Íconos culturales de América Latina is an advanced conversation course, which seeks to make students familiar with the rich and complex history of Latin America through the study of some of its most known and iconic cultural expressions. It does also work as an introductory map to the most influential and widespread approaches in Latin American social sciences, cultural studies and literary criticism. Thus, students will not only have a first encounter with key historical processes that lie behind some well know cultural icons, but also will be introduced to arguments and ways of writing that help constitute modern Latin American educated Spanish. The course will be structured in seven topics; each topic will be covered in two weeks. During these four classes, students will be exposed to different kinds of cultural materials, including...
literary texts, film, papers from several disciplines, theater plays, art shows and live concerts.

**Desired Outcomes**

- Question the pre-conceptions about Latin America

**Assessment Components**

- Presentations: students will need to present on a topic for the rest of the class
- Midterm: A guided paper of about 10 pages.
- Final: An essay of about 10 pages.

**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

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

*Discursos y proclamas*, Simón Bolívar; edición al cuidado de Gerardo Rivas Moreno; índices, Wilson H. Rojas y Gerardo Rivas Moreno.

*Simón Bolívar y Manuela Sáenz: correspondencia íntima*, prólogo, compilación y notas de Manuel Espinosa Apolo.

*El general en su laberinto*, Gabriel García Márquez.

*Las dos muertes del general Bolívar*, Mario Szichman.


*The cult of Bolivar in Latin American literature*, Christopher B. Conway.

*El santo de la espada* (film), Leopoldo Torre Nilson.

*Hugo Chávez Frías y la revolución bolivariana: bibliografía*, Rafael Ramón Castellanos.

*Elección de discursos del presidente de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, Hugo Chávez Frías.

*Populismo y neopopulismo en América Latina: el problema de la cenicienta*, María Moira Mackinnon, Mario Alberto Petrone (comps.)

*The Revolution Will Not Be Televised* (film), Kim Bartley, Donnacha O’Briain.

*Perón. Sinfonía de un sentimiento* (film), Leonardo Favio.

*La razón de mi vida*, Eva Perón.

*Eva Perón*, Copi.

*Evita vive*, Néstor Perlongher.

*Diario del Che en Bolivia*, Ernesto Guevara.

*La pasión y la excepción*, Beatriz Sarlo.

*Discursos del Subcomandante Marcos*

“Los milenarismos”, Carlos Monsiváis, en Ludmer, Josefina, *Las culturas de fin de
*siglo en América Latina.*
*Diarios de motocicleta* (film), Walter Salles.
*Memorias del subdesarrollo* (film), Tomás Gutiérrez Alea.
*Días y flores*, Silvio Rodríguez.
*Mujeres*, Silvio Rodríguez.

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<th>Supplemental Texts(s)</th>
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<td>Internet Research Guidelines</td>
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<td>Additional Required Equipment</td>
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**Week 1**

**Feb 13-15**

Bolívar y los padres de la patria

Bolívar: textos y artículos sobre el gran padre de la “América Grande”

Minipresentaciones individuales: héroes y heroínas de la independencia

**Week 2**

**Feb 18-22**

Bolívar y los padres de la patria 2

Gabriel García Márquez: *El general en su laberinto*

Discusión (Juan Dávila)

**Week 3**

**Feb 25-Mar 1**

América Latina y sus fantasmas

*Nuestra América*, José Martí

“José Martí and the United States”

**Week 4**

Las venas abiertas de América latina
Mar 4-8 Las venas abiertas de América latina

[Click and enter co-curricular activities, etc.]

Week 5 Revolucionarios latinoamericanos
Mar 11-15 *Diarios de motocicleta*
Escríritos políticos del Che

Week 6 Guerrilas y dictaduras
Mar 18-22

Week 7 Semester Break
Mar 25-29

Week 7 América Latina y EEUU hoy
Apr 1-5 Las venas abiertas de América latina
*South of the Border*

Conferencia sobre relaciones entre EEUU y Am Lat

Week 8 Drogas en América latina
Apr 8-12 Situación de drogas: Colombia, México, Perú, Argentina (Gootenberg y otros)
Representaciones del problema de las drogas: *La virgen de los sicarios*

Week 9 Drogas en América latina
Apr 15-19 Representaciones del problema de las drogas: Teresa Margolles y Adriana Bustos
Visita Christian Alarcón
<table>
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<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Religiosidad popular</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 22-26</td>
<td>Santa muerte</td>
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<td>“Santísima muerte” (artículo)</td>
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<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Sensibilidad Tropical</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 29-May 3</td>
<td>Arráncame la vida</td>
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<td>The Bolero: The Birth, Life, and Decline of Mexican Modernity (BB)</td>
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<th>Week 12</th>
<th>Sensibilidad Tropical</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 6-10</td>
<td>Telenovelas, cultura de masas, literatura</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>Líderes populistas de América Latina: Perón, Evita, Vargas</th>
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<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Líderes populistas de América Latina II: Chávez, Lula, los Kirchner</th>
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<td>May 20-24</td>
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<th>Week 15</th>
<th>Entrega trabajo final</th>
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<td>May 27-30</td>
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| Classroom Etiquette | The use of Blackberrys, phones and IPods in class are forbidden                      |

| Required Co-curricular Activities | Artista Adriana Bustos                                                               |
|                                   | Experto en telenovelas                                                               |
|                                   | Periodista Cristian Alarcón                                                         |
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).