**21G.713**

**Topic for Spring 2017:**

**LATIN AMERICA THROUGH FILM: MEXICO, CHILE, ARGENTINA AND SPAIN**

Ana Yáñez [anayanez@mit.edu](mailto:anayanez@mit.edu)

Lugar y horas de clase: Martes y jueves 2:30-4 pm en 14N-217
Office hours: MW 2:30-3:30 pm (or by appointment), 14N-208.

**Course description:**
This course aims at increasing students' oral and written communication, grammar and vocabulary usage in Spanish while exploring nine contemporary Hispanic films. Covers major films from Mexico, Chile, Argentina and Spain.

Interactive format with frequent work in small groups.

**Required texts:**
- Films: All films required in this course will be available on-line. Students will need to watch all films before coming to class.
- Dictionaries: [http://www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com)
- The rest of the course materials (articles, readings, handouts, etc.) will be available on the course website or provided by the instructor.

**Requirements and evaluation:**

1. **Class attendance, participation and homework** (30%)
   Students are responsible for preparing all classes at home (films, readings, grammar reviews) according to the provided schedule. Regular attendance and active participation is an extremely important requirement for completing this course successfully. Since the emphasis of this class is on daily oral practice and this is impossible to make-up with extra work, unexcused absences will result in an 'F' in class participation. Exceptions require a letter from a medical doctor, a dean's excuse, or other extraordinary circumstances. In case of questions or anticipated problems, please do not hesitate to contact me.

2. **Three short essays** (25%)
   You will write three essays (2.5 pages long, doubled-spaced) about a specific element of the movie of that week. You will write two drafts of each essay: the first draft will be marked for errors using a correction key and returned for your revision. Your final grade will be on your second draft. Essays handed in late will not receive full credit. For more information, see 'Guía para los ensayos escritos,' 'Clave de corrección' and 'Cómo poner acentos' on Stellar.
3. **Tests (25%)**
   There will be two tests during the semester. **There will be no final exam.**

4. **Voicethreads (1 min.) (10%)**

5. **Final Project (in groups of 3-4) (10%)**
   You will write a brief script for a scene based on one of the films you watched during the semester. For more information, see 'Guía para el proyecto final' on the course website.

---

**Enrollment limits for language classes:** Enrollment limited to 18 for pedagogical reasons. Preference will be given to pre-registered students. Please note that you have to attend the first day of class to maintain your preference level. **In case of over-enrollment, preference will be given in the following order:** concentrators, minors or majors, continuing students, juniors, sophomores, freshmen, seniors, and graduate students.

**Prerequisites:** Spanish IV (21G.704) or permission of instructor

**Plagiarism clause:**
Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offense. Students should be aware that they will be severely penalized if caught engaging in any form of plagiarism. If you have any questions about how to document the sources of your ideas, please consult your instructor. For further information you can consult the MIT Academic Integrity Handbook.