RLRL1020 - The Immigrant in Spanish and Latin American Literature and Film (3 credits)
Boston College Summer Session 2017
Summer 2, June 26-August 2
Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-9:15pm

Instructor Name: Chris Wood
BC E-mail: christopher.wood@bc.edu
Phone Number: (617) 552-3800
Office: Woods College, St. Mary’s Hall South
Office Hours: MW 5-6pm in classroom

Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation’s finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description
The experiences of the displaced, the exile and the immigrant have inspired great literature and cinema in the Spanish speaking world. This course will delve into a variety of narratives about the perilous journeys of Central Americans and Mexicans making their way to the North, the terrifying voyages of the brave and desperate people crossing to Spain from North Africa, and the struggle to adapt to new social, cultural and linguistic realities. Students will read, in English translation, short stories, short novellas, and first-hand accounts of immigrant experiences and watch several Spanish-language movies with English subtitles. All class discussions and assignments will be in English.

Textbooks & Readings (Required)
All required materials for this course will be on Canvas. Students may print the readings from Canvas or read the digital files. Students must bring the readings to class, either printed or on laptops or tablets.
Canvas
Canvas is the Learning Management System (LMS) at Boston College, designed to help faculty and students share ideas, collaborate on assignments, discuss course readings and materials, submit assignments, and much more - all online. As a Boston College student, you should familiarize yourself with this important tool. For more information and training resources for using Canvas, click [here](#).

Course Objectives
1. Students will become familiar with the demographics of Latin American immigration to the United States and African immigration to Spain.
2. Students will explore how the immigrant experience has been imagined and translated into literary texts and film.
3. Students will compare and contrast how Spanish language literature and film explore the experience of being an immigrant (Latin America) and receiving the immigrant (Spain).
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge across cultural settings and will learn the impact of culture, gender, and age in the cultural representation and perception of the immigrant experience by participating in class discussions, writing reflections on the literary works and films examined in the course and by writing a final essay on a question developed in collaboration with the teacher of the course.
4. Students will demonstrate ethical knowledge pertaining to the political and social responses to the phenomenon of immigration as demonstrated by participating in class discussions, writing reflections on the literary works and films examined in the course and by writing a final essay on a question developed in collaboration with the teacher of the course.

Grading
Class participation and preparation 25%
Weekly Journal Assignments 25%
Midterm Exam 25%
Final Exam Take-home essay 25%

The undergraduate grading system for Summer Session is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67)
C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67)
D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67)
F (.00)

All students can access final grades through Agora after the grading deadline each semester. Transcripts are available through the [Office of Student Services](#).

Deadlines and Late Work
Weekly journal assignments are due every Monday before the class meeting. Journal assignments turned in after this deadline will be given partial credit, in lower and lower increments depending on late the assignment is completed. No credit will be given to journal assignments from the first half of the course if not turned in by the midterm examination, and no credit will be given to journal assignments from the second half of the course if not turned in by the last night of class. The final exam/take-home essay is due Friday, August 5. Late essays will not be graded unless the student discusses it with the teacher of the course before the deadline.

Course Assignments
For every hour of scheduled class time, students should be prepared to spend approximately one hour outside of class on related assignments. All assignments are clearly indicated on the Canvas site and all assignments must be submitted on the Canvas site as well.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Assignments (to be complete <strong>BEFORE</strong> class date)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday June 26</td>
<td>Introductions, Presentation of the Course, Immigrant Experiences</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday June 28</td>
<td>The Migrant Worker in the United States</td>
<td>Reading: The Circuit (Francisco Jiménez) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>June 29 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 3</td>
<td>Mexico and the United States</td>
<td>Reading: The Crystal Frontier (Carlos Fuentes) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 3 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday July 5</td>
<td>Dominican Republic and the United States</td>
<td>Reading: The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao (Junot Diaz) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 5 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 10</td>
<td>Honduras and the United States</td>
<td>Reading: Never Through Miami (Roberto Quesada) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 10 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday July 12</td>
<td>Spain and Morocco</td>
<td>Reading: Selected Journalism on Immigration in Spain Reading: The Last Patriarch (Najat El Hachmi) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 12 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<td>Monday July 17</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>Study for Midterm Exam</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>Wednesday July 19</td>
<td>Spain and Morocco</td>
<td>Reading: Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits (Laila Lalami) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 19 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 24</td>
<td>Spain and Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>Reading: Selected Journalism Writing: None</td>
<td>July 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday July 26</td>
<td>Spain and Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>Reading: Shadows of Your Black Memory (Donato Ndongo) Writing: Journal Questions</td>
<td>July 26 by 6:00 pm (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 31</td>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Writing: Free Journal Entry on the Course</td>
<td>July 31 by 6:00 (on Canvas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday August 2</td>
<td>Final Exam/Essay Due</td>
<td>Writing: Final Exam/Essay</td>
<td>August 2</td>
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**Written Work**

Summer Session students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed and submitted in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA or CLA style per your instructor’s requirements. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation and spelling. For writing support, please contact the [Connors Family Learning Center](#).

**Attendance**

Attending class is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. When circumstances prevent a student from attending class, the student is responsible for contacting the instructor before the class meets. Students who miss class are still expected to complete all assignments and meet all deadlines. Many instructors grade for participation; if you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Makeup work may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. **In this course, which meets only 11 times, attendance is absolutely required. Except when permission is given by the instructor in advance, any missed classes will result in a significant decrease in the grade for the participation component of the final grade.**

Consistent with BC’s commitment to creating a learning environment that is respectful of persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing their academic status. Students are responsible for reviewing course syllabi as soon as possible, and for communicating with the instructor promptly.
regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. Students are responsible for completing all class
requirements for days missed due to conflicts with religious holidays.

Accommodation and Accessibility
Boston College is committed to providing accommodations to students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. Specific documentation from the appropriate office is required for students seeking accommodation in Summer Session courses. Advanced notice and formal registration with the appropriate office is required to facilitate this process. There are two separate offices at BC that coordinate services for students with disabilities:

- The Connors Family Learning Center (CFLC) coordinates services for students with LD and ADHD.
- The Disabilities Services Office (DSO) coordinates services for all other disabilities.

Find out more about BC’s commitment to accessibility at www.bc.edu/sites/accessibility.

Scholarship and Academic Integrity
Students in Summer Session courses must produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to cite references is plagiarism. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on exams or assignments, or submitting the same material or substantially similar material to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work. Please see the Boston College policy on academic integrity for more information.