Biography/History

The essays in this collection represent the final research projects from six undergraduate students enrolled in Honors 181: ‘The Theory and Practice of Inter-American Literature.’ They met Spring 2002, under the direction of Professor Earl E. Fitz, the Director of Vanderbilt’s Program in Comparative Literature.

Students enrolled in this class were: Carol O. Carrillo, Jonathan M. Davis, Owen G. Haaga, Laura E. Montague, and Adam G. Pugh.

This course reflects part of a very fast growing new field, consisted of readings and discussion of issues, theme, and problems germane to Inter-American Studies. Part of the course dealt with the theoretical and methodological issues involved in seeking to compare and contrast the literature of North, Central, and South America. Recurring themes were race relations, the importance of Native American traditions, attitudes and political influence that tie the Americas together, and question relating to identity, in all its multiform New World Aspects.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains six essays organized alphabetically, by student name. Full text of the essays are available on-line.

Essays

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Davis, J. Michael
An American Reflection: The Similitude in Steinbeck’s The Grapes of Wrath and Marquez’s One Hundred Years of Solitude

Haaga, Owen
Las Palmeras Salvajes and the Wild Palms
Hart, Joel A.
Eternal Struggles: The Role of Conflict in Inter-American Literature

Montague, Laura
The Woman’s Role in One Hundred Years of Solitude, Dom Casmurro, and Surfacing

Pugh, Adam
Order Versus Chaos: Comparing the Literary Essences of Issac Asimov and Jorge Luis Borges
THEORY AND PRACTICE
OF
INTER-AMERICAN LITERATURE

Special Collections and University Archives
Jean and Alexander Heard Library
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee