

SYLLABUS

GLS 100 –SPRING 2012 SPA 395 Seminar on Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires: A Global City

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Classroom and time: CAMCTR 242 Wednesdays 3:00pm to 4:20pm

Course Description

This course explores the history, culture, and politics of the city of Buenos Aires from the pre-Conquest to the present. We will focus on selected topics using a variety of textual and non-textual sources from all periods.

GLS 100 is a 3 credit, Q-4 (fourth quarter) course. Classes at Oswego will be held for 6 weeks, once a week (Wed 3:00-4:20), for a total of 8 hours. **Check that the class dates and times fit your schedule before enrolling.** The remainder of the class (37 hours) will consist of an intensive one-week visit to Buenos Aires, Argentina (May-18-25). Class overseas will follow a daily itinerary.

Course Objectives

- Promote an understanding of other cultures.
- Gain an understanding of how Buenos Aires was shaped and continues to be influenced by both local and global historical trends.
- Experience first-hand the city of Buenos Aires in the context of the themes and events discussed in class.
- Introduce the concept of study abroad and learn about opportunities for semester or year-long programs through the Office of International Education & Programs.

Course Requirements

- Completion of assigned readings and active participation in class discussion. Obviously to accomplish the latter you must attend class. Chronic absence will result in a significant penalty against your final evaluation in the course.
- Group activities (classes) while in BA are **mandatory**. Walking tours will take place at varying schedules each day and failure to participate from beginning to end will be considered as skipping class and will reduce your grade. Students who fall ill while in BA and are not hospitalized will be required to remain in the official hotel.
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Textbook: Gabriela Nouzeilles and Graciela Montaldo, eds. *The Argentina Reader: History, Culture, Politics*. Durham: Duke University Press

Readings: These are the required reading. You are encouraged to complement your reading with other texts from the book as well as sources reserved in the library.

About the reading:

- Anything you do to further your knowledge of the city will be of great benefit. I strongly urge you to spend the time leafing through books and articles on reserve and scouting out non-traditional sources (films, magazines, popular press, fiction, etc.)

IF YOU ARE TAKING SPA 395 you are also assigned to read additional texts in Spanish.

Evaluation

- **Class participation and homework: (25%)**

There will be assignments based on the readings.

- **Presentation: (20%)**

Two individual presentation on two of the readings or themes.

- **Paper (35%)**

7-8-page paper, selected from a list provided by the instructor, is due at class March 9. Topics must be arranged in consultation with the instructor.

- **Journal (20%)-**

information gathered and observed while abroad is due (typed and submitted to the instructor) no later than March 24.

SYLLABUS January 25 to March 17

NOTE ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS: BEFORE coming to class you must have done the reading for that day as well as answer the questions handed out by the instructor.

JANUARY 25

Introduction

Assignment: reading, questions, and individual presentation.

FEBRUARY 1

“At the Margins of the Empire” pp 15-17

“To Build a Nation” pp 43-45

“Going Wild” pp 23-26

“Civilization as a Means to Progress” pp95-101

Assignment: reading, questions, and individual presentation.

FEBRUARY 8

"Spendor and Fin de Siecle" pp157-160

"Paris of South America" pp 170-181

Spanish reading. Borges: "Fundacion mitica de Buenos Aires"

"Birth of Tango" 196-202

Assignment: reading, questions, and individual presentation.

FEBRUARY 15

BY THE END OF THIS CLASS YOU MUST HAVE DONE YOUR FIRST PRESENTATION.

"Modern Times, pp215-217

Simon Radowitzky pp219-230

SPANISH READING :

Borges: "El Sur."

Assignment: reading, questions, and individual presentation.

FEBRUARY 22

Populism and New Nationalism pp 267-272

Saint Evita 296-303

SPANISH READINGS

Roberto Arlt stories and "informe sobre ciegos" by Sabato

Assignment: reading, questions, individual presentation. Topic for final paper.

FEBRUARY 29

State Violence

The Madwomen at the Plaza de Mayo

Never Again

SPANISH READING

"Villa" by Gusman

Assignment: reading, questions, individual presentation, draft for final paper.

MARCH 7

FINAL PAPERS DUE

"Argentina in the age of globalization" pp

"We are all cursed"

"Soccer and masculinity"

travel preparations

MARCH 10 Flight to Buenos Aires from NYC.

MARCH 18 Return to NYC

MARCH 21 Travel Journals due.