

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York
Department of ENGLISH

Title of Course:	Course Number:	ENG 338
ENGLISH 338: LATINO/A LITERATURE IN THE U.S. (SAME AS LAT 338)	Class Hours per Week:	3
	Lab Hours:	0
	Credits:	3

A. Description

Works reflecting the experiences of U.S. Latino/a writers in English are analyzed. Students will read, discuss, and write about fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama by writers such as Julia Álvarez, Rudolfo Anaya, Gloria Anzaldúa, Roberto Fernández, Tato Laviera, Achy Obejas, Abraham Rodríguez, Jr., and Piri Thomas.

B. Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

English 201 or English 121

C. Student Outcomes

Students will

- Discuss course content in a range of critical contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of themes and genres of course texts.
- Critique the complexities and differences among course texts.

D. Required Texts & Readings

Julia Álvarez, *In the Time of the Butterflies*
Sandra Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street*
Jesús Colón, *A Puerto Rican in New York, and Other Sketches*
Roberto G. Fernández, *Raining Backwards*
Abraham Rodríguez, Jr., *The Boy Without a Flag: Tales from the South Bronx*
Piri Thomas, *Down These Mean Streets*

Other Resources

Library, Web resources, CDs and DVDs as needed

Use of Technology

Use of instructional technology and audio/visual aids at the discretion of the instructor

E. Evaluation and Requirements

Reading journals
Brief oral presentations
Critical essays
Midterm and final exams

F. General Education Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to

- Discuss course content in a range of critical contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of themes and genres of course texts.
- Critique the complexities and differences among course texts.

G. Outline of Topics

Week 1: Introduction

Juan Flores, “The Latino Imaginary: Dimensions of Community and Identity”
Coco Fusco, “Pan-American Postnationalism: Another World Order”
José Martí, “Our America”

Weeks 2, 3, 4: The Latino/a Caribbean: Colonies, Migrations, Exiles

Julia Álvarez, In the Time of the Butterflies
Roberto G. Fernández, Raining Backwards
Abraham Rodríguez, Jr., The Boy Without a Flag: Tales from the South Bronx

Weeks 5, 6, 7: Legal/Illegal: Writing the Borderlands

Rudolfo Anaya, Bless Me, Ultima (excerpts)
Gloria Anzaldúa, Borderlands/La frontera (excerpts)
John Sayles, Lone Star
Luis Valdez, Zoot Suit
Tony Díaz, The Aztec Love God (excerpts)

Weeks 8, 9, 10: Gender and Sexuality

Cherríe L. Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa, eds., This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color (excerpts)
Tey Diana Rebolledo, “From Coatlicue to la Llorona”
Ray González, Muy Macho: Latino Men Confront Their Manhood (excerpts)
Achy Obejas, Memory Mambo (excerpts)
Sandra Cisneros, The House on Mango Street

Week 11: English Is Broken Here

Poetry selections from Tato Laviera, Pedro Pietri, Victor Hernández Cruz, and
Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets' Café

Weeks 12, 13, 14: De Color: Latino/a Races

Evelio Grillo, Black Cuban, Black American: A Memoir (excerpts)
Piri Thomas, Down These Mean Streets
Jesús Colón, A Puerto Rican in New York, and Other Sketches

Weeks 15: Latin Jazz, Salsa, Hip-Hop

Musical selections from the Dizzy Gillespie/Chano Pozo collaboration, the Celia Cruz/
Johnny Pacheco/Tito Puente collaboration, Cypress Hill, Big Pun, Ozomatli
Juan Flores, “‘Cha-cha with a Backbeat’: Songs and Stories of Latin Boogaloo”
Ed Morales, “La Música: The Essence of Spanglish”

Selected Primary Texts

Álvarez, Julia, How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents, In the Time of the Butterflies
Anaya, Rudolfo, Bless Me, Ultima
Anzaldúa, Gloria, Borderlands/La frontera
Castillo, Ana, The Mixquiahuala Letters
Cisneros, Sandra, The House on Mango Street
Cofe, Judith Ortiz, Silent Dancing, Line of the Sun
Colón, Jesús, A Puerto Rican in New York, and Other Sketches
Díaz, Junot, Drown
Díaz, Tony, The Aztec Love God
Espada, Martin, City of Coughing and Dead Radiators, The Immigrant Iceboy's Bolero
Fernández, Roberto G., Raining Backwards, Holy Radishes!
García, Cristina, Dreaming in Cuban, The Agüero Sisters
Gilb, Dagoberto, Woodcuts of Women
Gómez-Peña, Guillermo, The New World Border, Dangerous Border Crossers
Grillo, Evelio, Black Cuban, Black American: A Memoir
Hernández Cruz, Victor, Tropicalization
Hijuelos, Oscar, The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love, Our House in the Last World
Laveria, Tato, AmeRícan
Machado, Eduardo, The Floating Island Plays
Muñoz, Elías Miguel, Crazy Love
Obejas, Achy, Memory Mambo
Paredes, Américo, “With His Pistol in His Hand”: A Border Ballad and Its Hero
Pérez-Firmat, Gustavo, Next Year in Cuba, Anything But Love
Pietri, Pedro, Puerto Rican Obituary
Rivera, Tomás, ...and the Earth Did Not Devour Him

Rodríguez, Jr., Abraham, The Boy Without a Flag: Tales from the South Bronx
Santiago, Esmeralda, When I Was Puerto Rican
Suárez, Virgil, Latin Jazz
Thomas, Piri, Down These Mean Streets
Valdez, Luis, Zoot Suit and Other Plays
Villanueva, Alma, Weeping Woman: La Llorona and Other Stories

Selected Secondary Texts

Pérez-Firmat, Gustavo, Life on the Hyphen: The Cuban-American Way
Flores, Juan, From Bomba to Hip-Hop: Puerto Rican Culture and Latino Identity
Fusco, Coco, English Is Broken Here: Notes on Cultural Fusion in the Americas
García, Alma M., ed., Chicana Feminist Thought: The Basic Historical Writings
Saldívar, José David, The Dialectics of Our America

College Attendance Policy

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a three-hour class. In that class, you would be allowed 4 hours of absence (not 4 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade.

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, www.bmcc.cuny.edu. For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).