

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

Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Hawthorn 104



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 Latino/a literature or in ethnic studies. *Three semester hours.*

In addition to secondary critical and theoretical readings, we will read four primary texts that may include two or more of the following:

- Julia Alvarez, *In the Time of the Butterflies*
- Sandra Cisneros, *Caramelo*
- Cristina Garcia, *Dreaming in Cuban*
- Ernesto Quiñonez, *Chango's Fire*

For more information, please contact:

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