How do we read today, after the so-called death of reading (or of literature, or of the book)? Taking as its point of departure Paul de Man’s argument that “the existence of a particularly rich aberrant tradition […] is […] no accident, but a constitutive part of all literature, the basis, in fact, of literary history,” this seminar explores the errors and blind spots constitutive not only of literature, but also of ethics and politics. In this course, intended for graduate students of Spanish and Latin American Studies, Comparative Literature, or other related Humanities disciplines, we will engage and wrestle with motifs of blindness and insight, misunderstanding and untranslatability, error and equivocation, in order to propose a mode of reading that would take into account the blind spots that reside at the heart of the literary tradition and that traverse, dangerously and exhilaratingly, the realms of ethics and politics, or a literary politics, that would not be grounded in ideological intelligibility. The texts that we interpret will largely hail from the terrain of Latin American literature, film, and performance art (Aira, Bolaño, Borges, Carri, Internacional Errorista, Martel, Piglia, Vargas Llosa), philosophy (del Barco, Dussel, Kaufman, Tatián), and criticism (Dove, Draper, Franco, González Echevarría, Moreiras, Rodríguez Monegal, Sommer), but will be in constant, urgent conversation with works of continental philosophy and political theory (Apter, Benjamin, Cassin, de Man, Derrida, Levinas, Lezra). Readings and class discussion will be in Spanish and English, depending upon the background of the students enrolled. As is typical of a graduate-level seminar, rigorous in-class and online participation will be expected of everyone.