

SPA 336: Selected Topics in Spanish-American Literature

Fall 2021

Day/Time: Mondays, 5:30-8:20pm
Location: STV 202
Professor: Bruce Burningham (burningham@ilstu.edu)

Stage, Page, and Protest: Theater and Performance in Contemporary Latin America



El hombre de paja by Fanny Buitrago. Co-Directed by Maya Soto and Dalia Jimena Velasco. Festival de Dramaturgia Femenina FEDRA, Cali, Colombia, 2020. Photo: Leonardo Linares.

This course will trace the major developments in Latin American and Latinx theater and performance from the early 20th century to the present, with a particular emphasis on women playwrights. Discussion topics will include: ideology and the dramatization of national history; the role of existentialism in postwar Latin American thought; the staging of US/Latin American relations during the Cold War; theater as a vehicle for social protest; street theater and political activism; gender, sexuality, and ethnicity; solo performance; etc. Readings will include works by Isidora Aguirre, Augusto Boal, Fanny Buitrago, Jorge Díaz, Ariel Dorfman, Griselda Gambaro, Luisa Josefina Hernández, Ana Istarú, Teresa Marichal, Dolores Prida, Antonio Skármeta, José Triana, Luis Valdez, and Egon Wolff (among others).

This course will be taught in Spanish.