Hu 3264 /SPECIAL TOPICS IN SPANISH-SPEAKING CULTURES
Instructor: Dr. Ciro A. Sandovall/
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Walker 108/ M/W/F 12:05- 12:55
Office Hours: M/W/F 11:00-12:00 and by appointment

Welcome All of You! Bienvenidos! :)

NOTES:
• MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students at 487-2212. For all other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3310).
• The instructor of this course reserves the right to modify this syllabus for pedagogical purposes.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:
A notebook for journal entries.
The Garland Handbook of Latin American Music (Olsen and Sheehy)
Contemporary Spanish Cultural Studies (Jordan and Morgan-Tamosunas)
Beyond the Fantastic (Mosquera, ed)

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:
As the title of this course indicates, this course will deal with the culture of the Spanish-speaking peoples within their local and global contexts. As we are aware, “culture” is a very broad term. Therefore, in this course we have chosen to deal with general topics covering the main constructs of culture and intercultural communication for Spanish-speaking cultures. We will read from anthologies dealing with contemporary Spanish cultural studies topics such as history, national identities, popular culture, music, language and mass media communication (TV, film and documentary) and their relation to the problems of globalization and its impacts on local and global cultures. This will give us a base to compare and to view the impact of Spanish culture on Latin American cultures. We will do this having a look at contemporary art criticism from Latin America as well as ethno-musicology, including indigenous cultural manifestations, also within an historical and contemporary frame.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:
Attendance is a must in this class, AS WELL as completing the readings and being prepared to discuss these critically in class. As part of this preparation, students will keep updated journal entries relating to the main topics being discussed in class and in the readings. Rationale or explanation must be provided in the journal entries as to why you are writing what you do. This is important because as the instructor of the class, I am
hopful that these entries will become the seed for a final paper or project and a class presentation on a chosen topic that you can discuss with the instructor. Students cannot miss more than three classes with justification, since that would amount to almost 10% of class time.

COURSE EVALUATION:

- Attendance/Participation: 25%
- Journal: 30%
- Oral Presentation: 15%
- Final Paper or Project: 30%

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Since we have three books, we will roughly devote one third of the semester to each text. And we will begin with *Contemporary Spanish Cultural Studies*. We will combine the readings with video and tapes or CDs dealing with music, culture and art. I will review the journals twice, at mid-semester and at the end. You could choose to deliver your oral presentation upon completion of any one of the three anthologies. The final project will be due at the end of the course.