



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

SPAN 309: SALAMANDERS AND GRAFFITI – JULIO CORTÁZAR'S FANTASTIC NIGHTMARES

This seminar studies a selection of works by expatriate Argentine writer Julio Cortázar (1914-84) in the context of the Latin American new-narrative “boom” and fantastical literature. Emphasis will be placed on attention to noir-like detail, plot turns, and the tension between reality (verisimilitude) and fantasy (or nightmare). How is it possible that a man can read a novel about his own murder? Why does a traffic accident lead to an Aztec ritual sacrifice? For whom does an epistolary exchange forestall the inevitable? In entering into dialogue with existing critical perspectives, we will develop our own sensibility to Cortázar’s work on the centenary of his birth. Cortázar’s work was often inspired by classical mythology, musicians, artists and filmmakers such as Homer, Euripides, Titian, Charlie Parker, Tàpies and Godard. We will examine their works as well.



SPAN 309

Winter 2015

T, Th 11:30—12:50

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: See

<http://bit.ly/1MctghL>

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Course Taught in Spanish



SPANISH & PORTUGUESE STUDIES
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