La lengua de Buenos Aires

Class code
V95.9551.003

Instructor Details
Mariano López Seoane
mls379@nyu.edu
4823 8111
[Click here and type mobile number for field trips]
NYU in Buenos Aires Site: Anchorena 1314

Class Details
La lengua de Buenos Aires
Tue-Thur 11:45-1:15
Location to be confirmed.

Prerequisites
Students must have passed all levels of Spanish as a second language and they should have taken (or be taking at the moment) the course Advanced Grammar and Composition in order to be able to attend this course.

Class Description
La lengua de Buenos Aires is an advanced conversation course, which seeks to make students familiar with the most outstanding features of the Spanish of the Rio de la Plata area. It does also work as an introductory map to the main problems and questions of the culture of the city of Buenos Aires. Through a lively discussion of current cultural conflicts in politics, literature, music, drama and film, the course will enhance the listening and reading abilities of the students, while improving their speaking and writing proficiency in Spanish. These said conflicts and their transformations are key to an understanding of the way porteños speak and think. From a first section devoted to political discourse, we will move on to a consideration of its rhetorical precedents in argentine literature. This will give us the critical tools we need to further our inquiries in
other fields such as rock, drama, journalism and film.

**Desired Outcomes**
[Click here and enter 3 to 5 learning goals or objectives]

**Assessment Components**
This course will not have traditional exams. Students will be evaluated taking into account their personal research on specific issues, oral presentations and the final presentation (oral and written version).

**Final Grading**
The final grade will be determined as follows:

- Participation and preparation: 20%
- Homework: 15%
- Oral Presentations: 15%
- Field Studies: 25%
- Final Presentation: 25%

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

**Assessment Expectations**

**Grade A:** The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers well structured arguments in his/her work. The student writes comprehensive essays / exam questions and his/her work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

**Grade B:** The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.

**Grade C:** Work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.

**Grade D:** The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.

**Grade F:** The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.
### Grade Conversion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>76-73</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92-90</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>72-70</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-87</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-83</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>66-60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-80</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>59-0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-77</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exams and Submission of Work

Final Exam dates cannot be changed under any circumstance.

Mid term exam dates will be scheduled with each professor and it must be before the break.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from examination (with authorization, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.).

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

**Final essays must be submitted to the professor in print and electronic copy.** If the student is not in Buenos Aires, he / she must send a printed copy via express postal mail (i.e. FeDEX, DHL, UPS, etc) to the NYU Center in Buenos Aires – Anchorena 1314 - (C1425ELF) Argentina. This copy must arrive before or on the date of established deadline.
Attendance Policy

• NYU Buenos Aires has a strict policy about course attendance.
• Students should contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work but should NOT approach them for excused absences.
• Absences due to illness must be discussed with the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs, María Pirovano Peña within one week of your return to class.
• A doctor note excusing your absence is mandatory.
• The date on the doctor’s note must be the date of the missed class or exam
• Absence requests for non-illness purposes must be discussed with the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs, María Pirovano Peña prior to the date(s) in question.
• If students have more than two unexcused absences they will be penalized by deducting 50% of the class participation grade. Please be aware that in most of the courses the class participation grade is 20% of the final grade. So the 50% of the class participation grade would mean 10% of the final grade.
• If students have more than four unexcused absences they will fail the course.
• Intensive Languages Courses: students who have more than three unexcused absences will be penalized by deducting 50% of the class participation grade. Please be aware that in most of the courses the class participation grade is 20% of the final grade. So the 50% of the class participation grade would mean 10% of the final grade. Those students who have more than five unexcused absences will fail the course.
• Each class has a duration of one hour and half or two hours. Missing one class represents one absence. For those courses that meet once a week (three hours block), missing one class represents two absences.
• Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence.
• NYU BA also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. Three late arrivals or earlier departures (10 minutes after the starting time or before the ending time) will be considered one absence.
• Please note that for classes involving a field trip or other external visit, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.
• Holidays’ make up classes are mandatory as regular scheduled classes.

Late work should be submitted in person to the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs during office hours (Mon – Fri, 9.30 am to 5 pm), who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff can accept the work, in person, in the absence of the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above.
Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.

Written work submitted after 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

**Please note** end of semester essays must be submitted on time

**Plagiarism Policy**

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

All your written work must be submitted as a hard copy AND in electronic form to the instructor.

It is expected that the student follows the rules on academic honesty and intellectual integrity established by NYU University.

**Required Text(s)**

See syllabus

**Supplemental Texts(s)**

See syllabus

**Internet Research Guidelines**

**Additional Required Equipment**

**Week 1**

Historias de inmigración en Buenos Aires: modos de vivir en la ciudad siendo extranjero

Feb 13-15

**Week 2**

Historias de inmigración en Buenos Aires: la inmigración histórica

Feb 18-22

La inmigración en Argentina (Devoto)

Fragmentos de “En la sangre”, otros textos sobre inmigrantes.
Week 3
Inmigración y tango
Feb 25-Mar 1
- Diccionario de Lunfardo. Diálogo
- Investigación personal sobre inmigración
- Borges, “Historia del tango”
- Tango Lyrics

Week 4
Tango
Mar 4-8
- “Arrabalera”, “Mercado de Abasto”
- Visita a milonga

Week 5
Peronismo I
Mar 11-15
- Peron and the People
  - El día que se inventó el peronismo
- Narraciones sobre el peronismo: “Casa Tomada”. “Cabecita Negra”.

Week 6
Evita
Mar 18-22
- La razón de mi vida
  - “Los rostros de Eva Perón”, en Políticas del sentimiento
- Investigación personal sobre Evita
  - Visita Museo Evita

Mar 25-31
Semester Break

Week 7
El peronismo hoy
Apr 1-5
- El peronismo hoy: los Kirchner, Cristina, la juventud peronista, putos peronistas
(artículos)

Visita de un activista

**Week 8**
Problemas económicos y sociales de la Argentina de hoy: villas y pobreza
Apr 8-12

**Week 9**
Cumbia
Apr 15-19
Artículos sobre cumbia. Audio clips: Gilda, Gladys la Bomba Tucumana, Riki Maravilla, Volcán, Sombras, Amar Azul

Debate sobre cumbia villera.

**Week 10**
Cumbia y nuevo cine
Apr 22-26
Formas de representar la pobreza en el cine: Noche de ronda (Cozarinsky)
El cine y los pobres:
*Pizza Birra Faso*

**Week 11**
Nuevo cine argentino y lengua de los jóvenes: Drogas
Apr 29-May 3
“Paco”. “Las mantenidas sin sueños”

**Week 12**
Rock Nacional
May 6-10

**Week 13**
Rock Nacional II
May 13-17
Week 14
Presentaciones Finales
May 20-24

Week 15
Presentaciones Finales
May 27-30

Classroom Etiquette
The use of Blackberrys, phones and IPods in class is forbidden

Required Co-curricular Activities
Salidas:
Visita Milonga
Visita Museo Evita
Excursión a Barrio

Visitas:
Activista del joven peronismo

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Your Instructor
Mariano López Seoane earned a Ph. D. in Latin America Literature from New York University in 2010. He is currently Assistant Professor in Latin American literature and cultural studies at IES, NYU and UBA. He is pursuing post-doctoral studies at CONICET. Current research areas focus on literary translation as well as on drug culture in Latin American literature and the arts. Among his more recent publications: "Sobre Avital Ronell" (dossier for Chilean magazine Papel máquina) and "La imposibilidad de ser fiel: Victoria Ocampo y la traducción" (in Argentine magazine Cuadernos del Sur).