

Center for  
Latin American,  
Caribbean & Latino  
Studies  
{CLACLS}

Spring 2010  
Course Description Guide

Thompson Hall 522  
UMass-Amherst  
las@econs.umass.edu

## **AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES**

### **AfroAm 297G - Introduction to African Diasporan Studies**

**Instructor: Kym Morrison** (kymorris@afroam.umass.edu)

T/Th, 11:15-12:30

Spire#: 54843

This course considers some of the questions provoked by African and African diasporan experiences. For example, is an African diaspora an objective reality or has it existed solely in response to American and European notions of racial difference? What have been the characteristics encompassed by that reality or those notions of race? Course materials will allow students to survey the lasting contributions of Africans and their descendants to the development of various world civilizations and examine historical relationships between the individual actors and larger ideological forces

### **AfroAm 397C - Black Experiences with Modern Imperialism**

**Instructor: Kym Morrison** (kymorris@afroam.umass.edu)

Wednesday, 6:00-8:30

Spire#: 54846

This undergraduate seminar encourages students to explore the varied experiences of African and African-descended peoples with imperialism. Historical perspectives on the issues of collaboration, victimization, and resistance will be considered for Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

### **AfroAm 697C – Black Politics in the Americas**

**Instructor: John Bracey** (no email; phone: 413-545-5160)

Tuesday, 7-9:30pm

Spire#: 58530

No description available at this time.

## **ANTHROPOLOGY**

### **Anthro 697GS – Slavery & Gender in the Americas**

**Instructor: Whitney Battle-Baptiste** (wbbaptiste@anthro.umass.edu)

Tuesday, 9:30am-12:30pm

Spire#: 57149

Description not available, but course is focused on Brazil, Spanish/English speaking Caribbean as well as the US.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **COMM 397I - Culture and Social Identity**

**Instructor: Benjamin Bailey** ([bbailey@comm.umass.edu](mailto:bbailey@comm.umass.edu))

T/Th, 11:15-12:30pm

Spire#: 51635

In this course we will explore ways in which a) everyday communicative practices and culture are intertwined, and b) the multiple ways in which social identities (particularly race/ ethnicity, but also gender) are both reflected and reconstituted through communicative practices. We will particularly emphasize the ways in which our cultural backgrounds channel our interpretations of communicative practices, and the ways in which historical relationships of inequality in the US shape the communicative practices and social identities of various groups. (Course capacity is 43)

Course Eligibility: Jr/Sr COMM majors [but will let in CLACLS Certificate students]

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 25-30%

## **ECONOMICS**

### **ECON 765 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Instructor: Jim Boyce** ([boyce@econs.umass.edu](mailto:boyce@econs.umass.edu))

MW, 9:30-10:45

Spire#: 51783

PART OF THE 2-COURSE SEQUENCE IN DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMICS GRADUATE PROGRAM. TOPICS INCLUDE DISTRIBUTION & GROWTH, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, THE ROLE OF THE STATE, AND CONFLICT.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 30

## **EDUCATION**

### **Educ 611 – Testing, Assessment & Evaluation: Bilingual/ESL Education**

**Instructor: Teresa Austin** ([taustin@educ.umass.edu](mailto:taustin@educ.umass.edu))

Thursday, 4-6:30pm

Spire#: 58418

This course is designed as an introduction to the field of testing, assessment and evaluation in second language education (bilingual, foreign language, and ESL settings).

## **Educ 791C – Learning and Teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> Languages**

**Instructor: Laura Valdiviezo** (lav@educ.umass.edu)

Tuesday, 7-9:30pm

Spire#: 58419

The Seminar on Learning and Teaching Second Languages and Literacies is one of a series of doctoral level seminars offered by the Language, Literacy and Culture Doctoral area on contemporary issues in language, literacy and culture in education. The purpose of this course is to support doctoral students interested in exploring theoretical and practical aspects of second language literacy, teachers, professional development, and school change from a sociocultural perspective.

## **ENGLISH**

### **English 891 - Romanticism & The New World: Transatlantic Reorientations**

**Instructor: Joselyn Almeida-Beveridge** (almeidab@english.umass.edu)

Tuesday, 1-3:30

Spire#: 57402

The commanding image of Cortez at the end Keat's "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer" has become an iconic one for Romanticism. Yet Keats allusion to Cortez was part of a larger group of writers used the story of the conquest of the New World and the enslavement of Africans to respond to the dilemmas of empire for Britain in the Atlantic world after 1776 —slavery, abolition, and the fact that Spain still had colonies while England had none. From Helen Maria William's epic /Peru (1784)/, which chronicles the Inca's tragic entrapment and demise at the hands of Pizarro, to /Madoc/ (1805), in which Robert Southey retells the "discovery" of the new world by a Welsh prince instead of Columbus, Romantic era writers reimagine imperial horizons for Britain even as they as they question the premises of European power in the western hemisphere.

In this course, we will analyze how Romantic era representations of the New World extend received ideas of the orientation of transatlantic literature as exclusively Anglo-American. In addition to the epic poems of Williams, Southey, and Montgomery, we will read essays, journals, travel writing, and poetry by more canonical writers such as William Blake, Ottobah Cugoano, Anna Barbauld, Alexander Von Humboldt, Monk Lewis, William Wordsworth, and John Keats to analyze how themes of imperialism, enslavement and liberation formed part of the Romantic aesthetic. Class discussion will incorporate the theoretical approaches of Mary Louise Pratt, Peter Hulme, Srinivas Aravamudan, Nanora Sweet, Paul Gilroy, Joseph Roach, Benedict Anderson, Nigel Leask, Tzvetan Todorov, Lance Newman, and Paul Giles among others. Requirements: in-class presentations, article-length paper.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 50%

Joselyn Almeida-Beveridge is Assistant Professor of Romanticism and Atlantic Studies at the Department of English, UMass Amherst. She is the editor of a collection of essays

entitled *Romanticism and the Anglo-Hispanic Imaginary* (Amsterdam: Rodopi, forthcoming), and is currently finishing her monograph "Reimagining the Transatlantic, 1780-1890" under contract with Ashgate press. Her work on Romanticism and Latin America has appeared in journals such as the *Wordsworth Circle* and the *European Romantic Review*, *Literature Compass*, the Romantic Circles Praxis series collection edited by Lance Newman and Joel Pace titled *Sullen Fires Across the Atlantic*, and other edited collections. Her research and teaching interests include British Romanticism and globalization, Atlantic studies, women and slavery, representations of piracy and mutiny, and Latino Literature.

## **HISTORY**

### **HIST 120 - Latin American Civilization: Colonial Period**

**Instructor: Jane Rausch** ([jrausch@history.umass.edu](mailto:jrausch@history.umass.edu))

M/W, 1220-110PM; F, discussions

Spire#: 55769

General view of the cultural, economic, and political development of Latin America, 1492 to 1824. Topics include the Iberian and Indian backgrounds; Spanish and Portuguese imperial organization; role of Indians, Blacks, and Europeans in the New World; the coming of independence. (Gen.Ed. HS, G)

### **HIST 121 - Latin American Civilization: National Period**

**Instructor: Joel Wolfe** ([jwolfe@history.umass.edu](mailto:jwolfe@history.umass.edu))

MW, 9:05-9:55am; Th, discussions

Spire#: 55773

A survey of the political, economic, and cultural development of Latin America from 1824 to the present. Emphasis on Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Cuba and Colombia. Topics include case studies of 19th-century caudillos, social and economic change, abolition of slavery, positivism and cultural nationalism, 20th-century revolutions, and Latin American-U.S. relations.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 100%

### **HIST 394DH - Dictators in Spanish America**

**Instructor: Jane Rausch** ([jrausch@history.umass.edu](mailto:jrausch@history.umass.edu))

MWF, 10:10-11:00am

Spire#: 55864

From Simón Bolívar to Hugo Chávez dictators have occupied prominent positions in the governments of Spanish American republics. The aim of this course is to give students training in research and writing around the unitary theme of this political phenomenon. The work will include discussion of articles and two paperback books examining

theories of authoritarian rule, heroes and hero cults in Spanish America. Emphasis will be placed on evaluating historical literature, organizing ideas, preparing papers and presenting oral reports. Honors Seminar.

Requirements: will include several shorter reviews and a ten-page research paper due some weeks before the end of the semester.

### **HIST 394E – Inter-American Relations**

**Instructor:** Joel Wolfe ([jwolfe@history.umass.edu](mailto:jwolfe@history.umass.edu))

M/F 11:15-12:05pm; W, discussions

Spire#: 57246

This class explores the long and contentious relationships between the United States and the Latin American nations. It focuses on the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, analyzing the Spanish-American war, upheaval in Central America in the 1920s, the place of Cuba within the growing informal U.S. empire, trade relations with the South American nations, the impact of the Cold War on the hemisphere, the role of the CIA in destabilizing and overthrowing popularly elected government, and the U.S. as both a supporter and opponent of Human Rights and democracy under various late twentieth-century presidents. We analyze these events through the lenses of political, economic, social, and cultural history.

\*Open to Soph, Jrs, and Srs only

## **LATIN-AMERICAN STUDIES**

### **LATIN-AM 398A: Practicum ~ Holyoke Tutorial**

**Course Instructor:** Gloria Bernabe-Ramos ([gbr@cas.umass.edu](mailto:gbr@cas.umass.edu))

Spire#: 51895

Working with Elementary and Middle School students in the Holyoke school system in an after-school program; students will be involved in language arts and other activities.

\*Department Consent Required

\*\*Same as: SPAN 398A, spire#: 56793

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE**

### **Political Science 340 – Latin American Politics**

**Instructor:** Sonia E. Alvarez ([soniaa@polsci.umass.edu](mailto:soniaa@polsci.umass.edu))

T/Th, 2-3:15pm

Spire#: 57405

This course asks what we can learn about politics and the political by analyzing Latin America and, in turn, what we can learn about Latin America if we focus on its politics.

Special attention will be given to the interplay of culture and politics, shifting discourses and strategies of domination, and social movements and strategies of resistance among workers, peasants, women, indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples, and other subaltern social groups and classes.

Topics for 2010 include: The Return of the Dictators? the 2009 Honduras coup; Historic Handshake? Obama and Chávez; Poverty and Inequality: The Politics of Marginalization, Inclusion and Exclusion in Argentina; Nationalism, Ethnopolitics and the Politics of Race in Brazil, Mexico, and the Andes; Revolution, Reform and Reaction: Comparative Insights from 20th and 21st Century Cuba, Chile, and Venezuela; National Security versus Human Rights? Contemporary Lessons from Late 20th Century Latin America; and, Beyond Neoliberalism? Another América is Possible.

Course Requirements: Two 4-7 pp analytical papers, drawing on required and recommended readings; “contract” take-home final examination; brief question(s) on required readings due every class session (you may miss up to four during the semester); mandatory class attendance (you may not miss more than four class sessions). Grading: 25 percent on each analytical essay, 20 percent final exam, 30 percent reading responses, class participation and attendance.

### **Political Science 777 - Latin American Politics**

**Instructor: Sonia E. Alvarez** (soniaa@polsci.umass.edu)

Thursday, 5-7:30pm

Spire#: 57433

#### Course Description:

Interdisciplinary analysis of core issues and contemporary problems in Latin American politics. Special attention to cultural politics, social movements, and class, race, gender and other vectors of power and identity. Theme for Spring 2010: Postneoliberalism? Political Contentions and Latin America’s Left Turn.

Topics covered in 2010 include the Latin American Left B.C. (Before Cuba); ‘Cuba at 51’; After Cuba: Guerrillas and ‘Gorilas’ in the 1960s through 1980s; Utopia Unarmed?; The War of Position: The PT’s Reinvention of Socialist Struggle; The Zapatista Interruption and the Color of the Left; Feminism and Revolutionary Struggles; and Anti-Neoliberal Contentions and the Return of the National-Popular.

Course Requirements: Student participation, which will count for as much as half of the grade for the course, will be assessed on the basis of: 1) weekly one-page critical responses to required seminar readings; 2) organization and facilitation of seminar discussion *at least* twice during the semester; and 3) discussion questions and synopses of the required readings for the seminar session s/he facilitates. Students may choose one of the following three ways to fulfill the writing requirement for this seminar: 1) write a research paper of approximately 20-25 pp. on a topic related to a major theme of the course; 2) submit two 7-10 pp. analytical essays on any course topic, based on required

readings; or 3) develop a 10-15 pp. research prospectus/grant proposal and 5-10 pp. annotated bibliography related to their intended dissertation research.

## **PORTUGUESE**

### **Port 408 - Brazil in Film & Fiction**

**Instructor: Daphne Patai** ([daphne.patai@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:daphne.patai@spanport.umass.edu))

T/Th, 4 - 6:30pm

Spire#: 58363

Course in English; films have English subtitles.

Course Objectives: 1) to explore Brazil's past and present by focusing on how filmmakers and writers represent a number of important themes: contact between Europeans and native Brazilians; slavery and the resistance to it; religious beliefs; sexuality; life in the backlands; urban problems; the dictatorship and its aftermath; music and art; 2) to study what happens when literary works are turned into films (for this purpose we will read some short Brazilian fiction); 3) to develop analytical skills and writing abilities.

Films will be shown once a week, in class (usually on Tuesdays). Since the class is scheduled for a two-and-a-half-hour (150-minute) session twice a week, and most of the films are not longer than 100 minutes, reports, discussions, and lectures will usually take place on both Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Requirements: No prerequisites. attendance and participation; oral reports in class; unannounced frequent quizzes and short writing assignments in class. Mid-term and final. Three short papers.

Materials: Articles and short fiction on SPARK. Feature films by major Brazilian directors and some documentaries. DVDs on media reserve in the library.

Latin American content: 100%  
(gen ed credits ALG)

## **SOCIOLOGY**

### **Sociology 329 - Social Movements (Honors Seminar)**

**Instructor: Millie Thayer** ([thayer@soc.umass.edu](mailto:thayer@soc.umass.edu))

MWF, 10:10-11:00

Spire#: n/a

This community service learning honors seminar looks at the intersection between globalization and social movements, through case studies of social movements around issues such as Third World debt, free trade, sweatshops, violence against women,

reproductive rights, and the environment. Examples will be drawn from Latin America as well as other regions. Students will do an internship with a local social movement for three hours/week and write a final paper based on their fieldnotes and library research.

Organization: Lecture, discussion, seminar, and community service components.

Requirements: A 100-level or 200-level Sociology course.

### **Sociology 340 – Race Relations**

**Instructor:** Augustin Lao-Montes ([lao@soc.umass.edu](mailto:lao@soc.umass.edu))

MWF, 1:25-2:15pm

Spire#: 52241

A social-historical approach to race relations in the U.S. Analysis of contemporary race relations links to major social issues in American society. (Gen.Ed. SB, U)

Prerequisite: A 100-level or 200-level Sociology course.

### **Soc 728 - Social Movements**

**Instructor:** Millie Thayer ([thayer@soc.umass.edu](mailto:thayer@soc.umass.edu))

Wednesday, 4-6:30 pm, Machmer W-32

Spire#: 57045

This class will give students an overview of the theoretical frameworks developed to understand social movements, beginning with the body of sociological theory whose main concern has been the whys and hows of social movements. From there, we will move on to explore the “cultural turn” reflected in contemporary research on the role of discourses, identities, frames, and emotions in social movements, as well as on the ways movements are shaped by the social and cultural universes in which they operate. And finally we will consider the effects of global political and discursive economies on social movements, and the construction of transnational counterpublics around different issues and experiences. The last session of the course will give you a glimpse of some of the current debates about the relationships between identity politics, struggles for economic, environmental, and social justice, and radical democracy. The readings are based on a wide spectrum of empirical cases from around the world, including Latin America.

## **SPANISH**

### **Span 322: Intro to Spanish American Literature**

**Course Instructor:** Emma Rivera-Rabago ([rivera@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:rivera@spanport.umass.edu))

M/W/F, 10:10-11am

Spire#: 56786

Introduction to the literature of Spanish America from the beginnings to the end of the Romantic period. Emphasis on literary currents and their relation to history and culture of

the period. Representative poetry, narrative, drama. Prerequisite: SPANISH 311 or consent of instructor. (Gen.Ed. AL, G)

**Span 323: Intro to Spanish American Literature II**

**Course Instructor: Emma Rivera-Rabago** ([rivera@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:rivera@spanport.umass.edu))

T/Th 9:30-10:45AM

Spire#: 56777

T/Th 11:15AM-12:30PM

Spire#: 56802

Introduction to the literature of Spanish America from the end of the Romantic period to the present. Emphasis on literary currents and their relation to history and culture of the period. Representative poetry, narrative, drama. Prerequisite: SPANISH 311 or consent of instructor. (Gen.Ed. AL, G)

**Span 397C: US Latino Literature & Culture**

**Course Instructor: Alberto Ameal-Perez** ([ajamealp@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:ajamealp@spanport.umass.edu))

MWF, 9:05-9:55AM

Spire#: 57887

A cultural and historical overview with emphasis on the Latinos of the United States since the period of European explorations to the present. The course is a Introduction of the Latino/a culture and literature, with a major focus on Mexican Americans/Chicanos, Puerto Ricans/ Nuyoricans, Cuban Americans, Dominicans Americans and other minorities. Representative works of various genres will be read and analyzed within a cultural context: the personal essay, poetry, the narrative (short story and novel), theatre and film. Topics to be covered: individual and group identity in relationship to race/ethnicity/nationality, social/politic/economic class, gender, etc. Also, the students will be able to discuss and analyze issues of cultural assimilation, multiculturalism, racism, immigration, exile among other issues related to the Latinos of the US. Latino content: 100%. COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH

**Spanish 471 - Linguistic Varieties and Pluralism**

**Course Instructor: Patricia Gubitosi** ([gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu))

T/Th, 1-2:15PM

Spire#: 57640

This course intends to offer the students an introduction to regional and social varieties of Spanish in Spain, Latin America and the U.S., and an overview of situations of language contact and multilingualism affecting Spanish in those areas. Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 75%. COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH

### **Span 497 – LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN WRITER**

**Instructor: Margara Russotto** ([margheri@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:margheri@spanport.umass.edu))

T/Th, 11:15-12:05

Spire#: n/a

This course will focus on a selection of literary works by Latin American women writers of the 20th century, including those within the canon and those that have originated an “alternative” canon, or “contra-canon”. Emphasis will be given to the relationship between women’s writing, their socio-cultural context and fictional thematic. We will also study critical feminist texts in/from Latin America, such as those by Castellanos, Traba, Olivares, Guerra, Calvo, among others. The analysis of works of various genres will focus on recurrent topics. Intensive participation is expected from students: there will be oral presentations, papers reaction, a midterm exam, and a research paper on primary sources. Latin American content: 95%.TAUGHT IN SPANISH. Prerequisite: 319, 322, 323, 417, or consent from the instructor.

### **Span 597 – CARIBBEAN SHORT STORY**

**Instructor: Margara Russotto** ([margheri@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:margheri@spanport.umass.edu))

Thursday, 4:00-6:30pm

Spire#: n/a

This seminar focuses on the works of the masters of the Caribbean Short Story. This genre is the most popular literary genre in Latin America, and it is considered to be ‘protean’ due to its ability to morph into any number of forms. We will read selected representative texts by authors from Venezuela, Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Puerto Rico, among others, in order to identify intersections between the aesthetic movements, the regional history, and the traditional conflicts with the peripheral Modernity. We will spend the first few sessions on the theory of the Short Story. Students will be expected to participate intensively in this seminar: there will be oral presentations, book reviews, a midterm exam, and a research paper on primary sources. The seminar is open to advanced students, graduate and undergraduate. Latin American content: 95%.TAUGHT IN SPANISH. Prerequisites for undergraduates: 319, 322, 323, 417, or consent from the instructor.

### **Span 674 - Bilingualism and Language Contact**

**Course Instructor: Patricia Gubitosi** ([gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu](mailto:gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu))

Thursday, 4-6:30

Spire#: 57643

This course focuses on language contact situations in the Spanish speaking world. Important theoretical problems are addressed by the study of linguistic phenomena in bilingual and multilingual context as well as the role played by the contact language in the motivation of linguistic change processes. The proposed course intends to offer the students an approach to the knowledge of linguistic concepts as applied to the study of the live varieties of the Spanish spoken around the world. Fieldwork and analysis of

live/real discourse are required. Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 75%.  
COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH

**Span 797CA - Cannibalism and Colonialism**

**Instructor: María Soledad Barbón** (mbarbon@spanport.umass.edu)

Wednesday, 5:30-7pm

Spire#: 57889

The question we will address in this course is not so much whether cannibalism as a practice really existed (or still exists), but the fascination this topic has exerted on the European mind and the responses it has provoked among Latin Americans. The purpose of the course is twofold: first, to introduce the student to the study of the textual and iconographic representations of American “cannibalism” from the sixteenth until approximately the eighteenth century: chronicles, literature, legal discourses on the one hand, and map sheets, single drawings, book illustrations, on the other. The second objective will be to discuss the research produced by literary critics, anthropologists and within colonial/postcolonial studies during the last two decades on cannibalism as a trope and as a discursive practice within colonialist discourse. A good reading knowledge of Spanish is required.