



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
MADRID

PHIL 4750 M01: *Latin American Philosophy*
Fall 2017

Class Days and Time: MW, 16:00-17:15

Classroom: PRH 5

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 1050; PHIL 2050

Credit(s): 3

Instructor: Renzo Llorente, Ph.D.

Instructor's Email: renzo.llorente@slu.edu

Instructor's Campus Phone: 91 554 58 58, ext. 231

Office: SIH 311

Office Hours: M: 10:15-10:45; 12:00-12:50; 14:30-15:30. W: 10:15-10:45; 12:00-12:50; 14:30-15:30. F: 10:15-10:45; 12:00-12:50.

Course Description:

An introductory survey of Latin American philosophical thought, with an emphasis on twentieth-century works.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

To acquaint students with the intellectual contributions of Latin American thinkers and the philosophical debates that have shaped Latin American thought. To develop students' ability to use philosophical techniques for the clarification and analysis of issues addressed by Latin American thinkers. To furnish students with the conceptual tools that will enable them to undertake more advanced work in Latin American philosophy.

After successfully completing PHIL 4750, a student will i) understand and ii) be able to explain (for the purposes of exposition and analysis):

- the major philosophical issues arising from the conquest of the New World, the legacy of Spanish colonization, and Latin America's relationship to Europe and the United States;
- how the topics of moral progress, aesthetic value, race, and the status of Latin America's indigenous peoples have been treated in Latin American philosophy;
- the significance and influence of positivism in Latin America;
- the debates concerning the philosophical status of Latin American philosophy;
- the main criticisms directed at Latin American philosophy and the main interpretations of its historical development; and
- why the issue of "identity" looms so large in Latin American thought.

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, the Campus regularly assesses its teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs is kept on file, such as assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of student work for this course, including written assignments, in-class exercises, and exams may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If students prefer that Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus does not keep their work on file, they need to communicate their decision in writing to the professor.

Required Texts and Materials:

Jorge J. E. Gracia and Elizabeth Millán-Zaibert (eds.), *Latin American Philosophy for the 21st Century* (Amherst, N.Y.: Prometheus Books, 2004), and a course *Reader*. Both the book and the reader are available at the campus bookstore. Students may also be expected to read additional short texts distributed as photocopies in class. Aside from these required texts, some supplementary on-line resources may also be suggested during the course of the semester.

Attendance Policy:

Only two unexcused absences are permitted; for each additional unexcused absence the final course grade may be lowered by one-third.

Course Requirements and Grading Rationale/System:

Besides the regular reading assignments from *Latin American Philosophy for the 21st Century* and the *Reader*, the course requirements are as follows: two exams (a midterm and final); one short paper (approximately 7 pages); and occasional in-class exercises (e.g., quizzes).

>The final course grade will be based on four partial scores: two exam grades, a grade for the paper, and one for in-class work (including participation). These four grades will be weighed as follows:

In-class work	=	15 %
Midterm exam	=	25%
Paper	=	30%
Final exam	=	30%

The grading scale is as follows:	93 and above = A
	90-92 = A-
	87-89 = B+
	83-86 = B
	80-82 = B-
	77-79 = C+
	73-76 = C

70-72 = C-
60-69 = D
0 -59 = F

E-mail: Campus and course announcements will often be handled by e-mail. Students should check their “@slu.edu” e-mail regularly.

University Statement on Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office website:
https://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%206-26-15.pdf. Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online: <https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/student-resources/academic-advising/policies-and-procedures#43>. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

Any work (assignment, exercise, exam, etc.) involving a violation of this policy will receive an F. All violations of academic integrity will be reported to the chair. In consultation with the professor, the chair will write a report, which will then be sent to the Madrid Campus Committee on Academic Honesty.

The professor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

University Title IX Statement: Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 (mmaruri@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-

Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall (counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 230) or Sinews Multipletherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid (www.sinews.es; 917-00-1979). To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: <http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

Students with Special Needs: In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to <https://www.slu.edu/madrid/campus-life/student-services/disability-services>.

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services at disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu or +915 54 58 58, ext. 230 for an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. For more information about academic accommodations, see "Student Resources" on the SLU-Madrid webpage.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

Fall 2017 Course Schedule:

Reading assignments should be completed by the date listed. For example, the essays by Sor Juana, "Response to Sister Filotea" and "Poem 92," should be read *before* our meeting on September 13. Assignments drawn from the course *Reader* have been indicated as such.

Please bear in mind that this schedule is subject to modification.

SEPTEMBER

4 Introduction

6 Las Casas, "In Defense of the Indians"

11 Fernández Retamar, "Against the Black Legend" (*Reader*)

13 Sor Juana, "Response to Sister Filotea"; "Poem 92"

17 Last Day to Drop a Class Without a Grade of W and /or Add a Class, choose Audit (AU) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Options

18 Octavio Paz, "The Conquest and Colonialism" (*Reader*)

20 Bolívar, "Jamaica Letter"; "Address Delivered at the Inauguration"

25 Ramos, "The Profile of Mexican Culture"

27 Martí, "Our America"; "My Race"

OCTOBER

2 González Prada, "Our Indians" (*Reader*); Mariátegui, "The Problem of the Indian"

4 Rodó, "Ariel" (*Reader*)

9 Rodó, "Ariel" (cont.)

11 Gracia and Millán-Zaibert, "General Introduction," pp. 13-18; Ardao, "Positivism in Latin America" (*Reader*)

16 González Prada, "Catholic Education" (*Reader*)

18 MIDTERM EXAM

23 Korn, "Value as the Object of a Valuation"; "Valuation"

25 Deústua, "Aesthetic Experience"

30 Vaz Ferreira, "What is the Moral Sign of Human Anxiety?"; "On Moral Consciousness"

Last Day to Drop a Class and Receive the Grade of W.

NOVEMBER

1 No class—University closed

2 Spring Registration Opens

6 Frondizi, "Is There an Ibero-American Philosophy?" (*Reader*)

8 Coutinho, "Is There a Brazilian Philosophy?" (*Reader*)

13 Salazar Bondy, "The Meaning and Problem of Hispanic American Philosophic Thought"

15 Salazar Bondy, "The Meaning and Problem..." (cont.); Gracia, "What Makes Hispanics/Latinos Who We Are? The Key to Our Unity in Diversity"

20 Gracia, "What Makes Hispanics/Latinos..." (cont.)

22 Martín Alcoff, "Is Latina/o Identity a Racial Identity?" **>PAPER DUE**

27 Schutte, "Negotiating Latina Identities"

29 Dorfman and Mattelart, "From the Noble Savage to the Third World" (*Reader*)

DECEMBER

4 Dorfman and Mattelart, "From the Noble Savage..." (*Reader*) (cont.); Haya de la Torre, "Is Latin America Ready for Democracy?" (*Reader*)

6 No class—University closed

11 Boff, "Science, Technology, Power" (*Reader*)

13 Guevara, "Socialism and Man in Cuba" (*Reader*)

18 **FINAL EXAM—15:30**