Utah State University
PORT 3630 Survey of Brazilian Literature (43668)
Fall 2016

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Class Meetings: TR 1:30pm-2:45pm at Main 203

Required Readings: Course readings will be available on Canvas and include short stories by noted Brazilian authors:

1. Machado de Assis
2. Lima Barreto
3. Júlia L. de Almeida
4. Graciliano Ramos
5. Murilo Rubião
6. João do Rio
7. Dalton Trevisan
8. João Ubaldo Ribeiro
9. J.S. Trevisan
10. Jorge Amado
11. J.J. Veiga
12. Orígenes Lessa
13. Lygia Fagundes Telles
14. Sérgio Sant’Anna
15. João Alphonsus
16. André Carneiro
17. Clarice Lispector
18. Victor Giudice
19. Moacyr Scliar
20. Carlos D. de Andrade

Films: Literary adaptatios of novels/plays
2. O coronel e o lobisomem (dir. Guel Arraes, 2005)

Suggested Books/Texts: Students may find useful to have a book of verbs and a good dictionary with them all times.

Course Description and Objectives: This course introduces students to Brazilian Literature from the end of the 19th century to the present day. Students will look at literary works in terms of the history that produce(d) them and the social process in which they were/are part. This means understanding the complex relations between those works and the worldviews they inhabit; relations that emerge not just in "themes" and "preoccupations" but in style, rhythm, image, aesthetic quality and form. This course will ultimately enable students to become more comfortable
and confident with their reading and writing skills in Portuguese and develop their own critical thinking skills through class discussion. In more specific terms, the goals of this course are:

1. **Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual-cultural activity** (through familiarity with literary and filmic texts);
2. **Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view** (reading and discussing assigned texts in Portuguese);
3. **Developing skills in expressing oneself in Portuguese, orally or in written** (oral presentations and writing assignments)

**Important Guidelines, Policies and Reminders:**

1. Less than a C on any assignment requires immediate attention. The student must see the instructor to detect and clarify problem areas and discuss ways to improve your work/grade.

2. **Students with disability:** The Americans with Disabilities Act states: “Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center, preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format-larger print, audio, diskette, or Braille.” All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. See: [http://www.usu.edu/policies/pdf/Accmdtns-for-Disabled.pdf](http://www.usu.edu/policies/pdf/Accmdtns-for-Disabled.pdf)

3. **Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment is defined by the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as any “unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.” If you feel you are a victim of sexual harassment, you may talk to or file a complaint with the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Office, located in Old Main, Room 161, or call the office at 797-1266.

4. **Academic Integrity:** As per USU policy on Academic Integrity “Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University student.” Students
who violate university rules on academic integrity are subject to disciplinary penalties. Academic dishonesty/misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes, threatening the instructor or a fellow student in an academic setting, giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of reports, notebooks or other assignments, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work and/or plagiarizing of another’s work, or otherwise acting dishonestly for the purpose of obtaining/changing grades. For more detail information on academic honesty policies, please see STC’s Ethical Principles for Technical Communicators at http://stc.org/ethical.asp and the USU policy on plagiarism and its consequences in the undergraduate catalog on p. 20. See also: http://www.usu.edu/policies/pdf/Acad-Integrity.pdf

Students have the responsibility to promote academic integrity at the University by not participating in or facilitating others’ participation in any act of academic dishonesty and by reporting all violations or suspected violations of the Academic Integrity Standard to their instructors.

**Honor Pledge:** To enhance the learning environment at USU and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: “I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity.”

**Violations of the Academic Integrity Standard (academic violations) include, but are not limited to:**

**Cheating:** (1) using or attempting to use or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity, including working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually”; (2) depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (3) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work; (4) acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission; (5) continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity; (6) submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or (7) engaging in any form of research fraud.

**Falsification:** altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.

**Plagiarism:** representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.
Further detailed information on academic honesty policies and consequences for violations of University Standard can be found at http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=547

Plagiarism is a very serious matter and, in some forms, is a violation of the law. Students have been expelled from the university for engaging in acts of plagiarism. The policy in response to an initial act of plagiarism by a student is to give the student an "F" grade for the plagiarized assignment and to insert a note in the student's Departmental and University files indicating the nature of the plagiarism act. A second act of plagiarism in the same course will result in an "automatic" receipt of a grade of "F" for the course.

5. Attendance and Participation Policy:

**Participation:** Effort and engagement in classroom activities is what counts towards a good participation grade. Students who regularly contribute to class discussion and keep up on reading assignments will receive a good participation score. Pop quizzes may be given at the beginning of any class period at the instructor's discretion in order to ensure that students are keeping up on reading. Please speak with your instructor outside of class if you have any concern related to class performance or about ways to accomplish your goals in the course. As a courtesy to all, students shall not use the time in classroom to read outside materials nor use cellular phones, iPhones, iPods and/or other devices. Phones should be “off” during class periods. If you have a situation requiring an adjustment to this policy, please discuss this with the instructor. Background noise(s) due to loud conversation(s) between or among students is not appreciated by the instructor (nor by other students) and may affect students' participation grade.

Discussion of individual readings will be posted on Canvas the day before class and students are expected to participate in these discussions as they count toward PARTICIPATION grade.

**Attendance:** Class sessions will start on time, and students are expected to participate during the entire class period. Early departure, as well as anticipated absences will only be excused in cases of extenuating circumstances.

1. More than two unexcused absences the student will result thereafter in one (1) point per absence (up to 5) for attendance grade. Any student who has 6 or more unexcused absences during the semester will
automatically receive the grade of “F” for the course. An exception to the attendance policy is the student who travels with the university (i.e. athletes) as per USU code.

2. Students who travel for the university must present an official University letter to be excused.

3. If a student plans to miss any class period s/he must contact the instructor and must turn in any homework before the due date since after that no assignment is accepted.

4. Absences are excused for illness, requirement to work, for bereavement (death of an immediate family member). A physician’s excuse must be presented in the case of illness; an employer excuse must be presented for requirement to work; an obituary must be presented for bereavement.

5. Excused absences will not affect the attendance and participation grade.

6. Should illness or emergency prevent attendance, please notify the instructor promptly by phone or e-mail. If the student must miss any class, it is his/her responsibility to collect handouts, assignment sheets, and other information made available during class time.

7. Tardiness is neither appreciated nor welcomed and will be treated as an absence unless satisfactory explanation is made at the end of the class period, not at a later date or not at all.

8. If a student must leave the classroom for any reason (bathroom, water), s/he is expected to do so in a suitable manner. There is no need to ask permission, but keep exits to a minimum.

9. To leave earlier after signing the attendance list will be seen as a violation of the University's Honor Code. If the student needs to leave due to an emergency, please make the instructor know it before class meeting.

10. Missed class activities and assignments may only be made up in extremely extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the instructor. Late assignments are only accepted under unusual circumstances.

11. If a student must miss a test or exam for a valid reason (please note: a family vacation, a friend’s wedding, his/her honeymoon, etc. are NOT valid reasons), the instructor must allow the student to take the exam or test early if there is advance notice. If you miss a test or an exam without letting the instructor know in advance, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will ask you to prove your emergency. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in a zero for the missed test or exam.

**Expected student's performance:**
Much of your learning will occur as a result of your attendance and participation. Class participation includes asking appropriate questions and sharing comments with the class, bringing materials for in-class work, and attending the lectures. I hold very high expectations for all students. Students are expected to look alert, take notes, and think about the ideas presented in class. Simply being in class is insufficient for learning, but being absent from class, either mentally or physically, will certainly prevent you from
learning. In-class assignments will be part of the class format. Missed class activities and assignments may not be made up unless under unusual circumstances. It is the student’s obligation to find out what missed if absent.

**Class Participation: Frequency and Quality:**
A = (20 points) Attends class regularly and always contributes to the discussion;  
B = (15 points) Attends class regularly and sometimes contributes to the discussion;  
C = (10 points) Attends class regularly but rarely contributes to the discussion;  
D = (5 points) Attends class regularly but never contributes to the discussion;  
F = (0 to 4 points) Does not attend class regularly and never participates and/or does not attend class regularly and rarely contributes to the discussion.

**Class conduct:** I will treat you with respect and I expect you to extend the same respect toward me and your classmates. **Absolutely NO discriminatory remarks about or behavior directed toward a person’s race, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex or disability will be tolerated in the classroom.** As indicated in the Student Code of Conduct “Faculty members of Utah State University have the responsibility and authority to determine, maintain, and enforce an atmosphere in their classrooms that is conducive to teaching and learning, in accordance with University policy and practice.” See: [http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/studentcode/article5.cfm#secV3](http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/studentcode/article5.cfm#secV3)  
Disciplinary action, including student removal from classroom, will be taken by instructor for disrespectful and/or disruptive classroom behavior by student(s).

**There will be no partial and final exams.** Quizzes will not be given on a make-up basis. For missed quizzes and assignments the instructor will record the student’s grade as zero (0).

**NO LATE assignments will be accepted.** There will be no exceptions. See calendar for due dates.

**Short Research Paper:** There will be one final paper for the course. This will be a short research paper (5 pages) on any Brazilian writer and/or his/her work as per the student’s choice. This assignment needs to be typed (double-spaced), and the student is expected to provide sources in the endnotes and a bibliography. Contrary to a personal essay—in which the student presents his/her thoughts, feelings and opinions without referring to sources of information or ideas, the student will need to go beyond personal knowledge and experience to write this final essay. According to the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, “No matter what your subject of study, learning to investigate, review, and productively use information, ideas, and opinions of other researchers will play a major role in your
development as a student. The sorts of activities that constitute a research paper—identifying, locating, assessing, and assimilating others’ research and then developing and expressing your own ideas clearly and persuasively—are at the center of the educational experience” (p. 3). If the student is not familiar with writing a research paper, please consult the MLA Handbook, the Chicago Handbook Style or any writing style handbook in order to assure that the assignment is completed properly.

**Students will be required to submit the topic of his/her final paper to the instructor for approval.** Essays should have a clear thesis statement and students must use the mechanics of writing (language and style) clearly and effectively. A working outline is recommended. Although Internet search tools and sites can be used as resources, the student MUST avoid online encyclopedias such as *Wikipedia*, Blog sites and/or any non-scholarly sites. Papers solely based on Internet sources are not acceptable. Nor are “cut-and-past” papers from the Internet or any other source(s). I’ll check ALL reference sources. If in doubt, ask the instructor. Plagiarism is NOT acceptable, and student will be penalized for doing so. No grade will be changed unless the instructor has made an error.

*Handwritten and/or single-spaced assignments will NOT be accepted by the instructor. Please note that NO assignment will be accepted after the due date.*

Give yourself plenty of time to think through your choice of topic, consult materials and write your essay. If you encounter any problems do not hesitate to talk to your instructor, whether to clarify the assignment or to get help in choosing, developing, or researching a topic or in preparing the essay. No matter what the emphasis of a particular assignment may be, the student should always be working to improve their writing skills in Portuguese. While the instructor will be working individually with students to make their writing clear, concise and err free, there will be one peer review before the assignment is turn in to the instructor for grade. The student must hand in his/her assignment on time with two to three copies of a complete rough draft. No student will be allowed to make up a peer review, so please be on time and participate. Final drafts will be graded on the basis of organization, content, grammar, vocabulary and communication effectiveness.

6. **Rubrics:** For assessment of student’s performance the instructor will, whenever appropriate, use rubrics. Why use rubrics? Rubrics provide timely feedback; prepare students to use detailed feedback (as they allow the instructor to accurately pinpoint strengths and/or weaknesses); encourage critical thinking; facilitate communication with students; allow the instructor to use the same set of criteria for all students; help the instructor refine his/her teaching methods.
General criteria for evaluation of written assignments (exams, papers, etc.)

Thorough knowledge of concepts discussed in class, with specific textual exams, along with theoretical and critical basis or implications, plus original ideas and examples = A

Considerable knowledge of concepts discussed in class, with specific textual examples that aptly illustrate interpretation or theoretical framework = B

Basic knowledge of concepts discussed in class, vague textual examples and the use of generalizations that do not show thorough knowledge of texts = C

Paper shows some evidence of reading texts, some general ideas, but does fail to develop topic fully = D

Little evidence of having read texts, vague references to work and/or context = F

For final research papers, the same criteria apply; however, there must be a logical development of an argument or thesis, along with textual examples to support such ideas, and logical transitions to strengthen the interpretation.

**Oral Presentation:** Students will sign up for one oral presentation based on their research paper. Unless the student is taking this course to fulfill a minor in LAS, this presentation is to be performed in Portuguese and will be graded on the basis of organization, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, content and communication effectiveness.

**Quizzes:** There will be several short take-home quizzes. No late quiz will be accepted. Please be reminded that pop quizzes may be given at the discretion of the instructor.

**Class preparedness:** While the instructor may provide students with guiding questions on the readings in order to help them understand these materials critically, it is the responsibility of the student to read the materials before the due date and come to class prepared to offer a cogent discussion of them.

**Class discussion:** Student may be asked to write short reflection on the readings and/or videos during the semester. The instructor will randomly choose these reflections for class discussion. These short reflections will be graded on the basis of originality, argument/evidence, structure, clarity, and mechanics. Unless specified otherwise, the work should be typed (or computer printout) and stapled in the upper left hand corner (no plastic spines or covers). All assignments must include
name of course, professor, name of assignment, student’s name, and title on the first page. All pages must be numbered.

**Grading:** Grades will be assigned according to the scale shown below.

A (100-95%); A- (94.9-90%); B+ (89.5-86%); B (85.9-83%); B- (82.9-80%); C+ (79.9-76%); C (75.9-73%); C- (72.9-70%); D+ (69-66%); D (65-63%); D- (62.5-60%); F (59.9 or less).

- Attendance (0-10 points) 10 percent
- Participation (0-20 points) 10 percent
- Research project (0-30 points) 45 percent
  - Preliminary bibliography (0-5 points) 5 percent
  - Paper proposal (0-5 points) 5 percent
  - Complete rough draft (0-5 points) 5 percent
  - Peer review (0-5 points) 5 percent
  - Peer reviewed draft (0-5 points) 5 percent
  - Final draft (0-10 points) 20 percent
- Research presentation (0-10 points) 10 percent
- Quizzes (0-5 points) 10 percent
- Short presentation(s) (0-5 points) 5 percent
- Homework (0-5 points) 5 percent
- Total 100 percent

**NOTE:** Students must complete and hand in all assignments by due dates in order to guarantee a good grade and pass the course. Final grade will be based solely on the integer value in the scale as shown. The instructor cannot and will not “find” points for the student at the end of the semester simply because the student’s score is near the next grade level. Doing so it would be unfair and unethical to the other students in the class, many of whom will also be a point away from the next grade level. The instructor cannot and will not change a grade arbitrarily in order to meet a student’s graduation and/or scholarship requirements, since by doing so the instructor will be guilty of fraudulent reporting. The instructor will not round grades up or down at the end of the semester. No exceptions! No final grade will be changed unless the instructor has made an error.

**Student/Teacher Conferences:** Students are encouraged to meet one-on-one with the instructor throughout the semester to discuss questions, concerns, progress, etc. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to visit with the instructor; the sooner you meet with the instructor the better!

*By accepting this syllabus you have agreed to these guidelines and must adhere to them.*
After carefully reading this syllabus, please sign and return the bottom of page to your instructor

I have read and understood the requirements and policies concerning PORT 3630 as stated in the syllabus.

Signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Semester: Fall of 2016