

Spring 2023 Affordable Learning Implementation Grant Report

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Background

I was awarded an Affordable Learning Implementation Grant for my SPAN 314 Latin American Culture course, which I taught to a class of 13 students this Spring. Previously, I had used the textbook *Tradición y cambio* (McGraw Hill), last published in 2005. SPAN 314 covers a variety of multidisciplinary and historical topics related to the cultures and civilizations of Latin America from pre-Columbian times to present day. We explored trends and issues in areas such as religion, education, ethnicity, race, identity, social stratification, and economic development. As the instructor, my main challenge was to provide up-to-date, inclusive and diverse materials for the students. Thanks to the Affordable Learning Implementation Grant, I was able to transform the course and save my students money on textbook costs while also helping my department save on copies budget. This implementation helps me to improve my instructional knowledge and pedagogy.

OER and licensed materials used in SPAN 314:

Books and Chapters

1. *Encyclopedia of pre-colonial Latin America: (prehistory to 1550s)* / J. Michael Francis, https://searchcredreferencecom.ezp.scranton.edu/content/title/fofplaps?institutionId=4138&tab=entry_view&entry_id=27955852
2. Excerpts from *Las venas abiertas de Latinoamérica*/ Eduardo Galeano. <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezp.scranton.edu/lib/scrantonebooks/detail.action?docID=3193252>
3. Excerpts from *Nuestra América*/ José Martí <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezp.scranton.edu/lib/scrantonebooks/reader.action?docID=3430398>
4. Excerpts from *Dinámicas de inclusión y exclusión en América Latina* <https://www-digitaliapublishing-com.ezp.scranton.edu/a/56777/>
5. Excerpts from *The Book of Salsa* <https://muse-jhuedu.ezp.scranton.edu/book/19239/>
6. Excerpts from *Cumbia!* <https://muse-jhuedu.ezp.scranton.edu/pub/4/monograph/chapter/956307>

Movies (students must watch 10 movies from the following selection)

7. *La edad de la peseta* (The Silly Age) (2006, Cuba): DVD + Streaming – Digitalia Film Library <https://www.digitaliafilmlibrary.com/>
8. *Fresa y Chocolate* (1993, Cuba): DVD
9. *Juan de los Muertos* (2013, Cuba): DVD
10. *Miel para Oshún* (Honey for Oshun) (2001, Cuba): DVD + Streaming – Digitalia Film Library <https://www.digitaliafilmlibrary.com/>
11. *Before the Night Falls* (2000, Cuba): DVD
12. *Flores de otro mundo* (Rep. Dominicana, España, 1999): DVD
13. *Nise: Heart of Madness* DVD + free on tubi.tv with ads.
14. *La ciudad de Dios- Cidade de Deus* (2002): DVD + Swank Digital Campus <https://digitalcampus.swankmp.net/scranton299197/watch/C51B1BF22D837DE9>

15. *Bus 174* (Documental, 2002): DVD
16. *Uma noite em 67* (2010): DVD
17. *Black Orpheus* (1959): DVD + Streaming – Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/en/scranton/video/127172>
18. *The Second Mother* (2018) DVD + Streaming - Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/en/scranton/video/241383>
19. *La teta asustada* (Perú, 2012): DVD + Media Hosting Service <https://ezp.scranton.edu/login?url=https://video.alexanderstreet.com/p/pZ9NVIDpm>
20. *Pelo malo* (Venezuela, 2013): Streaming – Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/en/scranton/video/144595>
21. *Los colores de la montaña* (Colombia, 2011): DVD + Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/en/scranton/video/132274>
22. *Los viajes del viento* (Colombia, 2010): DVD + Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/en/scranton/video/132296>
23. *Karen llora en el bus* (Colombia, 2011): DVD + Films on Demand <https://ezp.scranton.edu/login?url=https://fod.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=237451&xtid=145148>
24. *Ya no estoy aquí* (2018, México): Netflix only
25. *Who is Dayani Cristal* (2013, Documental, Netflix) DVD + Academic Video Online: Premium <https://ezp.scranton.edu/login?url=https://video.alexanderstreet.com/p/pZ94xzZBm>
26. *El General* (2009, México): DVD + Docuseek2 <https://docuseek2.com/v/a/jwZ6/1/0/0>
27. *Coyote* (Guatemala, Documental): DVD
28. *La Yuma* (Nicaragua): DVD + Kanopy

Other resorces used in class:

29. *Black in Latin America* / a production of Inkwell Films, Wall to Wall Media LTD and Thirteen in association with WNET.org ; written by Henry Louis Gates Jr. ; series producer, Ricardo Pollack. DVD or VHS | PBS Distribution | 2011
30. *Multiple online Latin-American newspapers*
31. Six episodes from two podcast: *La brega* <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/974836637/la-brega> and *Radio ambulante* <https://radioambulante.org/episodios>
32. YouTube videos

Student engagement with OER and licensed materials used in SPAN 314:

As part of their class requirements, students must create a cultural portfolio that includes a self-reflection on the course content, their learning process, the challenges they faced during the semester, and the course materials. In their self-reflections, all thirteen students expressed their excitement about the class materials. They also remarked on the diversity of topics, updated readings and podcasts, and varied teaching materials such as movies, podcasts, videos, academic essays, and chapters. Students also expressed in their self-reflections and in different opportunities during the semester that they were highly satisfied with the ease of access to the materials. In terms of the student learning outcomes, this semester has had a significant positive change to student learning outcomes compared to previous semesters.

Future OER Plans

I teach SPAN 314 every Spring and plan to use the same materials as this semester. However, for my Fall courses, SPAN 320 Introduction to Hispanic Literature and SPAN 313 Spanish Culture and Civilization, I aim to reduce costs by incorporating OER and library-licensed materials.

General Feedback

As indicated previously, my experience teaching a course exclusively using OER and library-licensed materials was very positive about the savings and access they provide. Revising the course and its materials was an essential experience informing my instructional knowledge and methods. I will continue using these materials in my SPAN 314 class each Summer, and I plan to revise my Fall courses, SPAN 320 and 313, to incorporate OER and library-licensed materials.