

Department of Language & Culture Studies

Fall 2019

LLIT: 0310.001 - Analyzing Almodóvar



Course Description:

Analyzing Almodóvar is a course in English dedicated to an in-depth analysis of the films of Pedro Almodóvar from both a national and global perspective. Pedro Almodóvar is often lauded as the filmic icon of a “new” Spain that was praised for being more *open* and *inclusive* during the Spanish Transition from dictatorship to democracy. His body of work spans decades of political and social change and has been both vehemently praised and critiqued for his controversial material and unique point of view. This course will analyze a selection of his work paired with readings that thematize the subject matter presented that given week.

Course Objectives/Goals:

Although this is a content-based course, the ultimate goal of the course is to gain a better understanding of theoretical film analysis as seen through the context of both contemporary Spain as well as the intersectional realities of gender and nationhood. By analyzing Almodóvar’s films within its temporal context, students will gain valuable references in contemporary Peninsular Studies. Conversely, an out of context analysis will permit more interdisciplinary approaches to the subject matter; helping students to think critically about philosophical and theoretical debates they face in their daily lives. Students will learn to critically analyze film as a medium of cultural production and/or replication as well.

Required Texts

There are NO required course materials for the class; all the readings and films will be streamed/downloaded from our Plato page. The **films that we will be viewing include:**

Pepi, Luci, Bom and Other Average Girls (1980)

Labyrinth of Passion (1982)

Matador (1986)

Law of Desire (1987)

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (1988)

Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down! (1990)

Kika (1993)

Live Flesh (1996)

All About My Mother (1999)

Talk to Her (2002)

Bad Education (2004)

Volver (2006)

Broken Embraces (2009)

The Skin I Live In (2011)

Instructor Information

Christina Beaubien

Adjunct Faculty

cbeaubien@westfield.ma.edu

Office: Mod Hall 104-G

Course Information

LLIT 0310.001: Seminar in
Hispanic Studies - Analyzing
Almodóvar (asynchronous
ONLINE)

Core Requirement(s):
**-Literary/Philosophical
Analysis**
-Global Diversity