

Spanish 463: National Traditions in Latin America: “Contemporary Feminism in Argentina, Mexico, and the United States”

Instructor information:

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Course Description:

This course explores contemporary feminist movements, topics, and trends in Argentina, Mexico, and the United States. The course focuses on three thematic units: motherhood, abortion, and femicide. To allow for an in-depth comparison, each unit includes a variety of cultural materials (literary texts, legal documents, films, news, and chronicles) from the three countries. We will pay special attention to how concepts such as “choice,” “desire,” “sexism,” and “body” change meaning, entail distinctive ideological connotations, and have different, sometimes even opposite, public effects across borders. To understand these differences, we will include primary texts from social movements and organizations (for instance, Ni una menos, socorristas, and Centro Las Libres) as well as from authors such as Jazmina Barrera, Maggie Nelson, Marlene Wayar, and Selva Almada. We will study these materials from theoretical perspectives such as Black feminism, intersectional feminism, and psychoanalytic feminism.

Not open to students who have taken Span 463 in Spring of 2024.

Overview and Goals:

On completion of the course, students will have accomplished:

- A comparative view of contemporary feminism in Argentina, Mexico, and the United States.
- An understanding of basic concepts in Black feminism, intersectional feminism, and psychoanalytic feminism.
- Further insight into contemporary Latin American culture.
- The ability to analyze, think, and write critically about different cultural materials.
- Improvement of their linguistic and cultural competence in Spanish.