

U.S. Latino/a Literature (ENGL 02365-1)

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
(Spring 2021 delivery—remote or in-person—TBD/TBA)



In U.S. Latino/a Literature we will read contemporary literature by Americans of Cuban, Dominican, Mexican, and Puerto Rican descent. We will explore topics such as assimilation and the myth of the melting pot, immigration, and geographical and metaphorical borderlands with an eye toward understanding a number of questions, including: What does it mean to be “Latino/a/x” in the United States today? How does gender, class, ethnicity, race, sexuality, and the language(s) one uses to communicate, impact the representation of identity in literary texts? What is the place of the “old country,” especially in the cases of individuals for which the “old country” is the United States? Knowledge of Spanish is not required to take this course, nor is having taken prior coursework in Latinx literature or ethnic studies. *Three semester hours.*

We will read a variety of short stories, poems, plays, and excerpts from novels, in addition to one or two full-length narratives, which may include one or more of the following:

- Oscar Zeta Acosta, *The Autobiography of a Brown Buffalo*
- Julia Alvarez, *In the Time of the Butterflies*
- Judith Ortiz Cofer, *The Meaning of Consuelo*
- Junot Díaz, *Drown*
- Cristina García, *Dreaming in Cuban*
- Ernesto Quiñonez, *Chango’s Fire*

This course fulfills:

- English Major upper-level elective and Diversity and Inclusion requirements
- Multiethnic Literatures of the United States Concentration requirement (English Majors only)

And is an elective course option for:

- Multiethnic Literatures of the United States Certificate of Undergraduate Study (non-English Majors only)
- American Studies Major and Minor (also fulfills program Diversity requirements), Africana Studies Major, Women’s and Gender Studies Minor, and this course is a Diversity elective option in a number of Liberal Studies: Humanities and Social Science Program Sequences (see the Liberal Studies website for more details).

For more information on this class, please contact Dr. Marci Carrasquillo, English Dept.: carrasquillo@rowan.edu