 15**
  - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz y otras voces criollas
Feb 16
Tuñón. *Historia ilustrada de México. Mujeres.* 105-128
Handout (BB)
Proyección en clase: *Yo, la peor de todas.* Dir. Bemberg. 1990

Feb 18
Sotomayor. *De la famosa México el asiento.*

Week 6
Recordando el Alamo y la Guerra Mexicana Americana

Feb 23
Handout (BB)

Feb 25
Discusión

Week 7
Juárez, Maximiliano, Porfírio y la Revolución

Feb 30
Usigli. *Corona de Sombra.*

March 3
Handout (BB)
Poniatowska. *Hasta no verte Jesús Mío.* (Cap1-)

Week 8
La Revolución-Cont.

March 8 & 10
Poniatowska. *Hasta no verte Jesús Mío.* (Hasta el final)

**Two out of four mini papers March 8, 2016 at 11:59PM**

Week 9
Vasconcelos, Orozco, Siqueiros, Khalo y Rivera

March 15
**Midterm (Online)**

March 17
Handout en BB
Screen at home: *Frida.* Dir. Taymor (2002) (Media Reserve)

Week 10
Al margen de la ciudad

March 22 & 24
Screen at home: *El rey del barrio.* Dir. Martínez Solares (1950)
*Nosotros los pobres.* Dir. Rodríguez. (1948)
NB: You will not be required to attend class & there will be no office hours this week. This week you will be required to screen three films and respond to the respective prompts via BB.

Week 11  
Spring recess  
March 28-April 1

Week 12  
La ciudad y allá en el rancho grande

April 5  
Screen at home: Dos tipos de cuidado. Dir. Rodríguez. (1953)  
Escenas de Allá en el Rancho Grande. Dir. De Fuente (1936) (BB)

Handout (BB)

Screening in class: Los olvidados. Dir. Buñuel (1952)

April 7  
Discusión

Week 13  
El PRI y Tlatelolco 1968

April 12  
Screen at home: La ley Herodes. Dir. Estrada (1999)  

Screening in class: Rojo amanecer. Dir. Fons (1990)

April 14  
Handout (BB)

Week 14  
El vampiro de la Colonia Roma.

April 19  
Luis Zapata. El vampiro de la Colonia Roma. Cap 1-127 (hasta el final de la cinta quinta)

April 21  
Luis Zapata. El vampiro de la Colonia Roma. (Hasta el final)

Week 15  
Post-NAFTA

April 26 & 28  
Handout (BB)
April 28
Discusión

Week 16  Exam Prep & Student Creative Project Presentations

May 3 & 5

May 5th - Last day of classes

Week 17  May 6-12 FINALS WEEK

Final Exam. (Online)
TBA

*Instructor retains the right to adjust the course design throughout the term.*

Any major changes to the course syllabus will be announced in class, communicated to all students electronically, and incorporated into an updated and posted version of the syllabus.

**CourseKey Student Engagement App:**

1st Course - $25.00
Additional Courses - $5.00

REGISTRATION EMAIL INSTRUCTIONS:
be using CourseKey (www.thecoursekey.com) - a higher education, classroom engagement software that is designed to boost attendance, increase lecture interaction, and facilitate peer-2-peer learning. The app combines features that help the professor more efficiently manage the class and allows students to connect more effectively outside of class.
You will be able to use the iOS application or any smart device (smartphone, tablet, laptops, etc.) with a web browser. If you do not have a smart device please contact the support team at support@thecoursekey.com so that arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

- **App Store Link:** CourseKey – Student iOS App

You can visit the CourseKey Youtube channel for the Student Quick Start Guide which outlines how you will register for a student account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you registered for the class. The first day of class we will go over the integration of the software and how attendance and participation will be graded.

**Please follow these instructions to create your account and register for the course through the application.** If you require assistance you can find the CourseKey support team from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm PST, M-F in the Zahn Innovation Center (EBA-419).

**Step 1: Create Account**
To sign up use the following link to create your account: [https://portal.thecoursekey.com/signup](https://portal.thecoursekey.com/signup)

- You will then be able to create an account, entering your first and last name.
- Enter your email that you can access (you will receive a confirmation link).
- Enter a secure password that you will remember and re-enter it.
- Select your campus/school and then enter **SCHOOL ISSUED ID** – *This is your REDID*
- Click on the link to read the terms of service and privacy policy and after reading click the box.
- Click “**SIGN UP**” and you will receive an email shortly after with a verification link.
  - If you don’t receive an email, check your spam or junk folders and make sure to add CourseKey to your inbox.
- Click on the verification link in the email and then click “**VALIDATE**” to activate your CourseKey account.

**Step 2: Register for the Course**

To register for the class, simply log in at: [https://portal.thecoursekey.com/login](https://portal.thecoursekey.com/login)

- Once logged in, click “**Add a Course**” and type “**ck153rs**” and you will see the class.
  - You can also search for the professor name and class through the search option.
- Click “**Yes**” to add the class and you are now ready to participate in the lecture.