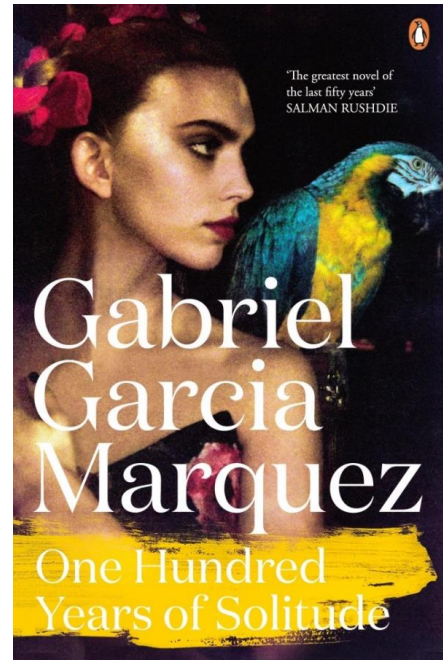


HL3014: Latin American Literature

This module explores a diverse range of Latin American literatures – including works from Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic. It will offer an historical account of the emergence and development of these national literatures, while also focusing on some of the major social and political issues they address. Of particular interest will be the transcultural ‘contact zone’ created by colonialism, the ideological and socioeconomic consequences of slavery, and the enduring conflict between tradition and modernity. We will also be discussing the early chronicles of discovery and conquest, the significance of magical realism as a mode of representation, and the subgenre of the dictator novel. Although literature will be our primary focus, the course will include an analysis of the Brazilian film *City of God*, and will introduce students to a number of important theoretical concepts within the field of postcolonial studies.



Primary Sources

FICTION

Jorge Luis Borges, *Selected Stories* (Available on NTU Learn)

Junot Díaz, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (Riverhead 2008)

Gabriel García Márquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (Harper Perennial Modern Classics 2006)

Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis, *Dom Casmurro* (Oxford University Press 1997)

Juan Gabriel Vásquez, *The Secret History of Costaguana* (Riverhead 2012)

FILM

City of God (dir. Fernando Meirelles; 2002)

Secondary Sources

Efraín Kristal (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Latin American Novel*

Gerald Martin, *Journeys Through the Labyrinth: Latin American Fiction in the Twentieth Century*

Edwin Williamson, *The Penguin History of Latin America*

Assessment

Class participation	10%
Coursework essay	40%
Exam	50%

Lecturer

Dr. Bede Scott
HSS-03-60
btscott@ntu.edu.sg

Week	Topics	Readings
1 11 Aug	Introduction	
2 18 Aug	Slavery and Empire I	Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis, <i>Dom Casmurro</i>
3 25 Aug	Slavery and Empire II	Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis, <i>Dom Casmurro</i>
4 1 Sept	Fictional Realities	Jorge Luis Borges, 'The Garden of Forking Paths,' 'Pierre Menard, Author of the <i>Quixote</i> ,' 'The Aleph'
5 8 Sept	Magical Realism I	Gabriel García Márquez, <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
6 15 Sept	Magical Realism II	Gabriel García Márquez, <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
7 22 Sept	Postcolonial Histories I	Juan Gabriel Vásquez, <i>The Secret History of Costaguana</i>
8	Recess	
9 6 Oct	Postcolonial Histories II	Juan Gabriel Vásquez, <i>The Secret History of Costaguana</i>
10 13 Oct	Violence and the City	FILM: <i>City of God</i>
11 20 Oct	The Dictator Novel I	Junot Díaz, <i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>
12 27 Oct	The Dictator Novel II	Junot Díaz, <i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>
13 3 Nov	Conclusion/Revision	