



UNIVERSIDAD DE LA HABANA
Facultad de Lenguas Extranjeras
Departamento de Español

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Edificio Varona

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Course: Cuban Culture

Professor: TBD

Lo pasado es raíz de lo presente. Ha de saberse lo que fue, porque en lo que fue, está lo que es.

-José Martí

Methodological Guidelines

The Cuban Culture course aims to provide an overview of the process of gestation and development of Cuban culture, its richness and complexity from its origins to the present, to provide a general knowledge of the cultural, artistic, economic, political and social facts that have been decisive in the historical development of Cuba, as well as a vision of the diverse ethnic and cultural components that integrate the miscegenation of the Cuban nation, inherited from many traditions. It is designed for foreign non-Spanish speakers who are interested in learning about the expression and way of life of the Cuban people and in improving their Spanish language. The classes are taught exclusively in Spanish, and the interactions in the classroom that are produced will be in Spanish. To enroll in the course, the required level of language needs to be equivalent to at least B2; Preferably C1.

Objectives

1. Become familiar with the process of composition and development of Cuban culture.
2. Identify the historical and artistic elements that make up the Cuban identity.
3. To appreciate the diverse artistic manifestations of the Cuban culture in the different historical periods.
4. To argue about the diversity of Cuban cultural manifestations.
5. Become familiar with the most representative aspects of Cuban cultural legacy.
6. Identify artistic works that represent the different periods of Cuban culture.
7. To value distinctive artistic works from each period of Cuban culture.
8. Recognize paradigmatic works of Cuban culture.
9. Understand and produce oral and written texts on topics of Cuban culture with ownership, autonomy and creativity.
10. Understand audiovisual materials related to Cuban culture.
11. To perfect the Spanish language.
12. To perfect communicative competence by analyzing topics of Cuban culture belonging to different contexts and times, through the use of the most appropriate linguistic means.
13. To become familiar with the system of customs and traditions that make up the Cuban national identity.

14. To explain your own, logical and dialectical reasoning on the problems that arise in the classroom related to the Cuban culture.
15. Demonstrate the ability to find information about the different topics of the course and use it creatively and efficiently.

Organizational and Evaluation Guidelines

The course consists of 60 hours of class. Each group should not exceed 15 students and always has a multicultural character.

Each topic will be evaluated orally and in writing. In addition, a final paper will be delivered at the end of the course.

The evaluation of the students will be systematic and will include the following aspects:

Attendance: Attendance and punctuality will be mandatory. To receive the certification of the course is necessary to have an 80% of attendance. Each absence or tardiness must be duly justified before the teacher, in the case of absences in a period that does not exceed 72 hours of having occurred.

Active participation in class: Intervention and interest in the problems, dialogues and debates that are established in the classroom.

Tasks: During the course, students are instructed to perform activities such as supplementary reading, preparation for seminars and practical classes, visualization of materials, writing of texts, etc. Each of these tasks receives a grade, according to parameters previously explained to the students. The unjustified non-delivery of a task will receive a failing grade in that particular activity.

Seminars: Each one of the seminars has an evaluative character. Grades given are based on the results of the research carried out, the quality of the oral expression, the listening comprehension of the expositions and the written expression are taken into account.

Practical classes: Each practical class has an evaluative character. Grades given are based on the results of the previous preparation, the quality of the answers, the oral expression, the listening comprehension of the expositions and the written expression, with emphasis on the production of certain types of texts, are taken into consideration.

Preparation and presentation of a final written work: A final written paper will be delivered at the conclusion of the course that will consist of the elaboration of an essay on a topic related to Cuban culture. The reflections and conclusions obtained from the investigative work will be presented orally in the classroom.

The classes are taught in the classrooms of the Department of Spanish, Faculty of Foreign Languages, located on the campus of the University of Havana.

Themes

Theme I - Background of the Cuban culture Culture concept / Importance of the study of culture / Aboriginal culture in Cuba / Influence and presence of aboriginal culture in the later Cuban culture.

Theme II -The Cuban culture during the colonial stage: 16th to 19th centuries General processes in the cultural panorama of the island from 1492 / The phenomenon of transculturation / Founding process and settlement of the island / Repercusión de Espejo de Paciencia, first literary work of

Cuban culture / Cultural mixing and its protagonists / Architecture in the colony, first constructions: military, religious and housing / Development of the concepts of cultural identity and nation / Creole in the process of integration of Cuban culture / The African component and its repercussion in the Cuban intercultural environment / Academic painting and the founding of the Academy of San Alejandro / Art as an exponent of the conformation of the Cuban identity: literature, painting, music, dance, theater and architecture / José Martí as a concrete figure of the process of formation of Cuban culture in 19th century.

Theme III - The Cuban culture in the neocolonial period: first half of 20th century Avant-garde intellectuals in Cuba / New concepts on art: the Grupo Minorista and the Grupo Orígenes / National character in the artistic manifestations related to the maturation of the cultural identity of the nation / Cuban musical genres of the period. North American influence / Approach to the history of Cuban cinema.

Theme IV - The Cuban culture in the Revolution: second half of 20th century Cultural policy of the Revolution / Founding initiatives / Art as an exponent of the new cultural and social context: literature, painting, music, dance, theater and architecture / Conceptual and aesthetic renewal in artistic manifestations.

Theme V - Cuban customs and traditions Afro-Cuban religions: expression of a *mestizo* culture / Characteristics, customs and traditions that identify the Cuban / Popular language.

General Bibliography

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