



School of Humanities and Languages

## **ARTS 3574 Topics in Latin American Cinema S2 2014**

---

1. Course Staff and Contact Details
2. Course Details
3. Learning and Teaching Rationale
4. Teaching Strategies
5. Course Assessment
6. Attendance/Class Clash
7. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
8. Course Schedule
9. Course Resources
10. Course Evaluation and Development
11. Student Support
12. Grievances
13. Other Information

## 1. Course Staff and Contact Details

Name	A/Prof Diana Palaversich	Office	MB 224
Phone	Contact me by e-mail. Please do not leave messages on my phone.	Email	d.palaversich@unsw.edu.au
Contact Time and Availability	You should check your UNSW email address regularly, as communications from the School and the convener of this subject will be sent only to this address.  Wed. 4-5 or by appointment		

## 2. Course Details

<b>Credit Points</b>	6 UOC. The course is offered in English, no knowledge of Spanish is necessary.		
<b>Summary of the Course</b>	<p>In the past decade Latin American cinema has enjoyed unprecedented international success. Films such as <i>The Secret in Their Eyes</i>, <i>Madeinusa</i>, <i>Pan's Labyrinth</i>, <i>City of God</i>, <i>Motorcycle Diaries</i>, <i>Amores perros</i>, among others, have received international prizes and some of their directors have been invited to work in major U.S. studios: Alejandro González Iñárritu directed the acclaimed <i>Babel</i>, and <i>21 Grams</i>; Alfonso Cuarón the international hit <i>Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban</i>, and <i>Children of Men</i>; Guillermo del Toro the cult movie <i>Hellboy</i>; Fernando Meirelles <i>The Constant Gardener</i>. This has prompted many film critics to talk about a "Latino invasion of Hollywood". Their successful blending of local and the global film language, which often capitalizes on sexuality and violence --the <i>lingua franca</i> of contemporary cinema-- has allowed many of these films to achieve cross-over appeal with international audiences.</p> <p>The following films will be discussed in the class: <i>Amores perros</i> (Dir. A. González Iñárritu, 2000), <i>City of God</i> (Dir. Fernando Meirelles, 2002), <i>Y tu mamá también</i> (Dir. Alfonso Cuarón, 2002), <i>Madeinusa</i> (Dir. Claudia Llosa, 2006), <i>Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada</i> (T. Lee Jones, Guillermo Arriaga, 2005)</p>		
<b>Aims of the Course</b>	•	to examine the so-called <i>New Wave</i> of Latin American cinema through a study of films produced from the 1990s to the present by a new generation of film-makers born after 1960.	
	•	to show the way in which these films, produced and received in the context of neoliberal economic policies and cultural globalization of Latin America stand in a clear contrast to the revolutionary politics and aesthetics associated with the <i>Latin American New</i>	

		<i>Cinema/Third cinema</i> of the 1960s -1980s.
<b>Student Learning Outcomes</b>	•	after completing this course it is expected that students will be able to identify the social, economic, and political context of Latin American cinema
	•	discuss the films analytically both in terms of textual and visual analyses
	•	understand the new trends in Mexican, Brazilian, and Peruvian cinematography and differences between contemporary film production and the aesthetics and politics of the Latin American cinema of the 1960s-1980s
	•	understand the impact of globalization and privatisation on Latin(o) American cinematography
<b>Graduate Attributes</b>	•	greater understanding of other cultures
	•	work independently and in group and engage in a rational debate
	•	organize and use materials from variety of sources and critically evaluate them
	•	use independent thought and judgement

### 3 + 4 Learning and Teaching Rationale; Teaching Strategies

The teaching philosophy of this course is informed by the UNSW Guidelines on Learning, and can be summarized as Engagement, Contextualization and Inclusiveness (see [www.guidelinesonlearning.unsw.edu.au](http://www.guidelinesonlearning.unsw.edu.au)). The lecturer in charge seeks to provide a venue for those three key points, and therefore emphasizes that the larger objective is to teach students how to become critical learners.

Classes take form of lectures and tutorials with individual and group participation. Each new topic is introduced by a short lecture. A lecture is more than a presentation of information; it is an active and interactive forum where ideas and reading/viewing practices are discussed, and challenged. Lectures are not taped. They are supported by materials in your Course Reader (available for purchase from Week 0 from the UNSW Bookshop), and brief Power Point Lecture Notes posted on Moodle.

**Active participation in this course means that you have made a constructive, informed contribution to class discussion. Please come to class prepared. This means: see the films, read the pertinent texts for the particular week, underline the most important points, write in the margins. Think about answers to the questions listed in the Viewing Guide for each film (posted on Moodle).** Bring to the class and share interesting information on any film/topic analysed in this course.

Your class performance is part of the assessment for the course, and represents one key element of alignment among teaching strategies, learning outcomes and Graduate Attributes.

**You must see the film to be discussed BEFORE the Thursday class. UNSW Library has the films we will be studying. They should also be available in any video store.**

5. Course Assessment					
Assessment Task	Length	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Due Date
Research essay	2500 words	40%	1,2,3,4	1,3,4	Details will be provided on Moodle
Two short In-class tests on topics covered in the class	1 hr duration (each)	20%+20%	1,2,3,4	1,3,4	Details will be provided on Moodle
Tutorial tasks	details will be provided in week 1	20%	1,2,3,4	1,2,3,4	Details will be provided on Moodle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed marking and evaluation criteria is provided on Moodle under Evaluation</li> </ul>					

**Please Note:** In addition to fulfilling the above assessment requirements, students are expected to attend at least 80% of their lectures and tutorials in order to pass the course.

### Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrades.html>

### **Submission of Assessment Tasks**

---

Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from

<https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/>. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

### **Late Submission of Assignments**

---

Late assignments will attract a penalty. Of the total mark, 3% will be deducted each day for the first week, with Saturday and Sunday counting as two days, and 10% each week thereafter.

The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

## **6. Attendance/Class Clash**

---

### **Attendance**

---

Students are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes in the courses in which they are enrolled. Explanations of absences from classes or requests for permission to be absent from classes should be discussed with the teacher and where applicable accompanied by a medical certificate. If students attend less than 80% of their possible classes they may be refused final assessment.

**Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the student misconduct policy.**

### **Class Clash**

---

A student who is approved a permissible clash must fulfil the following requirements:

- a. The student must provide the Course Convenor with copies of lecture notes from those lectures missed on a regular basis as agreed by the Course Convenor and the student.
- b. If a student does attend a lecture for which they had secured a permitted clash they will still submit lecture notes as evidence of attendance.

- c. **Failure to meet these requirements is regarded as unsatisfactory performance in the course and a failure to meet the Faculty's course attendance requirement. Accordingly, Course Convenors will fail students who do not meet this performance/attendance requirement.**
- d. Students must attend the clashed lecture on a specific date if that lecture contains an assessment task for the course such as a quiz or test. Inability to meet this requirement would be grounds for a Course Convenor refusing the application. If the student misses the said lecture there is no obligation on the Course Convenor to schedule a make-up quiz or test and the student can receive zero for the assessment task. It should be noted that in many courses a failure to complete an assessment task can be grounds for course failure.

## 7. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/>. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here:

<http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf>

## 8. Course Schedule

**To view course timetable, please visit:** <http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/>

Week Commencing:	Topic	Lecture Content	Tutorial/Lab Content	Readings
Detailed information will be provided on Moodle.				

## 9. Course Resources

**Textbook Details**

**A Course Reader will be available from the UNSW Bookshop in Week 0.**

**Additional Readings**

- *Type into Library Catalogue Search the name of this course to get the list of items available in the High Use collection. Type 'Latin American cinema' to get a complete list of books relevant to this course.*
- For additional bibliography relevant to the films/topics studied consult different databases pertinent to Film studies and Latin American Studies (such as MLA, or HAPI). You will also find a wealth of information on the Internet/Google Scholar.

## 10. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

## 11. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre's website at:

<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au>

## 12. Grievances

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/Complaints.html>

## 13. Other Information

### myUNSW

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au>

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/ABC.html>

### OHS

UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see

<http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/>

### Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.

The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html>

### **Student Equity and Disabilities Unit**

---

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: <http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au>

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.