

**CRW 5370: Literary Translation/Prof. R. Alcalá**  
**Fall 2016/ Tues. & Thurs. 1:30-2:50/ Hudspeth 213**  
**Office hours: Tues. 3-5 p.m./ EDU 904/Tel: 747-7020 &email: ralcala1@utep.edu**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course we will read a range of poetry translated to and from Spanish and English, as well as a number of critical essays on the theory and practice of translation. A special focus will be placed on the importance of the translator's preface, introduction, or note as a framing device for the translations. This course also includes a workshop component to discuss and critique student translations.

### **GRADING/REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Reading Responses: 15%**

Guidelines to be posted on Blackboard

#### **Presentation: 5%**

Guidelines to be posted on Blackboard.

#### **Poetry Reading (with translation component): 5 %**

#### **Participation: 25%**

Discussion: Please be prepared to discuss readings. Active participation in class discussions is extremely important. You must have in front of you all reading materials to be discussed in order to refer to them. If you do not bring required reading materials to class, you will be asked to leave. In order to prepare for a productive class discussion, read the materials carefully, take notes, and make a list of observations and/or questions you'd like to share with the class.

Workshop participation: I expect you to come prepared for workshop. This means that you must submit carefully executed work on time. Or, you must carefully read work submitted and come prepared to discuss it. Printed copies of original poem, translation, and crib (literal translation) must be distributed to classmates the Tuesday prior to each Thursday workshop.

#### **Final Portfolio: 50%**

Translations of contemporary poems, revised according to workshop feedback, with critical preface. Further guidelines to be posted on Blackboard.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

More than **two absences** or habitual tardiness will affect final grade for the course. Your final grade will drop a letter for each absence beyond two. If you miss more than two classes in the first half of the semester, you will be dropped from the course. If you are absent, please contact a classmate via Blackboard for notes and missed assignments.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Please do not use your laptops to social media, email, etc., or you will be asked to leave the class. Please silence and put away cell phones during class. Cellphones are not to be used to refer to assigned material.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person as one's own. And collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

To be more specific, plagiarism in this class means that you are handing in translations or critical writing under your name that you did not produce. It also means that you are handing in work you've written for another class.

## **DISABILITIES**

I will make reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please contact the Disabled Student Services Office within the first two weeks of class: <http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=studentaffairs.utep.edu/dsso>

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY Fax: (915) 747-8712 E-Mail: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu)

## **REQUIREMENTS, READINGS, AND SCHEDULE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT INSTRUCTOR'S DISCRETION**

### **REQUIRED READING**

#### **Books**

*Enigmas* by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, trans. Stalina Emmanuelle Villareal, Ugly Duckling Presse, 2015 (978-1-937027-77-3)

*Antígona González* by Sara Uribe, trans. John Pluecker, Les Figs Press, 2016 (978-1-934254-64-6)

*Negro Marfil/Ivory Black* by Myriam Moscona, trans. Jen Hofer, Les Figs Press, 2011 (978-1-934254-22-6)

*Abuso de confianza/Breach of Trust* by Angel Escobar, trans. Kristin Dykstra, U. of Alabama Press, 2016 (978-0817358730)

#### **Blackboard or Online**

Translations of poems by Charles Bernstein, Isel Rivero, Lionel Kearns, and others.  
Critical essays by Rosmarie Waldrop, Edith Grossman, Kristen Prevallet, Pura López Colomé, Eva Cruz Yañez, and others.

### **RECOMMENDED REFERENCE TOOLS**

Spanish-English Dictionary: Larousse Unabridged (New Edition)

Oxford English Dictionary (online)  
 Real Academia Española (online)  
 Online thesauruses and etymology dictionaries

Not recommended (or allowed):  
 Google Translate or any other translation app  
 Looking at existing translations as a guide

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**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**(For each book assigned please read carefully translator's introduction and/or notes)**

- Aug. 23 & 25:**        Tues: Introduction  
                               Thurs: Rainer Schulte "The Dynamics of Translation Workshops" (BB) & Paz, "Traducción..." (BB)
- 30 & Sept. 1**        Tues: from Vallejo's "Trilce" & "Translation Slam"(BB)  
                               Thurs.: in-class exercise
- Sept. 6 & 8:**        Tues: Lionel Kearns' *Electropoeta* (BB)  
                               Thurs: Sor Juana's *Enigmas*/ Grossman's "Why Translation Matters" (BB)
- 13 & 15:**            Tues: Rosmarie Waldrop's "Silence, the Devil, and Jabès" (BB)  
                               In-class exercise  
                               Thursday: Workshop #1
- 20 & 22:**            Tues: Myriam Moscona's *Negro Marfil*  
                               Thurs: Workshop #2
- 27 & 29:**            Tues: Translations of poems by Isel Rivero (trans. & essay by Benito del Pliego)  
                               Thurs.: Workshop #3
- Oct. 4 & 6:**        Tues: Sara Uribe's *Antígona González*/ Kristin Prevallet's "Promethean Risk"  
                               Thurs: Workshop #4
- 11 & 13:**            Tues: Angel Escobar's *Abuso de confianza*  
                               Thurs: Workshop #5
- 18 & 20:**            Tues.: poems by Charles Bernstein, trans. by Enrique Winter & Esteban Pujals Gesalí (& introductions) (BB)

Thurs.: Workshop #6

**COURSE DROP DEADLINE: Oct. 28**

**25 & 27:** Tues.: Essays by Pura López Colomé & Eva Cruz Yañez (BB)

Thurs.: Thanksgiving (no class)

**Nov. 1 & 3:** Tues. & Thurs. Workshops 7 & 8

**8 & 10:** Tues. & Thurs: TBA

**15 & 17:** Tues. & Thurs.: TBA

**22 & 24:** Tues. & Thurs.: TBA

**29 & Dec. 1:** Final Portfolios due