

# TEACHING WITH RADIO AMBULANTE

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## What is Radio Ambulante?

Created in 2011, Radio Ambulante is a Spanish-language podcast showcasing compelling stories from around Latin America and the United States.

## How do I listen to it?

[Click here!](#)

## Who is using it in the classroom?

We have heard from teachers at the high school, college, and graduate levels and each has found a different and meaningful use for RA's stories with their students

## How can I find out more? JOIN US!!!

Sign up here: <https://radioambulanteintheclassroom.instagram.com/>

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## How can I use these amazing stories with my students?

RA's audio is challenging for our students, and we must carefully scaffold our listening activities in order that they may gain the most benefit from the experience. What follows are general guidelines, suggestions. Have other suggestions? Let me know!

### *Pre listening Activities*

Find images, songs and/or short readings to frame the context of the story. Share new vocabulary and encourage brainstorming about story content. Introduce narrator(s) and general arc of the story.

### *During Listening*

Don't be afraid to assign small chunks of audio vs entire recording. Encourage students to keep listening journals as a way to chronicle what strategies worked, didn't work, questions, etc to bring to class and discuss. Experiment with the use of the transcript in class as a way to build students' confidence in their abilities. Sometimes drawing or mapping a story promotes new ways of listening.



## Suggested Readings

Vandergrift, Larry, *The Cinderella of Communication Strategies: Reception Strategies in Interactive Listening*, Modern Language Journal, Vol 81, No 4. Winter 1997 (p494-506)

Alm, Antoine (2013) *Extensive Listening 2.0 with Foreign language podcasts*, Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching, 7:3, 266-280

## Partnerships with..



The New York Times Magazine

....and radio stations around the world!

## Post Listening

Radio Ambulante’s storytelling is compelling. Listeners will want to respond to the stories and discuss them further. Encourage your students to choose segments or characters that intrigued them and explain why. Think about parallels to other countries, histories and people. Think about the parallels between these stories and our own lives.

## Ideas for augmenting your existing lesson plans with Radio Ambulante:

If you are currently using a textbook with your students and would like ideas on how to augment the (perhaps challenging?) themes or topics with Radio Ambulante, here are some possibly connections and suggestions:

Chapter Theme	Episodes (not an exhaustive list!)
“Revolutions” and Politics	El equipo fantasma, El fotografo, #RenunciaYa, La importancia de llamarse Ernesto, La intérprete, El exilio de Manuel Zelaya, La sentencia, Los 43 +11....
Relationships	En busca de las palabras, Yadira, Javier y Lucía, Outsiders: Una neblina tropical,
Social Media	#RenunciaYa, Correa vs Crudo
Death and Dying	Saltar el muro, N.N.,
Machismo	El plan, La concursante
Immigration	Los polizones, La Balada de Daniel D. Portado, Todos vuelven, Caminata nocturna, Un mundo ideal, El coyote, Los huérfanos,
Human Rights	El equipo fantasma, El fotógrafo, La fuga del Cabildo

**NEW! Click on the “DESCUBRIR EPISODIOS” link to find stories!!**

