Bemidji State University

SPAN 3840: Contemporary Issues in the Spanish-speaking World

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 08 - Global Perspective, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

An in-depth study of current issues in Latin America, Spain and the Latinx USA. A discussion of ongoing social-cultural issues and their influences in the past, present, and future. These may include topics relating to economics, politics, religion, and culture. Students will explore selected authentic materials such as: articles, films, documentaries, interviews, literature of testimony. Special attention will be given to critical thinking, ideas exchange and debate. This course is conducted bilingually, in English and Spanish. Open to English speaking students. [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 6 & 8]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/26/2019 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Transatlantic Connections: Africa, Iberia, and Latin America
2. Borders, displacement, exile, migration. Film and art in Latin America and Spain
3. Discrimination, intolerance, mestizaje, and the fight for emancipation
4. Economics, debt, corruption, and drug/human trafficking
5. Environment and activism: sustainability, climate crisis, environmental justice
6. Religions, syncretism and State-Church relation

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. demonstrate understanding of politics in Latin America, Spain and Latinx USA.
2. analyze Hispanic works of art and films.
3. produce a research paper on topics presented in class.
4. integrate ideas about society, politics, economy and culture from the Spanish-speaking world.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 08 - Global Perspective
1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
4. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
None noted