



DEPARTMENT OF

Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures

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CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT:
Associate Professor Gerard L. Aching

DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES:
Associate Professor Gabriela Basterra

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures offers comprehensive training in Spanish, Spanish American, and Brazilian literatures.

The King Juan Carlos I of Spain Chair and the Andrés Bello Chair bring distinguished scholars of Spanish and Spanish American culture to the University. The Albert Schweitzer Program in the Humanities, established by the

Board of Regents of the State of New York, sponsors lectures, public readings, and seminars, often interdisciplinary in nature, by distinguished writers and critics. The King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies enable New York University to further strengthen its academic courses for the study of Spain, Latin America, and the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking worlds. Both centers develop interdisciplinary programs focusing on the social sciences and the humanities.

The department collaborates on special programs with other cultural institutions in the city,

including the Spanish Institute, the Americas Society, and the Instituto Cervantes, and with the national consulates of Spain and Latin America. Activities have included roundtables, symposia, and film festivals.

The NYU in Madrid program is the oldest and most distinguished program of its kind, providing an unparalleled opportunity to study with Spanish scholars and writers. It offers the M.A. degree in Spanish and Latin American languages and literatures with a concentration in either Spanish language and translation or Spanish and Latin American literatures and cultures.

Faculty

Gerard L. Aching, *Professor; Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures. Ph.D. 1991 (Romance studies), Cornell; B.A. 1982 (political science), California (Berkeley).* Contemporary Caribbean literatures; Afro-Caribbean cultures and literature; modernism and the avant-garde in Spanish America; slavery and philosophy; cultural theories, criticism, and politics; visual culture.

Helene M. Anderson, *Professor. Ph.D. 1961 (Latin American literature), M.A. 1952 (Hispanic literature), Syracuse; B.A. 1947 (Spanish and English literature), Brooklyn College (CUNY).* Nineteenth- and 20th-century Latin American literature in historical context; contemporary women writers of Mexico; politics and literature in Latin America; pre-Columbian cultures of Mexico.

Miriam de Mello Ayres, *Senior Language Lecturer. Ph.D. 1995 (Spanish and Portuguese), Yale; M.A. 1989 (Brazilian literature), Pontifical Catholic (Rio de Janeiro); B.A. 1985 (Latin and classics), Federal (Rio de Janeiro).* Methodologies of foreign-language instruction; comparative literary and cultural studies: Brazil-Spanish America; 20th-century Brazilian literature; postcolonial Lusophone African literature; critical theory.

Gabriela Basterra, *Associate Professor. Ph.D. 1997, M.A. 1990, Harvard; B.A. 1987, Zaragoza.* Modern and contemporary Spanish and Spanish American literature; poetry and poetic theory; creativity, artificiality, and agency; intelligibility in tragedy and modern subjectivity; the tension between ethics and politics; García Lorca; Emmanuel Levinas.

Ana María Dopico, *Associate Professor, Comparative Literature, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures. Ph.D. 1997 (comparative literature), M.Phil. 1993 (comparative literature), M.A. 1988 (English and comparative literature), Columbia; B.A. 1985 (English, history), Tufts.* Comparative literature of the Americas; literature and the nation; gender and culture; literature and cultural politics.

Georgina Dopico-Black, *Associate Professor. Ph.D. 1995 (Spanish literature), Yale; B.A. 1986 (history and literature), Harvard.* Literature, history, and culture of early modern Spain; canon formation; early modern libraries; race and gender studies; cultural politics; contemporary literary and cultural theory and criticism.

James D. Fernández, *Associate Professor*. Ph.D. 1988 (*Romance languages and literatures*), Princeton; B.A. 1983, Dartmouth College. Nineteenth- and 20th-century Spanish literature; autobiography in Spain; Peninsular and Latin American literary relations.

Sibylle Maria Fischer, *Associate Professor*. Ph.D. 1995 (*comparative literature/Spanish and Portuguese*), Columbia; M.A. 1987 (*Latin American studies, philosophy, German literature*), Free (Berlin). Caribbean and Latin American literatures (Spanish, Portuguese, French); culture and politics in the 19th century; literature and philosophy; cultural, aesthetic, and political theory; the Black Atlantic; the Haitian Revolution.

Gabriel Giorgi, *Associate Professor*. Ph.D. 2002 (*Spanish and Portuguese*), New York; M.A. 1996 (*sociosemiotics*), Nacional de Córdoba. Literature from the Southern Cone; biopolitics; queer theory and gender studies; literature and philosophy; critical theory.

Kenneth L. Krabbenhoft, *Professor*. Ph.D. 1982 (*Spanish and Portuguese*), M.A. 1979 (*Spanish and Portuguese*), New York; B.A. 1968 (*Spanish and Portuguese*), Yale. Early modern Spanish rhetoric and poetics (Góngora, Quevedo, Gracián); the Western mystical tradition, especially the Spanish 16th century and the kabbalah of the Spanish diaspora; Portuguese and Brazilian literature (Clarice Lispector, Soffa de Melo, Pessoa, Saramago); science fiction; and translation.

Jill Lane, *Assistant Professor; Associate Director, Hemispheric Institute*. Ph.D. 2000 (*performance studies*), New York; M.A. 1991 (*theatre arts*), B.A. 1989 (*comparative literature*), Brown. Comparative performance in the Americas; colonialism and neocolonial-

ism; neoliberalism; performance and politics.

Jacques Lezra, *Professor*. Ph.D. 1990 (*comparative literature*), M.Phil. 1987 (*comparative literature*), B.A. 1984 (*comparative literature*), Yale.

Contemporary and early modern comparative literature, philosophy, lexical culture, and visual studies; Cervantes; transnational drama (Italy-Spain-England-France); theory of ideology; the materialist tradition; ethics and aesthetics.

H. Salvador Martínez, *Professor*. Ph.D. 1972 (*medieval Spanish literature and history*), Toronto; Ph.D. 1966 (*intellectual history, philosophy of history*), Pontifical Gregorian.

Spanish medieval and Renaissance literature; cultural interrelations in medieval Spain; Romance philology.

Jordana Mendelson, *Associate Professor*. Ph.D. 1999 (*art history*), M.A. 1993 (*art history*), Yale; B.A. 1988 (*art history*), Boston.

Early 20th-century visual culture in Spain.

Sylvia Molloy, *Albert Schweitzer Professor of the Humanities; Professor, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, Comparative Literature*. Doctorat d'Université 1967 (*comparative literature*), Licence ès Lettres et Littératures Modernes 1960, Paris (Sorbonne). Contemporary Latin American literature; literary theory; autobiography in Latin America; comparative literature.

Judith K. Némethy, *Clinical Associate Professor; Director, Spanish Language Studies*. Ph.D. 1999 (*Hispanic studies*), Szeged; M.L.S. 1982 (*library science*), Syracuse; B.A. 1976 (*French language and literature*), Rutgers.

Foreign language methodology; second-language acquisition; curricular planning; teacher training; ethnic and minority studies; emigré literature.

Marta C. Peixoto, *Associate Professor*. Ph.D. 1977 (*comparative literature*), Princeton; B.A./M.A. 1970 (*comparative literature*), Brown. Brazilian literature; modern poetry; feminist theory.

Mary Louise Pratt, *Professor, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, Comparative Literature; Silver Professor*. Ph.D. 1975 (*comparative literature*), Stanford; M.A. 1971 (*linguistics*), Illinois (Urbana-Champaign); B.A. 1968 (*modern languages and literature*), Toronto. Latin American literature and culture; literary and cultural theory; postcolonial and Empire studies; gender and culture; nonliterary narrative.

Eduardo Subirats, *Professor*. Ph.D. 1981, M.A. 1978, Barcelona. Spanish intellectual history; the Counter-Reformation and the Conquest; the Enlightenment; avant-garde movements in Spain and Latin America; Spain's transition to democracy.

Diana Taylor, *Professor, Performance Studies, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures; Director, Hemispheric Institute on Performance and Politics*. Ph.D. 1981 (*comparative literature*), Washington; M.A. 1974 (*comparative literature*), National (Mexico); Certificat d'Études Supérieures 1972, Aix-Marseille; B.A. 1971 (*creative writing*), University of the Americas (Mexico). Latin American and U.S. theatre and performance; performance and politics; feminist theatre and performance in the Americas.

FACULTY EMERITI

John A. Coleman, John B. Hughes, Wilson Martins, Alice Pollin, Antonio Regalado, James Stamm.

Programs and Requirements

Admission: The department accepts only students of outstanding promise, as evidenced by their academic records, statement of purpose, and writing sample. In addition, the department requires that candidates take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test. Students whose native language is not English may be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A high level of

proficiency is required in either Spanish or Portuguese or both.

MASTER OF ARTS (New York University in Madrid)

A Master of Arts degree in Spanish and Latin American languages and literatures is offered in Madrid. Graduate students wishing to pursue their M.A. degree in Madrid during the academic year may complete their course work in

two semesters in one of two areas of concentration: Spanish and Latin American literatures and cultures or Spanish language and translation.

Students who complete the M.A. degree in Madrid are not automatically accepted into the Ph.D. program in New York. A student wishing to enter the doctoral program in New York must go through the normal application process.

Inquiries should be addressed to Director of Study Abroad for NYU in Madrid, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University, 19 University Place, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10003-4556.

Concentration in Spanish and Latin American Literatures and Cultures
(available only through the NYU in Madrid M.A. program)

Students in the M.A. program with a concentration in Spanish and Latin American literatures and cultures are expected to acquire a solid critical background and a broad knowledge of all periods of literatures from the Spanish-speaking world. Formal requirements for the degree are the satisfactory completion of graduate courses totaling at least 32 points. Students are required to take A Cultural History of Spain and Latin America (G95.9991) and successfully complete an M.A. project.

Concentration in Spanish Language and Translation
(available only through the NYU in Madrid M.A. program)

The M.A. program with a concentration in Spanish language and translation emphasizes language and translation skills within the context of the Spanish-speaking world. The program is designed for people whose professions would benefit from advanced training or those who wish to enhance their general knowledge of the Spanish language and translation. It is not meant for students wishing to continue on to the Ph.D. degree in literature. A student must satisfactorily complete graduate studies totaling 32 points, including A Cultural History of Spain and Latin America (G95.9991), and the successful completion of an M.A. project.

**MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN
CREATIVE WRITING IN
SPANISH**

Our M.F.A. program offers instruction mainly in Spanish. Its goal is to enable talented young writers to discover their strengths and develop their craft under the guidance of prominent Latin American, Spanish, and Latino writers. It is a two-year program of 32 credits (i.e., eight courses, two per semester) and a special project at the end.

Program Content and Requirements: The program consists of three required courses on general writing issues, three optional modules in the form of practical writing workshops (at least two in the field in which the student plans to specialize), and two electives. Workshops will be offered in

fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and translation. Additional workshops will be added to the program as needed. The two elective courses may be in the Creative Writing Program, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, or in another department, with an adviser's approval. Students will also write a final project with the counsel of a faculty member at the end of their course of study.

Admission: Students come from three populations: students having taken creative writing courses at the undergraduate level at NYU and other institutions and wishing to continue; students from the Spanish-speaking community in New York and throughout the country wishing to develop their writing talents; and students from Spain and Latin America.

The requirements for admission are a B.A. or *Licenciatura* in any field of study, a writing sample consisting of 8 to 10 poems or 20 pages of prose (fiction, essay), a statement of purpose (500-1000 words), three letters of recommendation, an official transcript of undergraduate studies, GRE scores, and TOEFL scores (for those whose native language is not English).

Applications will be reviewed by an admissions committee consisting of the director of the Creative Writing Program, the two clinical professors, and visiting faculty teaching in the program on a regular basis. The statement of purpose, the writing sample, and the letters of recommendation are the most decisive factors in this review.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy is a research degree. It signifies that the recipient is able to conduct independent research and has both a broad basic knowledge of Spanish and Spanish American or Brazilian language and literature and a comprehensive knowledge of one in particular.

Degree Requirements: A student must satisfactorily complete graduate studies totaling at least 72 points (at least 32 in residence at New York University) with at least a B average, pass the Ph.D. candidacy requirements, and present an acceptable dissertation. There are four required courses: an Introduction to Theory course, Methodology of Spanish Language Teaching (G95.1120), an Independent Study with the dissertation adviser, and the yearlong Doctoral Seminar: Dissertation Proposal Workshop (G95.3545). Also required is a course in Luso-Brazilian literature (for Hispanic literatures students) or a course

in Hispanic literature (for Luso-Brazilian literature students). A reading knowledge as well as aural comprehension of Portuguese for Spanish majors and Spanish for Portuguese majors is required for admission to graduate courses in Spanish and Portuguese. Students may acquire this knowledge on their own. Also, undergraduate language courses in the department are available for this purpose.

Foreign Language Requirement: Reading knowledge of a research language is required for admission to the doctoral program and should be demonstrated by the end of the third semester of full-time graduate study. The choice of that language (exclusive of Spanish or Portuguese) should be consistent with the student's interest and contemplated field of specialization (e.g., Latin for a medievalist, Italian or German for a scholar of early modern Spain, French for a contemporary Hispanist, etc.) and should be decided upon in consultation with the director of graduate studies. Reading ability in these languages is tested by the methods outlined in the *Degree Requirements* section of this bulletin.

Ph.D. Candidacy Requirements: These requirements may be fulfilled only after the completion of 64 points. The candidacy requirements consist of four Ph.D. projects: (1) the Annotated Bibliography on the principal field of inquiry, which is mainly drawn from the department's Ph.D. reading list; (2) the Dissertation Project Paper; (3) the Annotated Bibliography on the theoretical and critical debates pertaining to the dissertation project; and (4) a course syllabus for a lower division undergraduate course on an area that covers the principal field of inquiry but not the dissertation project. In addition to being subject to the dissertation adviser's approval, the first three Ph.D. projects serve as the basis of an oral examination by a faculty committee. The fourth project must be turned in to the dissertation adviser in the semester following the oral examination.

To prepare for these Ph.D. projects, the student must enroll in an Independent Study with the dissertation adviser as well as in the two-semester Doctoral Seminar (G95.3545), a workshop designed to guide the student in the preparation of the dissertation project paper. For more detailed information about these candidacy requirements, the student will be provided with the department's *Graduate Rules and Procedures*.

Admission to Candidacy: Students applying to the doctoral program must

have either a B.A. or an M.A. degree in literature and are admitted to the Ph.D. program on the basis of an evaluation of their undergraduate or graduate record by the director of graduate studies and a departmental faculty admissions committee. A writing sample of literary criticism is required for the Ph.D. program. It may be a term paper, a master's thesis, or a published article and should be written in Spanish or Portuguese.

Completion of Doctoral Requirements: To fulfill the requirements for the doctoral degree, students must complete all course and language

requirements, satisfy the Ph.D. candidacy requirements, and write a doctoral dissertation under the supervision of a thesis adviser. When the dissertation is completed and approved by the candidate's adviser and readers, an oral examination is held at which the candidate presents and defends the results of the research before a faculty committee.

No more than ten years may elapse between matriculation in the program and the completion of all doctoral degree requirements. If the student enters the department with an M.A. degree from another institution, he or

she will have a maximum of seven years to complete the doctoral degree.

DEPARTMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS, PRIZES, AND AWARDS

A comprehensive list of University, Graduate School, and departmental fellowships, prizes, and awards appears in the *Financing Graduate Education* section of the *GSAS Application for Admission and Financial Aid*. This information is also available on the GSAS Web site at <http://gsas.nyu.edu/page/grad.financialaid>.

Courses

TRANSATLANTIC STUDIES

Poetry and Poetics in the Baroque: Quevedo, Góngora, and Sor Juana G95.2478 4 points.

The baroque in Spain and colonial Mexico, with emphasis on *El Polifemo* and *Soledades of Góngora*, the *Primero Sueño*, and the sonnets of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz. Quevedo as satirist.

IBERIAN STUDIES

Introduction to Medieval Literature G95.1211 4 points.

Theoretical and practical introduction to the meaning of "letters" and literature in the Middle Ages and the methods and techniques to approach them. Major themes, literary "topoi," and trends are illustrated with readings from the "jarchas" and *Cantar de mio Cid* through *Libro de buen amor* and *La Celestina*.

Spanish Medieval Epic and Mester de Clerecía G95.2141 4 points.

Examines two major forms of narrative poetry in the Spanish Middle Ages: the "popular" epic of the "juglares" and the "learned" poetry as exemplified in *Cantar de mio Cid*, *Poema de Fernán González*, *Libro de Alexandre*, and *Libro de Apolonio*, as well as in some masterpieces of vernacular hagiography.

Cervantes G95.2472 4 points.

Intensive reading of the two parts of *Don Quijote de la Mancha*, 1605 and 1615. Major topics: linguistic perspectivism, satire and poetry, humor and irony. *Don Quijote* as first novel and last romance. In addition, *La Galatea*, *Novelas Ejemplares*, and *Persiles and Sigismunda* are studied.

Contemporary Spanish Novel

G95.2833 4 points.

Development of the novel from the end of the Spanish Civil War in 1939 until the present. Innovation, social criticism, the break with traditional canons of 19th-century Spanish realism. Texts range from Cela's *La familia de Pascual Duarte* to Benet's *Una meditación*.

Special Topics in Spanish Literature

G95.2965, 2966, 2975, 2976 4 points per term.

Guided Individual Readings in Spanish and Spanish American Literature G95.2891, 2892, 2893, 2894 1-4 points per term.

Research G95.3991, 3992 1-4 points per term.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

Modernismo G95.2673 4 points.

Study of *modernismo* both as literary practice and as tool for Continental self-definition. Topics: cultural appropriation and manipulation, literature and cosmopolitanism, women as objets d'art, decadence and regeneration, politics and dandyism. Prose and poetry of Casal, Silva, Darío, Martí, Rodó.

Avant-Garde Movements in Spanish America G95.2769 4 points.

Examines use of manifestos, proclamations, and polemical texts; studies both theory and practice of the avant-garde in Spanish America. Topics: the "nativist" problematic; experiments with language; varying allegiances to futurism, cubism, dadaism, etc.

Latin American Theatre G95.2822 4 points.

Most recent trends in contemporary theatrical practice—theatre of the resistance in Chile, critical realism in Mexico, campesino theatre in Peru, Colombian collective theatre. Tradition and innovation in the new theatre of Latin America.

Special Topics in Spanish American Literature G95.2967, 2968, 2977,

2978 4 points per term.

Borges G95.2980 4 points.

Evolution of Borges as poet and short story writer, with collateral readings in his essays. Texts include *Ficciones*, *El Aleph*, *Otras Inquisiciones*, *Obra poética*.

Autobiographical Writing in Spanish America G95.2984 4 points.

Different forms of self-portraiture in Spanish American autobiographies of the 19th and 20th centuries. Major texts by Sarmiento, Manzano, Cané, Norah Lange, Vasconcelos, and Victoria Ocampo.

BRAZILIAN STUDIES

The Brazilian Novel G87.1831 4 points.

The history and development of the Brazilian novel, with emphasis on works of Machado de Assis, Mário de Andrade, Graciliano Ramos, Lins do Rego, Guimarães Rosa, and Clarice Lispector.

Brazilian Poetry G87.2841 4 points.

The major phases of the most representative poets in their respective times: baroque, neoclassic, romantic, Parnassian, symbolist, modernismo, and concretismo.

Guided Individual Readings in Portuguese and Brazilian Literature G87.2891, 2892, 2893, 2894
1-4 points per term.

Special Topics in Brazilian and Portuguese Literature G87.2967, 2968, 2977, 2978 *4 points per term.*

Doctoral Research G87.3991
1-4 points.

TRANSLATION STUDIES

Theory and Practice of Translation G95.1102 *4 points.*
Foundation in the theory of translation, through readings in contemporary translation studies and practice in translation. Literary texts drawn from works related to the Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking worlds.

LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

Portuguese for Spanish Speakers G87.1104 *4 points.*
Comprehensive approach to Brazilian Portuguese for advanced (native/near-native) Spanish speakers. Teaches grammar at an accelerated pace to prepare students for literature classes in Portuguese.

Methodology of Spanish Language Teaching G95.1120 *Required of all entering students. 4 points.*
Provides a theoretical foundation and practical experience for teaching Spanish to English speakers at beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. Divided into three segments: comparative study of basic structures of Spanish and English as related to teaching Spanish grammar, classroom techniques, and contrastive phonology.

History of the Spanish and Portuguese Languages G95.2106 *4 points.*
Traces origins and development of Romance languages of the Iberian Peninsula from the Roman period to the 16th century, with focus on Castilian and Portuguese. Provides students with tools for understanding written documents and literary works of the Spanish Middle Ages.

DOCTORAL SEMINAR

Doctoral Seminar G95.3545 *Required of all doctoral candidates. 4 points.*
Workshop to direct students toward the basic approaches and structure of the future dissertation, with the goal of writing a finished proposal.

HISPANIC LANGUAGE, HISTORY, AND CULTURES

The following courses are available only through the NYU in Madrid M.A. program.

Phonetics of Contemporary Spanish G95.9103 *4 points.*
Articulatory mechanisms, pronunciation, and intonational patterns of Spanish as spoken in Spain and Spanish America, with attention to national and regional variations and expression.

Composition and Advanced Grammar G95.9108 *4 points.*
Study of the more sophisticated and complex forms of literary and spoken syntax as exemplified by contemporary texts. Explication, drill, and practice also aimed at giving a complete command of verbal and written expression.

Culture and Society in Contemporary Latin America G95.9811 *4 points.*
Contemporary Latin American culture within the context of its past and present sociopolitical dynamics. Topics: conquest and dependence; the polemics of national identity; repression and revolution. Works by Galeano, García Márquez, Fuentes, Cardenal, and Neruda.

Hispanic Literature and Art G95.9847 *4 points.*
Relation of theatre and poetry to painting in the Golden Age; Goya and the romantic vision in literature; expressionism and perspectivism in the Generation of 1898. Art criticism of José Ortega y Gasset.

Spanish Civilization G95.9863 *4 points.*
Spanish culture from an interdisciplinary perspective. The historical processes of the 19th and 20th centuries through the post-Franco transition to contemporary Spain.

Spain and Spanish America: A Dialogue of Ideas G95.9882 *4 points.*
The intersection of Spain and Spanish America. Topics: new world consciousness vis-à-vis Spain in Latin American writers; Spain seen from exile; cultural interaction between Spanish America and Spain in the contemporary world.

CREATIVE WRITING IN SPANISH

Approaches to Narrative and Poetry G95.4001 *Molloy. 4 points.*
Introductory course combining exploration of writers' reflections on their craft with readings in literary theory and criticism. Visiting Spanish, Latin American, and Latino writers are invited regularly to lecture in the course. Required for all students. Taught once a year.

Forms and Techniques of Fiction and Nonfiction Prose G95.4002 *Dreyfus, Zemborain. 4 points.*
Discussion of fiction and nonfiction techniques in relation to assigned readings and exploration of various aspects of prose writing, including memoir, literary journalism, journals, and essays. Assumes some familiarity with major fiction writers in Spanish. Required for all students. Taught once a year.

Forms and Techniques of Poetry G95.4003 *Dreyfus, Zemborain. 4 points.*
Introduces students to the craft of writing poetry through readings of Spanish and Latin American poets, and encourages them to reflect on that poetry and to discover in it possibilities for their own writing. Required for all students. Taught once a year.

Workshop in Fiction G95.4104 *4 points.*

Workshop in Poetry G95.4102 *4 points.*

Workshop in Creative Nonfiction G95.4103 *4 points.*

Workshop in Literary Translation G95.4104 *4 points.*

Variable Topics Workshop G95.4105 *4 points.*