

English 4256

US Latino/a Literature

Dr. Carmen Haydée Rivera Vega

Office: Through Google Meets session or on email

Office Hours: MW 8:00-8:30 am; 11:30-1:00 pm; 2:30-4:00 pm or by appointment online

E-mail: ch.rivera@upr.edu

Class Schedule and Reading List

(subject to change)

*Readings with asterisk found on: www.chrivera-upr.com

Wednesday, January 20

Brief discussion of syllabus and class schedule/reading list
Student introductions

Synchronous Class

Monday, January 25

Additional Q&A – syllabus and reading list
Literary Terms*; Short Story Analysis*

Synchronous class

Wednesday, January 27

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – “The Danger of a Single Story”*
TED Talk: “The Danger of a Single Story”

Synchronous class

Monday, February 1

Alicia Pousada – Introduction to *Being Bilingual in Borinquen**
Bill Santiago – “Pardon My Spanglish”*

Synchronous class

Wednesday, February 3

Himilce Novas – “Latinos: Si y No”*
Lopez, Krogstad, and Passel – “Who is Hispanic?”*
Krogstad and Noe-Bustamante – “7 Facts for National Hispanic Heritage Month”*

ASYNCHRONIC CLASS

Monday, February 8

Wanda Ramos – “La (re)invencion de la memoria”*
Bartolomé de las Casas - *The Devastation of the Indies* (p. 13-20)
Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca – *Chronicles* (p. 20-37)
Gracilaso de la Vega – *The Florida of the Inca* (p. 61-70)

Suggested reading: Anthology of Latino Literature – Introduction and Colonization: 1537-1810
(p. lxiii-11)

Synchronous class

Wednesday, February 10 – NO CLASS

Historical background discussion/summary

María Amparo Ruiz de Burton - *The Squatter and the Don* (p. 235-248)

Luis Leal - *In Search of Aztlán* (p. 551-558)

Suggested readings: Anthology of Latino/a Literature – Annexation: 1811-1898 (p. 159-171);

Acculturation: 1899-1945 (p. 359-369)

Synchronic class

Monday, February 15 – Holiday: NO CLASS

President's Day

Wednesday, February 17

Sandra Cisneros – *Woman Hollering Creek**

Gloria Anzaldúa – *Borderlands/La Frontera* (p. 1490-1507) and *How to Tame a Wild Tongue**

Suggested readings: Anthology of Latino/a Literature - Into the Mainstream: 1980 - Present (p. 1461-1469); Rodolfo Gonzales – *I Am Joaquín* (p. 787-799); Cherrie Moraga – *Giving Up the Ghost* (p. 1860-1894)

Synchronic class

Monday, February 22

Cesar Chavez – Several Essays (p. 760-779)

Film – *Chicano! The Struggle in the Fields* (PBS Documentary)*

Guide Questions*

Suggested readings: Anthology of Latino/a Literature – Upheavals: 1946-1979 (p. 583-594);

Tomas Rivera – *This Migrant Earth* (p. 1077-1091; 1100-1110)

Rudolfo Anaya – *Bless Me, Ultima* (p. 1169-1186)

ASYNCHRONIC CLASS

Wednesday, February 24

Richard Rodríguez - *Hunger for Memory: Aria* (p. 1574-1591)

Guillermo Gómez-Peña - *Documented/Undocumented* (p. 2081-2086)

Suggested readings: Jose Antonio Villareal – *Pocho* (p. 711-732); John Rechy – *City of Night* (p. 1023-1038)

Synchronic class

Monday, March 1

Luis Valdez – *Zoot Suit. Act I* (p. 1244-1278)

Suggested reading: Oscar Zeta Acosta – *The Autobiography of a Brown Buffalo* (p. 1039-1050)

Synchronic class

Wednesday, March 3

Exam I – Moodle Platform

Monday, March 8

Jorge Duany – Introduction to *Puerto Rican Nation on the Move**
Juan Flores – “Que Assimilated, brother...”*
Bernardo Vega – *Memoirs* (p. 428-442)

Suggested readings: Eugenio María de Hostos - *League of Puerto Rican Patriots, Fragments from Diary* (p. 248-257); Lola Rodríguez de Tió - *The Song of Borinquen, Cuba and Puerto Rico* (p. 257-259); Arthur Schomburg (p. 371-379)

Synchronic class

Wednesday, March 10

Jesús Colón - *A Puerto Rican in NY and The Way it Was* (p. 497-505)
José Luis González - *The Night We Became People Again* (p. 738-747)

Suggested reading: Julia de Burgos - *Song..., Canto..., Farewell...* (p. 595-96, 598, 600-603)

Synchronic class

Monday, March 15

Piri Thomas – *Down These Mean Streets: Alien Turf and The Konk* (p. 812-827)
Afterword to the 30th Anniversary Edition*

Documentary Film: Every Child if Born a Poet

ASYNCHRONIC CLASS

Wednesday, March 17

Aurora Levins Morales – *Growing Up Puerto Rican: Immigrants**
Rosario Ferré - *Writing in Between* (p. 1191-92, 1197-1205)

Suggested readings: Pedro Juan Soto – *Spiks* (p. 799-811); Luis Rafael Sanchez - *The Airbus, The New Yorkian Quartet* (p. 1133-1151)

Synchronic class

Monday, March 22 – Holiday: NO CLASS

Slavery Abolition Commemoration

Wednesday, March 24

Puerto Rican Young Lords (p. 1426-1428)
Iris Morales - *Pa' Lante, Siempre Pa'Lante* (p. 1426-1443)
Young Lords Party Platform*
Documentary Film: The Young Lords

Suggested reading: Pablo Guzman – *La Vida Pura: A Lord of the Barrio* (p. 1444-1459)

[Article Analysis and Video Presentation due – upload on the Moodle Platform]

ASYNCHRONIC CLASS

Monday, March 29 – Holy Week

The Nuyorican Poets (p. 1344-1345)

Pedro Pietri – *Puerto Rican Obituary* (p. 1357-1364)
Miguel Piñero – *A Lower East Side Poem* (p. 1372, 1393-1394)
Tato Laviera – *AmeRícan* (p. 1399-1403)
Mariposa – *Boricua Butterfly; Ode to the Diasporican* (p. 2422-2424)

Suggested readings: Miguel Algarin - *Nuyorican Literature* (p. 1345-1346, 1351-1353); Willie Perdomo - *Nigger-Reecan Blues* (p. 2387-2389, 2391-2392); Martin Espada (p. 2217-2224)

***Synchronic class**

Wednesday, March 31 – Holy Week

Esmeralda Santiago - *When I Was Puerto Rican* and *Island of Lost Causes* (p. 1700-1716)
Judith Ortiz Cofer - *The Story of My Body* (p. 1895-1904)

Suggested reading: Abraham Rodriguez - *The Boy Without a Flag* (p. 2304-2316)

***Synchronic class**

Monday, April 5

EXAM II/ Part 1 – Moodle Platform (first 35 minutes of class time)

ASYNCHRONIC PORTION OF CLASS

Isabel Alvarez Borland - *Cuban American Literature of Exile** (**45 minutes on Google Meets**)

Suggested readings: Heberto Padilla – *The Gift, Man on the Edge, Princeton Cemetery, Song...* (p. 1002-1007); Lourdes Casals - *Conversation in a Train* (p. 1188, 1190-1191)

***Synchronic remainder of class**

Wednesday, April 7

Reinaldo Arenas - *Before Night Falls* (p. 1520-1522, 1542-1548)
Pablo Medina - *Exiled Memories* (p. 1689-1692)

Suggested reading: Virgil Suarez – Various selections (p. 2335-22345)

***Synchronic class**

Monday, April 12

Oscar Hijuelos – *The Mambo Kings* (p. 1811-1816)
Elias Miguel Muñoz - *The Land of Machos* (p. 2023-2034)

Suggested reading: Ricardo Pau-Llosa - *Frutas, Dulce, Return to Havana* (p. 2042-2047)

***Synchronic class**

Wednesday, April 14

Ruth Behar – *Juban America* (p. 2192-2196)
Cristina García – *Dreaming in Cuban* (p. 2233-2250); *Pilar Puente**

Suggested reading: Achy Obejas - *Wrecks* (p. 2207-2217)

***Synchronic class**

Monday, April 26

EXAM II/Part 2 – Moodle Platform (first 35 minutes of class time)
ASYNCHRONIC PORTION OF CLASS

Silvio Torres-Saillant - *Dominican American Literature** (45 minutes on Google Meets)

***Synchronic remainder of class**

Wednesday, April 28

Junot Diaz – *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (p. 2351-2352, 2361-2373)

Suggested reading: Franklin Gutierrez – *Helen* (1808-1810); Lucía Suárez - *Tears of Hispaniola**

***Synchronic class**

Monday, May 3

Loida Maritza Perez – *Geographies of Home**

Suggested reading: Sherezada "Chiqui" Vicioso - *Perspectives, Haiti* (p. 1716-1718)

***Synchronic class**

Wednesday, May 5

Julia Alvarez – *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* (p. 1738-1747); *Something to Declare**;
*Chasing the Butterflies**

***Synchronic class**

Monday, May 10

Summary of class content; conclusive remarks

Final Project Presentations – Outline Hand-in (upload on Moodle Platform)

***Synchronic class**

Final Project Due Date: Friday, May 14, 2021
by 11:30 AM
upload on the Moodle Platform

Last day of classes in the Spring Semester: Monday, May 10, 2021

Last day to hand in grades to the Registrar's Office: Monday, May 24, 2021