

The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

Spanish 3571: Hispanic Visual Arts  
Fall 2016

**Professor:** Alena Robin, [a robin82@uwo.ca](mailto:a robin82@uwo.ca)

**Office:** AHB 3R08A

**Schedule:** Tuesday 9:30-11:30 am, Thursday 9:30-10:30 am, Room TBA

**Phone:** 519-661-2111, ext. 81599

**Office Hour:** Thursday, 10:30-12:30

**I. Course content and aims**

This course is an introduction to visual arts in the Hispanic world. Different media will be considered, such as painting, sculpture, architecture, engraving, photography and cinema, from a broad historical perspective. Topics will vary, including gender, identity, and spirituality. Considerations on theory, methodology and historiography will also be addressed. The course will work through case studies, focusing on examples from the pre-Columbian civilizations up to contemporary expressions in the Hispanic world.

This year's course will be special as we will take advantage of the exhibition going on at Museum London: "TransAMERICAS: a sign, a situation, a concept."

**THE COURSE AND EVALUATIONS WILL BE ENTIRELY IN SPANISH.**

**NO PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF ART HISTORY IS NECESSARY TO TAKE THIS COURSE.**



Teotihuacán, México  
Fotografía: © Alena Robin



Capilla del Hombre, Quito, Ecuador



Museo de América, Madrid, España

This course will allow students to:

- Improve their reading, written and verbal skills in Spanish;
- Acquire an introduction to Hispanic visual culture through different types of texts;
- Discover, through the analysis of written material, diverse monuments, works of art, artists, and topics from Spain and Latin America;
- Familiarize themselves with the lives of artists of the Hispanic world;
- Visually identify important figures through observing and analyzing attributes, details, gestures, dress, setting, etc., in the works of art;
- Examine the different ways in which the Hispanic artists adopted diverse topics according to their historical contexts and material circumstances.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have acquired the following abilities:

- Knowledge of the importance of visual culture in the Hispanic world;
- Exposure to important Hispanic monuments, works of art, and artists;
- Familiarity with central topics of Hispanic culture;

- Adequate verbal and written communication on artistic literature, works of art and their authors;
- Ample preparation to experiment, to read, to interpret, and to explain works of art of the Hispanic tradition.

## **II. Prerequisites**

**Antirequisite(s):** Spanish 3501F/G, the former 4501F/G.

**Prerequisite(s):** [Spanish 2200, 2200W/X](#) or permission of the Department.

**Pre-or Corequisite(s):** [Spanish 2215F/G, 2216F/G](#) or [2800F/G](#)

## **III. Evaluation**

**Participation** (10%): Students are expected to attend every class unless medical circumstances prevent them from doing so (please see section below on department policies). The success of the course depends on the frequency and quality of the participation of its members. Assigned readings should be done prior to class in order to be adequately discussed in class. Students are expected to come prepared with ideas for discussion. Being present in class does not necessarily imply participating in it. Similarly, being absent from class on a repetitive basis will seriously affect the participation mark.

When absent, it is still the student's responsibility to complete and turn in coursework on time and catch up on the material covered in class. Students must inform their professor by email of any absence as soon as possible.

**Click! (15%):** In class and online group activity, **week of September 20**

This is a community art project that is promoted by Museum London, in relation to the exhibition taking place this fall. What would you like others to know about Latin America? No matter your country of residence or origin, send Museum London a photograph that shares something about the richness of Latin American culture.

Further information will be provided in class.

**Guided tour of exhibition and report (15%):** the visit will take place the **week of September 27** (exact date and time TBA), the report is due **Tuesday, October 4**

As part of the activities of the course we will do a guided tour of the exhibition “TransAMERICAS: a sign, a situation, a concept” in Museum London. This written assignment is to have students reflect on their experience visiting the exhibit.

Further information will be provided in class.

**Fresco Mural Demonstration and report (15%):** The workshop takes place on **Saturday, October 1**, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, at Museum London; the report is due **Tuesday October 11**

This workshop is organized by Museum London in relation with the exhibition taking place this fall. This assignment is to have students reflect on their experience of the workshop.

Further information will be provided in class.

**Final project in two parts:** due **Monday October 31** (10%) and **December 7** (35%).

The final essay will take the form of a small exhibition catalogue. The subject for the exhibition is open, but must be related to the course: visual art of the Hispanic world, of material not covered in class.

Further information will be provided in class.

**IMPORTANT:** The only acceptable reason for turning in a late assignment or missing an examination is for medical purposes (see section on Absenteeism below). Late assignments will lose 5 points per day (out of 100%). Assignments turned in a week after the due date (7 days) will not be accepted and will receive a grade of “0.”

All university regulations concerning plagiarism apply. If you are unsure about plagiarism, please ask.

The **Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

**Electronic Devices:** You are encouraged to bring tablets and laptops to class, as we may use them for some in-class activities. However, I expect you to avoid using cellphones in class and only use your laptop, tablet, or other technologies for note taking and in-class activities.

#### **IV. Mandatory readings and calendar of activities**

All readings will be available through the OWL site of the course.

FECHA Y TEMA	LECTURA/ ACTIVIDAD
Jueves 8 de septiembre <b>Introducción</b>	<b>Presentación del curso</b>
Martes 13 de septiembre <b>Conceptos generales</b>	<b>Reading:</b> 1. Interrogating the Work of Art
J 15 de septiembre <b>El mundo hispano</b>	
M 20 de septiembre <b>Arte hispánico en el norte</b> Click! Activity	<b>Group activity</b>
J 22 de septiembre Click! Activity	<b>Oral presentation (15%)</b>
M 27 de septiembre <b>Visita al Museum London</b>	
J 29 de septiembre	No hay clase: tiempo para redactar el reporte de la exposición (15%)
<b>Sábado 1º de octubre</b> Museum London, 1-4:00 pm	<b>Fresco Mural Demonstration</b>
M 4 de octubre	No hay clase: tiempo: tiempo para redactar el reporte de la actividad <u>Exhibit report is due (15%)</u>
J 6 de octubre	<b>Sesión informativa en la biblioteca</b> Weldon Library's instruction room
M 11 de octubre	<b>Reading:</b>

<b>El mundo prehispánico: Los códices</b>	<p>2. Joaquín Galarza, “Los códices mexicanos”, <i>Arqueología mexicana</i>, 1997, vol. IV, núm. 23, pp. 6-13.</p> <p>3. “Códices prehispánicos y coloniales tempranos”, <i>Arqueología mexicana</i>, 2009, núm. 31, p. 9.</p> <p><u>Workshop report is due (15%)</u></p>
J 13 de octubre <b>La tira de peregrinación</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b></p> <p>4. Patrick Johansson, “Tira de peregrinación (Códice Boturini)”, <i>Arqueología mexicana</i>, 2009, núm. 31, pp. 56-57.</p>
M 18 de octubre <b>La ciudad de México-Tenochtitlan</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b></p> <p>5. Bertina Olmedo Vera, “Tenochtitlan en números”, <i>Arqueología mexicana</i>, 1993, vol. 1, núm. 4, p. 65.</p> <p>6. Hernán Cortés, “Segunda carta-relación” (30 de octubre 1520), <i>Cartas de relación</i>, Madrid, Historia 16, 1985, pp. 131-141.</p> <p>7. Bernal Díaz del Castillo, <i>Historia verdadera de la conquista de la Nueva España</i>, México, Porrúa, 2002 [1632], pp. 171-177.</p>
J 20 de octubre <b>El templo Mayor</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.templomayor.inah.gob.mx/index.php">http://www.templomayor.inah.gob.mx/index.php</a></p>
M 25 de octubre <b>Arquitectura de la evangelización</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b></p> <p>8. Rafael López Guzmán y Gloria Espinosa Spínola, “La arquitectura de la conversión”, <i>Historia del arte en Iberoamérica y Filipinas</i>, vol. II: Arquitectura y urbanismo, Granada, Universidad de Granada, 2003, pp. 77-91.</p>
J 27 de octubre	No hay clase: Fall Study Break
M 1 de noviembre <b>La ciudad colonial</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b></p> <p>9. Bernardo de Balbuena, <i>La grandeza mexicana</i>, México, Porrúa, 2001 [1604], pp. 59-67.</p> <p>10. Rodrigo Gutiérrez Viñuales y María Luisa Bellido Gant, “Temas iconográficos y técnicas artísticas americanas”, <i>Historia del arte en Iberoamérica y Filipinas</i>, vol. III: Artes plásticas, Granada, Universidad de Granada, 2005, pp. 13-31.</p>
J 3 de noviembre <b>La visión de Diego Rivera (1886-1957)</b>	11. Francisco González Rul, “Diego Rivera y la arqueología mexicana. La raíz profunda”, <i>Arqueología mexicana</i> , Edición especial, núm. 47, 2012, pp. 84-87.
M 8 de noviembre <b>Frida Kahlo (1907-1954)</b>	<b>Movie screened in class:</b> <i>Frida</i> , 2002, Julie Taymor, director, 123 min.
J 10 de noviembre	Discussion of movie

M 15 de noviembre <b>Arte transfronterizo: Amigos surrealistas</b>	<b>Reading:</b> 12. Stefan van Raay, “Surreal Friends: Leonora Carrington, Remedios Varo and Kati Horna”, <i>Surreal friends: Leonora Carrington, Remedios Varo and Kati Horna</i> , Burlington, Lund Humphries, 2010, pp. 8-27.
J 17 de noviembre <b>Remedios Varo (1908-1963)</b>	<b>Invited speaker: Ayelet Ishai</b> <b>Reading:</b> 13. Remedios Varo, “Trigo, aceitunas y naranjas. Presérvate del frío con lana de oveja”, en “A veces escribo como si trazase un boceto”. <i>Los escritos de Remedios Varo</i> , ed. Edith Mendoza Bolio, Madrid/ Frankfurt/México, Iberoamericana/ Vervuert/ Bonilla Artigas Editores, pp. 223-225.
M 22 de noviembre <b>Fernando Botero y Abu Ghraib (1932- )</b>	<b>Reading:</b> “Fernando Botero y Abu Ghraib: No pude quedar callado”, Revolución, núm. 79, 25 de febrero de 2007: <a href="http://revcom.us/a/079/botero-es.html">http://revcom.us/a/079/botero-es.html</a>
J 24 de noviembre <b>La celestina y el arte</b>	<b>Invited speaker: Iván Baruj Vázquez Clavellina</b> <b>Reading:</b> 14. TBA
M 29 de noviembre <b>Oswaldo Guayasamin (1919-1999)</b>	<b>Reading:</b> <a href="http://www.guayasamin.org">http://www.guayasamin.org</a> <a href="http://www.capilladelhombre.com/">http://www.capilladelhombre.com/</a>
J 1 de diciembre <b>Museos de arte hispano en Nueva York</b>	
M 6 de diciembre <b>Conclusión del curso</b>	
Wednesday December 7, by 1 pm	<b>Final project is due (35%)</b>