

Cuéntame un cuento: Latin American Folk Tales and Short Stories

A two day workshop for educators
April 2-3, 2012 / 8:00am- 5:00pm
Bunche Hall 10383

Abstract: “Cuéntame un Cuento: Latin American Folk Tales and Short Stories” is a 2-day workshop that will feature short stories and folk tales from Mexico and Central America as well as some of the prominent authors from that region. Participants will be led by academic experts that will present methods to stimulate student interest in the culture, history, and literature of the region. Participants will receive 1 LAUSD salary point upon completion of a final project*.

Description: Incorporating Latin American literature is an effective way to develop students’ knowledge about the world around them. Short stories have always played an important role in the academia, reflecting important cultural and historical traits distinctive to Latin America. The form is widely practiced by Latin American writers who often have devoted their entire careers to it and the form is greatly appreciated by critics and readers alike.
The workshop will introduce strategies to teach about the region by exploring short stories and oral traditions that will help illustrate the history and culture found in Mexico and Central America. Participants will be introduced to selected Latin American short stories and authors from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Panama, to stimulate student interest in the culture, history, and geography of the region and to also bolster understanding of cultural concepts and historical events.

In addition to the rich themes presented in this workshop, participants will be provided with curriculum development sessions to enhance curriculum materials and develop their lesson plans that will help improve students’ literacy skills while understanding the historical and literary richness of the region.

ELIGIBILITY Open to K-12 educators. Readings and course materials TBA
Enrolled participants will have direct access to the readings and course materials online.

*After successfully attending and completing the assignments provided, participants will receive 1 LAUSD salary point credits.

A note about accreditation: In this workshop, K-12 educators participate in a selected cohort led by leading scholars in the humanities, and social sciences; thus educators will be reconnected to the world of scholarship. During the workshop, participants are expected to be actively involved and immerse themselves in scholarly topics presented in this workshop. As a result, teachers are required to complete a curriculum development project that incorporates learned material into standards-based lesson plans centered on the workshop's themes.
Workshop Schedule
*Subject to change at the discretion of the Instructors
Enrolled participants will have direct access to the readings and course materials online

Required pre-institute reading: TBA

Monday, April 2, 2012
8:00-9:00  Introductions, greetings, and debrief from pre-institute reading
9:00-10:00 1st presentation: “Folk Narrative and Characters as Cultural Memory”
            Ysamur Flores, OTIS College
10:00-10:15 Break
10:15-11:15 2nd presentation “Malintzin of the maquilas” by Carlos Fuentes
            Maarten Van Delden (Prof. & Chair UCLA Spanish & Portuguese Department)
11:15-noon Curriculum session- discussion of 2nd presentation- where and how we can incorporate this information to our students?
            Ysamur Flores
Noon-1:00  Lunch
1:00-2:30  Film and discussion: Anacy's gift
            Ysamur Flores
2:30-2:45 Break
2:45- 4:45 Curriculum session-Lesson application
            Ami Szerence, Curriculum Instructor

Tuesday, April 3, 2012
8:00-9:00  Debrief homework reading
9:00-10:00 3rd Presentation: “Contemporary Maya Writers: Facing Notions of Tradition and Authorship”
            Gloria Chacon, UCLA Library
10:00-10:15 Break
10:15-11:15  
**4rd Presentation:** “From Asturias to Ak’abal: Rethinking indianidad in Contemporary Guatemala”  
*Rita Palacios, California State University Long Beach*

11:15-12:00  
Curriculum Session- Discussion of 4th presentation  
*Gloria Chacon*

12:00-1:00  
Lunch

1:00-2:00  
**5th presentation:** “Short Stories from El Salvador: Diversity, Difference, and the Construction of the Nation”  
*Beatriz Cortez, California State University Northridge*

2:00-2:15  
Break

2:15-2:45  
Curriculum session: Discussion of 5th presentation and summary of the day’s presentations.  
*Gloria Chacon*

2:45-4:45  
Curriculum Session: Lesson idea sharing and application  
*Ami Szerence*

4:45-5:00  
Evaluations