

Literatura Argentina

STUDY GUIDE – AUTUMN 2024

Changes may occur

Table of Contents

Dates and Deadlines	2
1. Introduction	3
2. Course Content.....	4
Part 1 – Self Study Period	4
Part 2 - Study in Buenos Aires	5
Part 3 – Term Paper	6
3. Reading Lists	7
4. Guidance on Writing Essays	8
5. Internet Resources.....	11

Dates and Deadlines AUTUMN 2024

Week	Dates	Activities, exams and deadline Papers
1	22 July-22 August	Read the self-study texts
2		
3		
4		
1	26-30 August	Classes start
2	02-06 September	Classes
3	09-13 September	
4	16-20 September	
5	23-27 September	
6	30 Sept-04 October	
7	07-11 October	Reading week
8	14-18 October	Classes
9	21-25 October	
10	28Oct- 01 Nov.	
11	04-08 Nov.	
12	11-15 Nov.	
13	19-22 Nov.	Last class and Instructions for home final paper
14	25-29 Nov	Deadline final exam
15	02-06 December	Exam feedback

1. Introduction

This Study Guide is a supplement to the Course Description. It will give information about the course and advice on how best to study and carry out the different tasks.

Studying in Argentina gives you an excellent opportunity to engage with the country and its people. The course will give an introduction to Argentine Literature, with a regional focus on Argentina.

If you have any academic questions, please contact Prof. José Luis Inchauspe, inchauspekultur@gmail.com;

All other inquiries, please contact our office in Oslo, mail@kulturstudier.no or tel:+47 22358022.

2. Course Content

This section provides information about the different parts of the course and guidance on how the students should work in collaboration with each other and the teachers.

Part 1 – Self-Study Period

Most of the teaching will take place in Buenos Aires, but the learning should start before that, and the program starts with five weeks of self-studies. It is vital that you use these weeks well in order to follow the progression of the program once the classes start in Argentina. It is expected that you make yourself well acquainted with the curriculum during this period. You will get more out of the lectures if you have looked at the material beforehand, and a slow start to the semester will make the stay unnecessary overloaded with work.

Before the studies in Buenos Aires, students taking Literatura Argentina (taught in Spanish) are expected to read the first and second week texts as listed: (compendium will be available on your [personal Kulturstudier page](#)).

1. Silvina Ocampo: “El vestido de terciopelo”
2. Roberto Arlt: “La luna roja”
3. Nestor Perlongher: “Evita vive”
4. Julio Cortázar: “La Banda”

Self-studies can be a challenge. It requires discipline to spend enough time reading and reflecting, but it will also help you develop an individual understanding of your curriculum. If you have questions, lecturers will be available to answer them during these four weeks.

The courses in literature looks at a variety of texts, and you will learn about the cultural and historical context of the texts during the lectures and seminars.

Part 2 - Studies in Argentina

The largest advantage of studying literature in Buenos Aires is that you study and live in the area you read about in many of the literary text and where the language is being spoken. We have the possibility to gain a positive influence from the social arena. The contact with your neighbours will become easier the more Spanish you learn, and your understanding of Argentina becomes greater by reading literary texts from the region. In addition, your lecturers will be available throughout the program, something that will give you a closer academic follow-up. You will also be a part of a small student body that can make the learning easier and create a common involvement.

Lectures

During the lectures and demi-lectures, the most important parts of the course will be discussed. You will get an introduction to literary analysis, and will be lectured in the most relevant events in Latin American socio-cultural history. The authors in the literature course will be discussed in a literary historical context. The lectures will give you the necessary knowledge to analyze the texts on the reading list. The Demi-lectures will help you to focus

this knowledge on particular texts. The lectures will be given by our local teachers, from the University of San Martín, and they will be available for questions throughout the semester.

Seminars

The seminars will focus on analysis of the individual texts. In these groups, the students will play a vital role. You will either individually or in groups present texts from the course literature for the rest of the group, and these presentations will be the foundation for later discussions. The aim is that you use what you have learnt during the lectures as a starting point, and incorporate that into the discussions on the seminars. By taking an active part during the teaching, you will have to use the course literature independently and this method gives you skills in literary analysis from an early point in the course.

Part 3 – Term Paper

The Term Paper must be handed in the last week of November (dates may be changed). For students taking Literatura Argentina the exam should be 1900 words (+/- 10%), split in 3 parts that you will write during the semester (with your teacher's guidance). You will have more than 2 months to write it before the Dead line.

Student Requirement

Assignment – Term Paper

Deadline last week of November

- Term Paper
- Graded
- 1900 words (+/- 10%) for Literatura Argentina
- 3 parts, first 2 written under the guidance of the teacher.

Grading Scale

Description	Percentage
10 (A) Excellent	100-95
9 (A-) Very Good	94-89
8 (B) Good	88-83
7 (B-) Above Average	82-77
6 (C) Average	76-71
5 (C) Below Average	70-65
4 (D) Lowest Passing Grade	64-60
F Failure	59-0
W Officially withdrawn	Academic Advisor's approval
I Incomplete	Only with Academic Advisor's approval

3. Reading List

Literatura Argentina (Literature 2):

You do not need to buy any books for Literatura Argentina:

The texts will be available at www.kulturstudier.org

4. How to write academic texts

The exam on the literature course is a home exam, and for some of you this will be the first academic essay you write. The following paragraphs will hopefully help you prepare for the exam and facilitate your:

- Reading and understanding of the course literature and other relevant information.
- Critical reflection around the topics the course addresses.
- Knowledge of academic writing.

Even if it is not expected that you come up with new and original answers in literary research, there are formative ways how an exam should be written. These guidelines are the same as the normal standards for academic texts written at tertiary institutions.

These guidelines can be split into five main topics:

1. Define the topic, the intention and structure for the exercise already in the introduction, and keep your promise.

Regardless of what kind of academic text you are writing you should always start on the introduction. This is where you first introduce the topic of the text. Afterwards you should define the questions you want to answer. The questions you ask and the intentions of asking them should be well defined and realistic. At the end of the introduction you can give an overview of the structure for the text, and this involves giving an overview of what is to come in the text and how you will answer your questions you ask. This structure should be:

- An introduction (which you have already explained)
- A main section where you present your material, discuss the result in regards to the topic and the questions you asked in the introduction (this part is often split into smaller chapters)
- A conclusion where you sum up your material and draw conclusions.

We advise you to start the exercise by giving a short statement on how you understand the task given and how this will impact your answer to the exam. When you have defined the topic, the intention and the structure of the exam it is important to stick to this for the rest of the text. You have the right to guidance from a teaching staff during the writing period and we suggest you make use of this offer.

2. Systematize your material

To have order in your text is vital for the quality of your exam and to make it easy to read and understand the different points you are arguing. (By “your material” we mean the different viewpoints, theories or empirical examples you will use to answer the task). There is no right way of doing this, but it is important that you throughout the text give the reader an explanation of why you are doing the things you do. Every time you introduce a new idea or a new example you need to ask yourself: Is it understandable for the reader why this is being introduced here? If you cannot give a clear yes to that answer you should edit the text.

3. Discuss your result and come up with a conclusion

How you discuss your material is crucial to the quality of the text. Nevertheless, be humble towards the text you are referring to and do not come with your own distinct opinions. Explain the different views, the theoretical viewpoints and the empirical examples and put them in relation to the rest of the text and the questions you asked in the introduction. Try to put the different theories up against each other, explain the similarities and differences, pros and cons, and always discuss this with the help of other texts. At the end of the text this discussion should be summed up and you should come with a conclusion based on the previous discussion.

4. Write clearly and understandable

Even if academic texts should be written in a formal language, there is no use using intricate sentences. On the contrary, you should try to explain the discussion as clear as possible. It is also a good idea to have flow in the text, so work on getting good flow between the paragraphs. Avoid single sentences with no connection to the surroundings and always have a short introduction or explanation if the text suddenly jumps from one main argument to another. It can be a good idea to split the text into chapters, but still try to have logic switches between the different parts. This can include mentioning the questions in the introduction and as long as you do not exaggerate, re-mentioning important things can be a good thing.

5. Sort out the technical aspects.

References in the text

You must reference after every quotation, or after each paragraph that refers to someone else's literature, viewpoints or other specific information. These references should be written in parentheses in the right spot in the text (always after the paragraph or quotation). These references should only include the last name and year of publication. If it is a direct quotation the page should also be mentioned. I.e. (Ekern 1986) (UDNP 2004: 37).

Reference list

All references mentioned in the text needs to be completely referred to in a reference list at the end of a document. This list should be organised alphabetically after the last name of the author. The reference list should have the following format:

Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses) "Title", place of publication (normally a city), name of publicist, i.e.:

Woodward, Ralph Lee (1999) "Central America, A Nation Divided", New York: Oxford University Press

If you refer to an article that is a part of an anthology or article collection (meaning a book with different authors), you must write the reference like this: Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses), "Title of article", author of the article in Title of the book, place of publication, name of publicist, i.e.:

Larrain, Jorge (1999) "Modernity and Identity: Cultural Change in Latin America" Robert N.Gwynne and Cristobal Kay, Latin America Transformed. Globalization and Modernity, London: Arnold Publishers

When you refer to an article from a magazine the reference list should have the following format: Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses), "Title of the article" in Name of Magazine, edition, page number, i.e.:

Vilas, Carlos (1992) "Family Affairs:Class,Lineage and Politics in Contemporary Nicaragua"
In Journal of Latin American Studies 24,s 306-341.

Only references that are actually used in the exam should be referred to and written in the reference list.

Format

The exam should be written in Times New Roman, 12 point, 1,5 line spacing, 3cm margin (left and right). This equals approximately 400 words per page.
page.

5. Internet resources

In addition to preparing for the studies in Argentina we suggest that you become a bit familiar with the country and the continent before you travel. There are many good internet pages that will give you good introductions to what the country has to offer. Some of the pages are:

Facts on Argentina (more or less non-political):

Public site: <http://www.argentina.gov.ar/argentina/portal/paginas.dhtml?pagina=356>

Newspapers:

An overview of different newspapers with their own website:

<http://www.prensaescrita.com/america/argentina.php>

Latin America groups (in Norwegian):

<http://www.latin-amerikagruppene.no/Medieklipp/index.html>

The Economist (Political magazine with focus on economic news, there is a section of news about Latin America): <http://www.economist.com/world/la/>

We have also gathered some websites that can be useful for the Spanish studies before and during the program in Argentina:

Dictionaries:

Tritrans (Norwegian-Spanish-English): <http://www.tritrans.net/>

Word reference (English-Spanish): www.wordreference.com

Lexin (Norwegian-English): <http://decentius.hit.uib.no/lexin.html>

Jergas de habla hispana (local slang from the different Spanish speaking countries, check out the site for Argentina): <http://www.jergasdehablahispana.org>