

# Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages The Chinese University of Hong Kong



2<sup>nd</sup> Term 2021-2022

Course Code & Title:

SPAN 1102 Spanish Civilization and Its Languages II Latin American Civilization and Culture



Language of Instruction: English Units: 3

# **Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce a general view of Latin American culture. This course will cover cultural aspects of the everyday life of Latin Americans and will examine them through history, politics, art, languages, religion, festivities, etc. This course aims to develop and widen student's knowledge and understanding about the different Latin American countries and its civilization. This course will be taught through explanations, articles and media resources and students will be engaged to participate in in-class discussions. **No prior knowledge is required.** 

# **Learning Outcomes**

After taking this course, students are expected to:

- be familiar with the different topics that contains this course.
- manifest an understanding of the different aspects of the Latin American culture.
- become aware of the cultural diversities in these countries and reflect about one's own background to discover the identity of the other.
- talk about different issues from a critical point of view.

Learning Activities						
Interactive	Group presentation	Written task	Web-based teaching	Homework / Self-		
classwork[1]	classwork[1]			study		
(hr)	(hr)	(hr)	(hr)	(hr)		
in / out class	in / out class	in / out class	in / out class	in / out class		
3 0.5	0.75 2	3	1	1.5		
M M	M M	M	М	M		

M = Mandatory / O = Optional

<sup>[1]</sup> Interactive classwork focuses on student-centered activities as pair work, group work, role-playing and student-teacher interaction.

Assessment Scheme			
Task nature	Description	Weight	
Participation in class and homework	Active participation in class activities and open discussions. Continuous assessment.	15%	
In-class presentation	Oral presentation in groups (2-3 students). Topics will be provided by the teacher.	25%	
Written task	Written reflection paper about one of the topics from this course. In this paper, the student will reflect about cross-cultural differences and similarities between HK and Latin America (topics and guidelines will be given by the teacher). (500 words minimum)	15%	
Portfolio	A compilation of the student's coursework, self-reflection about teacher's daily questions, self-evaluations, essays, etc.	20%	
Final test	Final quiz to evaluate what the students have learnt about Latin American Culture.	25%	

#### Notes:

- You are required to arrive on time.
- You are required to attend at least 75% of the class. Treat 75% attendance as the minimum, not the maximum.
- The success of your own learning will highly depend on your attendance.
- Should you miss more than 25% of the class, you will automatically fail the course
- If you are unable to attend, get informed about what content and homework you missed and make it up yourself.

Grade	Overall Course
Α	Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.
A-	Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.
В	Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, or high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.
С	Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.
D	Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.
F	Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, or failure to meet specified assessment requirements.

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### **Course Materials**

Course materials will be given by the teacher and will be available on Blackboard.

#### **IT Resources**

All IT resources needed will be posted on Blackboard.

### Readings & Library Resources

- Dawson, A.S. (2011). Latin America since independence: a history with primary sources. NY: Routledge.
- Gritzner. C. F. (2006). Latin America (Modern World Cultures). Chelsea House Publications.
- King, J. (2004). Modern Latin American Culture. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Mahoney, J. (2010). Colonialism and postcolonial development: Spanish America in comparative perspective. NY: CUP.
- Moya, J.C. (2011). The Oxford handbook of Latin American history. NY: OUP.
- McGuirk, B. & Millington, M.I. (Eds.) (1995). *Inequality and difference in Hispanic and Latin American cultures*. Lewiston: E. Mellen

# Schedule (Subject to changes):

Week	Date	No Class Days	Course Content	
			1. Introduction/ Basic information about the	
Week 1	January 12 <sup>th</sup>		countries	
			2.1. Latin America: Now and then	
Week 2	January 19 <sup>th</sup>		2.2. Latin America: Now and then	
WEER Z	January 19		2.3. Latin America: Now and then	
			3. Economic activities and Latin American companies	
Week 3	January 26 <sup>th</sup>		4. Working in Latin America	
			5. Hispanic USA and its growing minority	
Week 4 Feb	February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lunar New Year Vacations:	No classes	
WEEK 4	rebluary 2	From January 31st to February 5th	NO Classes	
			6. Education system	
Week 5	February 9 <sup>th</sup>		7. Languages	
			8. Women in Latin America	
Week 6	February 16 <sup>th</sup>		9. Literature	
vveek 6	rebluary 16		- Students presentations I	
Week 7	February 23 <sup>rd</sup>		10. Architecture	
			- Students presentations II	
Maak 9	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>		11. Artistic expression in Latin America	
Week 8	IVIdICII Z		- Students presentations III	

Week 9	March 9 <sup>th</sup>		12. Religion 13. Festivals - Students presentations IV
Week 10	March 16 <sup>th</sup>		14. Music and dance traditions - Reflection paper submission 18 <sup>th</sup> March 11:59 pm - Students presentations V
Week 11	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>		15. Cinema - Students presentations VI
Week 12	March 30 <sup>th</sup>		16. Food rituals 17.1 Eating and drinking - Students presentations VII
Week 13	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Reading week: From April 1 <sup>st</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup>	No classes
Week 14	April 13 <sup>th</sup>		<ul><li>17.2 Eating and drinking</li><li>18. Travelling in Latin America.</li><li>- Review</li><li>- Students presentations VIII</li></ul>
Week 15	April 20 <sup>th</sup>		- Portfolio submission Deadline: 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 11:59 pm - Final test

#### Class sections and teachers' contact details:

Class	Time	Classroom	No of weeks	Teacher	Email
SPAN 1102	W 10:30-13:15	LSK 304	13	MISS María Consuelo VEGA LEÓN	maria.vega.leon@cuhk.edu.hk

# For further information and inquiries, you are welcome to contact:

Contact	Telephone	Email	Office
	3943 1680		Rm G25, KKL Building
MISS María Consuelo VEGA LEÓN		maria.vega.leon@cuhk.edu.hk	Office Hours:
			Tuesdays: 9-10 am or gladly by appointment
	3943 9836	lin@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G17, KKL Building
			Office Hours:
General Office			Monday to Thursday:
General Office			8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm
			Friday:
			8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:45pm

# Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/</a>. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration. For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

## Feedback for Evaluation

Our language programme highly values students' feedback and comments and is happy to use them for reflection on our teaching and improvement. Students are very welcome to provide comments and feedback on the course any time to their course teacher or the course level coordinator through email or in personal conversation. In addition, students' feedbacks will be collected in the middle of the term through an open-end questionnaire and the teacher will discuss the feedbacks in class and make improvements if necessary. The course will also follow the university's course evaluation exercise at the end of the term, and students' feedbacks will be used for future course planning and teaching.