

Center for Latin American,
Caribbean and Latino Studies

Spring 2008
Course Description Guide

Thompson Hall 522
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Afro-American

Afro-American 697C: Black Politics in the Americas

81467 Tu 7:00-9:30

Agustín Lao-Montes / John Bracey

Thompson Hall 732 / Afro-American Studies

545-2769

lao@soc.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Component: Seminar

Description: Not available at this time.

Communication

Communication 497WW: Special Topic-Global Cultural Industries

81523 TuTh 4:00-5:15PM

Henry Geddes

Machmer Hall 307B

545-1901

geddes@comm.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This course takes an in-depth look at the economic, technological and symbolic logic of global cultural industries and their implications for worldwide audiences. These industries include film, television, sound recording, publishing, the Internet and tourism. They will be studied within the wider context of 'globalization', governance, digital convergence and social movements. Students will be able to focus on one of the culture industries as a topic of choice.

Course Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Global Communication, Social Impact of the Media, or the equivalent by way of courses like Advertising as Social Communication, Popular Culture, Political Economy of the Media.

Course Eligibility: Senior and Junior Communication majors, or permission from instructor.

Latin American Content: 40%

Communication 691B: Seminar in Media Theories

54122 W 6:30-9:30PM

Henry Geddes

Machmer Hall 307B

545-1901

geddes@comm.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This seminar approaches media theories as socially constructed within specific historical-geographical contexts. Thus, a good deal of attention is given to the development of a comparative framework, and to the way theory parallels both the aspirations and practices associated with modernity, postmodernity and (post)coloniality. We will examine a range of perspectives on mass mediated communication, including critical cultural studies (European-

American as well as 'Other' traditions from Latin America and Asia), 'mainstream American theory' (e.g. two-step flow, uses and gratifications, empiricism, modernization), and theories that address the emergence of 'new media', networks, and subjectivity. Students will write short periodic responses to the readings and present material orally. In addition, students will write two papers (7-12 pages each) responding to two questions (proposed by the student and to be negotiated with the instructor) on the assigned readings and topics.

Prerequisite: Willingness to engage media theory within a comparative framework. (Course capacity is 10)

Course Eligibility: Communication Doctoral & Masters Graduate Students, or permission from instructor

Latin American Content: 40%

Comparative Literature

Comparative Literature 691T: S-Travel and Empire

50537 Tu 1:00-3:30PM

Nerissa Balce

Herter Hall 409

545 0832

nbalce@complit.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: The course examines the cultures of travel (*writing, photography, and filmmaking*) and the tropes of imperialism from British, French and American colonial texts, and contemporary representations. Our course begins with the premise that late 19th century travel narratives and visual culture illuminate the relationship between the violence and the romance of imperial travel. We will trace the origins of travel writing to Europe, when young white males from the English aristocracy were encouraged to embark on their "Grand Tour" of the world. Travel functioned as an ideological formation — a white Englishman learned that there were socially proscribed roles that were expected of a young lord such as the burdens of colonization. In many travel accounts, the language of imperialism, Anglo-Saxon superiority, racism, Orientalism and patriarchy were inscribed in the texts. Some travel writers, however, turned the language of imperialism on its head and exposed the violence of Empire-building. The course includes essays on postcolonial theories on modernity, sexuality, history, class, and racial violence.

Economics

Economics 366: Economic Development

54752 TuTh 9:30-10:45AAM

James Boyce

816 Thompson

545-0915

boyce@econs.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Theories of economic growth applied to Third World countries. Classical and Neoclassical economic theories and structural/historical theories. Topics such as the role of foreign investment and multinational corporations, and strategies of industrialization and employment creation, and rural development.

Prerequisites: ECON 103 or RESECON 102 and ECON 104.

Latin-American content: 35%

Economics 397S: Gender and Economic Development

17700 MW 3:35-4:50PM

Melissa González-Brenes

Thompson Hall 1030

545-2012

mgb@econs.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This course explores the relationship between gender and economic development in less developed countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. We use economic tools to examine the role that gender plays in a range of development issues including poverty, inequalities in education and health, as well as credit, land, and labor markets. We also discuss the implications for public policy, and analyze interventions designed to address these issues.

Prerequisites: One semester of microeconomics.

Education

Education 229: Introduction to International Education

54940 Tu 4:00-6:30PM

Joanie Cohen-Mitchell

Hills House South 404

545-0465

joanie@educ.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to introduce students to the role of culture in education. After exploring the theoretical basis of culture, and its relationship to education, students will be exposed to a range of cultural perspectives from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

English

English 491A - 01 S-Neruda In Translation

55604 M 4:00-6:30PM

Martín Espada

Bartlett Hall

545-6594

mespada@english.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This is an introduction, in English translation, to the man considered by many to be the greatest Latin American poet of the 20th century. The poetry of Neruda is marked by a series of aesthetic and political metamorphoses, and the course is organized around the enormous diversity of the work: the early love poems, surrealism, the political poems brought on by Neruda's experience with the Spanish Civil War, the sweeping historical works best represented by his masterpiece, *The Heights of Macchu Picchu*, the odes, the nature poems, and so on. The life of Neruda was also characterized by dramatic change, likewise charted throughout the course: from his career as a diplomat to his bitter years as a hunted political exile, from his acknowledgment as Nobel Laureate to his illness and death in the wake of the 1973 coup in Chile. Neruda was a witness to history, and special attention will be devoted to that history, particularly in terms of the Spanish Civil War and the Chilean coup. The course will also focus on the process of Translation, and students will be encouraged to compare translations with one another, as well as against the original text. A knowledge of Spanish is helpful, but not required. (Archive description).

History

History 120: Colonial Latin America

50692 TuTh 10:10-11:00AM

José Angel Hernández

Herter Hall 619

545-4337

hernandez@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: The purpose of this course is to survey the history of Colonial Latin America by examining the encounters between Europeans and the Indigenous peoples of the Americas over the course of three centuries. The class will consider the reciprocal effects of this contact with respect to European civilization; three hundred years of contact, conflict, and colonialism. Opposing viewpoints and historiographical debates will set the tone for most of our discussions and a number of themes will guide our semester together: the role of Indigenous peoples, problems with colonization, historiographical interpretations of the past, and the process and problems of nation-building.

Requirements: Final grade will consist of a map quiz, midterm, final, 1 book review, pop quizzes, and class attendance.

History 121: Latin American Civilization: The National Period

50696 MWF 9:05-9:55AM

Joel Wolfe

Herter Hall 708

545-6766

jwolfe@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: 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.

History 121: Latin American Civilization: The National Period

57302 MWF 12:20-1:10 PM

Jane Rausch

Herter Hall 721

545-6763

jrausch@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: 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.

Requirements: Several paperbacks. Regular attendance at discussion sections and at Tuesday evening feature and documentary film series. Two short film critiques. One required and one optional hour exam, and final.

History 355: The Caribbean

50705 MW 10:10-11:00AM

Friday discussions

Jane Rausch

Herter Hall 721

545-6763

jrausch@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: Survey of the history of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico from the fifteenth century to the present. Topics include conquest and settlement, independence and colonialism, North American intervention, twentieth century dictators, and political and social revolution. Comparisons will be drawn between the islands and between the Caribbean zone as a whole and with the rest of Latin America.

Requirements: two hour-exams, final, attendance at evening film series.

Readings: Several paperbacks.

Prerequisites: None, but previous background in Latin American history is helpful.

History 359 - 01: Brazil 1822-1970
57366 MW 11:15AM-12:30PM

Joel Wolfe
Herter Hall 708
545-6766
jwolfe@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: Lecture and discussion course examines Brazil's history from its peaceful independence declaration in 1822 to its present struggles to create a democratic society in the aftermath of a twenty-year military dictatorship. The course pays close attention to Brazil's legacy as the world's largest slave-holding society in the nineteenth century, its struggles to conquer its huge territory, and the interaction of those factors in shaping its national identity.

History 593E: Mexican Expulsions in the U.S.
TuTh 1:00-2:30PM

José Angel Hernández
Herter Hall 619
545-4337
hernandez@history.umass.edu

Organization: Writing seminar

Description: This course examines the expulsion and deportation of the Mexican-origin populace in the US during three historical moments. The repatriations of the Mexican-origin population at the turn of the century following the Mexican Revolution (1910-1922), the return of 1 million individuals to the country of Mexico following the Great Depression (1929), and those expulsions during "Operation Wetback" (1954) represent the historiographical cases that we will be examining. We will analyze how these major historical transformations have shaped and influenced our understanding of racial identity as it relates to the inclusion and exclusion of various ethnic groups in the US. A general overview of Mexican American history since 1848 will call attention to the structural and social conditions in the US during this particular time.

Requirements: Two 5-page papers dealing with contemporary cases of deportations, student presentations, 1 book review, and active class participation.

Note: This is a writing seminar open only to History majors.

Latin American

Latin-American 396/496/596: CLACLS 2008 Alternative Spring Break

80477/ Wednesday 6:30-9:30PM

80479/

80480/

Gloria Bernabe-Ramos
Thompson Hall 520
545-4868
gbr@cas.umass.edu

Description: The purpose of this course is to familiarize prospective participants of the CLACLS 2007 Alternative Spring Break in Argentina (March 14-23) with the history, economy and cultural traditions of this country. The delegation itself will explore the way social movements organize, from a gender and class perspective, with a focus on factories under workers control. Acknowledge the

impact of social movements' practices on Argentine democracy. Explore the arts and the music of Buenos Aires.

Requirements: Basic knowledge of Spanish, class attendance, completion of assignments, participation in class discussions, final paper/project, and an oral presentation of the final paper/project. Two-person team final projects are allowed. The final paper/project must be handed in three and a half weeks after the visit to Argentina, Wednesday, April 16 so that the final oral presentations may be scheduled during the last four/five weeks of the semester. The delegation to Argentina will take place during the 2008 Spring Break: March 14-23.

Note: Financial Aid is available through your regular financial aid packet. Departmental concern required.

Latin-American 398A/Spanish 398A: Holyoke Tutorial

| | | | |
|-------|----------------|--|--|
| 80478 | by arrangement | Gloria Bernabe-Ramos | José Ornelas |
| 61954 | by arrangement | Thompson 520 | Herter Hall 418 |
| | | 545-4868 | 545-2887 |
| | | gbr@cas.umass.edu | ornelas@spanport.umass.edu |

Organization: Practicum

Description: Working with Elementary and Middle Schools students in the Holyoke school system in an after-school program; student will be involved in language arts and other activities. Contact Gloria Bernabe-Ramos to add course.

Note: Department consent required.

Political Science

Political Science 340: Latin American Politics

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|--|
| 340D01 | F 9:05-9:55AM | Sonia E. Alvarez |
| 340D02 | F 10:10-11:00AM | Thompson Hall 424 |
| 340D03 | F 1:25-2:15PM | 545-6192 |
| | | soniaa@polsci.umass.edu |

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: Overview of major approaches to the study of Latin American politics and survey of historical and contemporary democratic, populist, authoritarian, and revolutionary regimes. Special attention to local, national and global forces shaping development strategies and public policies; changing institutional arrangements and shifting discourses of domination; and, social movements and strategies of resistance among subaltern social groups and classes.

Prerequisite: None

Latin-American content: 100%

Political Science 345: Revolutionary Nationalism & Imperialism in the Caribbean

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 60926 | MWF 1:25AM-2:15PM | Carlene J. Edie |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|

Thompson Hall 206
545-6172
cjedie@polsci.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: This course is a sequel of sorts to POLSCI 245, "Government and Politics of the Caribbean." It will be useful to take one or the other, or both. The focus will be on countries that are often denied a Caribbean political identity: Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Cuban communism has come to symbolize 'development with dependence,' Puerto Rico, a colonial possession of the United States, represents a classical model of 'dependence with modernization,' the Dominican Republic represents a fragile accommodation between democracy and authoritarianism, and Haiti symbolizes poverty, decay and underdevelopment. The politics of all four nations will be assessed in regional Caribbean terms, identifying common factors in historical evolution and contemporary development. Additionally, the course examines issues of national development and decolonization, the constraints of the contemporary international order, clientelism, authoritarianism, political subordination and the post-colonial state structures of Caribbean societies. Of additional significance is the extensive cultural and psychological colonization which marks the contemporary Caribbean.

Requirements: Midterm, final, and 1 short paper.

Prerequisites: POLSCI 245 or consent of instructor.

Latin-American content: 100%

Political Science 777: Latin American Politics

81808 W 5:00-7:30PM

Sonia E. Alvarez
Thompson Hall 424
545-6192
soniaa@polsci.umass.edu

Organization:

Description: Taught in conjunction with Political Science 340, the seminar provides a critical overview of the major approaches to the study of Latin America in the field of political science, with an emphasis on the relationship between culture and politics. Drawing on current debates in anthropology, history, cultural studies, feminist and poststructuralist theories, as well as political science, the course undertakes an interdisciplinary analysis of Latin America politics. Graduate seminar readings complement those covered in 340, offering a survey of the field while interrogating prevailing theoretical perspectives on and methodological approaches to politics in the region.

Portuguese

Portuguese 496A: Intensive Portuguese for Graduate Students

54008 MWF 1:30-3:30

José Ornelas
418 Herter Hall

545-2887
ornelas@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion.

Description: Intensive study of all basic language skills (first half of semester), followed by readings and discussion of short stories, poems and crônicas (second half of the semester). Attention will be given to a comparative and contrastive analysis of Spanish and Portuguese.

Requirements: Regular attendance and active class participation. Undergraduate students with permission of the instructor may also register for the class.

Note: Satisfies foreign language requirement for LAS certificate.

Portuguese 697N: Translating Brazil
80819 Th 1:00-3:30 PM

Daphne Patai
Herter Hall 423
545-4922
daphne.patai@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: The aim of this course is twofold: 1) to acquaint students with significant works in Brazilian literature, and 2) to do an intensive study of what happens to a text as it moves from its original version (in Portuguese) to English-language translation. Toward this end, we will study some works of fiction by important Brazilian writers in both their Portuguese versions and English translation (sometimes in more than one translation). This is not a how-to course, or a course on translation theory. It is, rather, a course that begins with detailed discussion of the originals and then does a comparative reading of these texts and their translations, reconstructing what the translators did, and analyzing both the original and the translation as different-but-related texts. Thus, instead of beginning with first principles of translation, we will work inductively, arriving, by the end of the course, at a series of discernible practices, moves, and choices that can be said to characterize the translation process. Authors to be studied (novels and/or short stories) will include: Machado de Assis; Mario de Andrade; Guimaraes Rosa; Clarice Lispector; Edilberto Coutinho; Paulo Coelho; Chico Buarque; Patricia Melo.

Requirements: Reading knowledge of Portuguese; class participation; two short papers; one final (20-page) paper on a subject to be chosen in consultation with the professor.

Latin-American content: 100%

Sociology

Sociology 103 - 02: Social Problems
81108 M 6:00-8:30PM

Catarina Fritz

Thompson Hall 516
545-3646
cfritz@soc.umass.edu

Component: Lecture

Description: Introduction to sociology. America's major social problems--past and present--are examined. These include crime, mental health, drug addiction, family tensions and inequalities based on race, gender, ethnicity and social class.

Note: Only this section of Sociology 103 counts towards the LAS certificate/minor.

Sociology 244: Sociology of Immigration

81117 MWF 1:25-2:15PM

David Cort
Thompson Hall 702
545-1041
dcort@soc.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Most U.S. students learn that we are “a nation of immigrants.” Although immigration has shaped U.S. history, the number of immigrants entering the United States now plays a central role in U.S. population growth. Commentators suggest that this immigration will transform the United States not only demographically, but also culturally. Among them, some commentators like Samuel Huntington worry that immigration could “divide the United States into two peoples, two cultures, and two languages.” Others insist that we should build a fence along the U.S.-Mexico Border. How do we reconcile our conflicted identity as “a nation of immigrants” and as a “gate keeping nation”? This course allows students to engage this identity and analyze tensions that recent, post-1965 immigrants raise for the United States in three ways. First, students will engage the context of current immigration by reviewing the history of immigration to the United States, understanding changes in U.S. immigration policy, and engaging sociological theories on migration. Second, students will compare the disparate trajectories among new immigrants in employment, education, housing, and political involvement. Special analytical focus will be given to new Latino/Latina immigrants. In our discussion of immigrant incorporation, we will pay close attention to debates surrounding the influence of immigration on social stratification. Finally, students will explore the implications of immigrant incorporation in terms of its sometimes surprising outcomes in terms of racial and ethnic relations, intermarriage, and health.

Prerequisite: 100 Level Sociology course.

Sociology 340: Race Relations

61724 TuTh 4:00-5:15PM
81122 TuTh 5:30-6:45PM

Catarina Fritz
Thompson Hall 516
545-3646
cfritz@soc.umass.edu

Component: Lecture

Description: This course explores the social construction of race and ethnicity and the status and dynamics of minorities in American society. Comparisons will be made with the situations in other societies, including Brazil, Mexico, South Africa and Europe to evaluate the concept of "American Exceptionalism". Issues such as affirmative action, reparations, "opportunity hoarding", "color-blind racism" and the impact of globalization and transnationalism will be discussed to assess the nature of contemporary racial and ethnic conflict.

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

Spanish

Spanish 319 - Introduction to Literary Analysis

61910 MWF 10:10-11:00AM
61912 MWF 12:20-1:10PM

Clara Ronderos
Herter Hall
ronderos@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Introducción al análisis literario presenta una selección de textos literarios peninsulares y latinoamericanos. Estos textos se miran como ejemplos de momentos específicos en la historia de la literatura hispánica y a la vez como tipos de texto (narrativa, poesía y teatro). El énfasis está en aprender a leer literatura desde diferentes marcos teóricos.

Spanish 322: Introduction to Spanish American Literature

16677 MWF 10:10-11:00AM

Emma Rivera-Rábago
Herter Hall 407
545-2887
rivera@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Introduction to the literature of Spanish America from the beginnings to the end of the romantic Period. Emphasis on literary currents and their relations to history and culture of the period. Representative poetry, narrative, and drama.

Prerequisite: Spanish 311 or consent of instructor.

Latin-American content: 100%

Spanish 322: Introduction to the Literature of Latin America I

62030 TuTh 11:15AM-12:30PM

Maria S. Barbón
Herter Hall 421
545 2044
mbarbon@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Introduction to the literature of Spanish America from the beginning to the end of the Romantic period. Emphasis on literary currents and their relation to the history and culture of the period. Representative poetry, narrative, drama.

Spanish 323: Introduction to Spanish American Literature II

16638 TuTh 9:30-10:45AM
16731 TuTh 11:15AM-12:30PM

Emma Rivera-Rábago
Herter Hall 407
545-2887
rivera@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: 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.

Latin-American content: 100%

Spanish 497JJ: Colonial Latin American Literature

81399 TuTh 1:00-2:15PM

Maria S. Barbón
Herter Hall 421
545 2044
mbarbon@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This survey course is designed to introduce the student to some of the canonic works produced in colonial Latin America (letters, historiographic works, poetry, and drama), as well as to several major currents of criticism within colonial studies. Among the topics discussed will be: the construction of the American Other (indigenous, black, creole), cannibalism and the colonial world, the elaboration of discourses of legitimization of the conquest, strategies of resistance and accommodation by native and mestizo peoples, and the development of a New World Baroque aesthetic.

Spanish 497LL - Latin American Film

50559 MW 4:00-6:30PM

José Ornelas
418 Herter Hall
545-2887
ornelas@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: The course is designed to introduce students to the cinematic work of some of the most important Latin American directors from the sixties to the present. The course will center on a variety of topics that are vital to the understanding of the most significant political, historical, social and cultural events that have shaped Latin America. Some of the topics to be examined in the class are: racial, gender, and sexual construction; nation formation; national identity; revolution; emigration/immigration; repression; utopia; resistance; political violence; slavery and freedom; homosexuality; exile; machismo; political

and social inquiry; urban violence. Students will be expected to develop interpretative filmic skills through an exploration of the connections between the technical composition of the films and the social, political, and cultural context underlying the film narrative. Films for the course will be chosen from the following list: The Hour of the Furnaces, Camila, The Official Story, Rebellion in Pantagonia, Sur, El hijo de la novia, Nine Queens, Burnt Money, Land in Anguish, Bye Bye Brazil, Macunaíma, Xica da Silva, Central Station, Quilombo, City of God, Barren Lives, Bye Bye Brazil, Bitter Sugar, Death of a Bureaucrat, Memories of Underdevelopment, Lucía, Strawberry and Chocolate, The Other Francisco, The Last Supper, Plaff, El super, Cecilia, The Lion's Den, The City and the Dogs, The Clandestine Nation, Nueva Yol, The Time of the Butterflies, El Norte, Dona Herlinda and Her Son, Place Without Limits, Amores Perros, Y tu mamá también, Like Water for Chocolate, Herod's Law, El callejón de los milagros/Midaq Alley, Danzón, The Oxcart, Ratas ratones rateros, Our Lady of the Assassins, Obstinate Memory, The Battle for Chile.

Spanish 558: Spanish American Essay

80864 M 1:00-3:30PM

Luis A. Marentes

Herter Hall 425

545-4923

marentes@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and class discussions.

Content: This course will study the different manifestations of Spanish American essays paying particular attention to the way in which this genre has functioned as a medium to imagine a Latin American identity.

Requirements: Regular reading assignments, a class presentation, regular reaction papers to the readings and a research paper.

Latin-American content: 100%

Spanish 597 S: Introduction to Discourse Analysis

81695 MWF 1:25-2:15PM

Patricia Gubitosi

Herter Hall

545-4917

gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This course focuses on the relationships between language and society, and the language use beyond the boundaries of a sentence/utterance. These theoretical problems comprise language use in social contexts (not only spoken but also written speech) and dialogue and interaction between speakers.

Spanish 597Z: The US Latina/o Experience

81400 MWF 10:10-11:00AM

Luis A. Marentes

Herter Hall 425

545-4923

marentes@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and class discussions.

Description: This course will study the way in which the US Latina/o experience has been represented through different manifestations. Although the emphasis of this course will be on autorepresentation, we will also consider the way in which this group has been represented by others, particularly Latin Americans. A greater emphasis will be placed on Chicana/os and Puerto Ricans.

Requirements: Regular reading assignments, two exams, a reading portfolio and a research paper.

Latin-American content: 100%

Theater

Theater 130: Contemporary Playwrights of Color

62356 W 2:30-5:00PM

Priscilla M Page

Fine Arts Center 107

545-6816

pmpage@theater.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This course examines the contemporary texts and the social and political contexts of writers of color in the United States. We look at issues of race and gender as social constructs that have historically served to exclude and oppress people of color and women. Along these lines, the playwrights and the texts that we engage serve as artistic commentary regarding images/stereotypes, approaches to similar themes within various communities, and the necessity for different models of both scholarship and aesthetic evaluations when engaging with culturally specific work. Classroom participation and preparedness are vital to your success in this course. Additionally, it is imperative that you attend all of the required performances, as they are a critical component of our work.

For information about the Minor or the Certificate in Latin American Studies,
please contact:

Gloria Bernabe-Ramos, Associate Director
Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies
Thompson Hall 520
200 Hicks Way
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Ma 01003-7530
413-545-4868
gbr@cas.umass.edu