

Center for Latin American,
Caribbean and Latino Studies

Spring 2009
Course Description Guide

Thompson Hall 522
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Afro-American Studies

AFROAM 297G: Introduction to African Diasporan Studies

17091 TuTh 1:00-2:15pm

Karen Y. Morrison

New Africa House, 308

545-5157

kymorris@froam.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: 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

18524 MW 1:25-3:20

Karen Y. Morrison

New Africa House, 308

545-5157

kymorris@froam.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: The course encourages students to explore the varied experiences of African and African-descended peoples with imperialism. Issues of collaboration, victimization, and resistance will be considered for Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Communication

COMM 397I: Culture and Social Identity

17202 TuTh 1:00-2:15pm

Benjamin Bailey

Herter Hall 307A

545-2522

bbailey@comm.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture and discussion

Description: 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: Senior & Junior COMM majors [but I can let in motivated juniors and seniors from other majors who are interested in Latinos, race, and identity]

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

COMM 495A: Performance Ethnography Methods

17897 TuTh 1:00-2:15pm

Claudio Moreira

Machmer Hall

545-3679

cmoreira@comm.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: What is Ethnography? What is Performance (auto) Ethnography? How can we think about Performing Ethnography? Drawing heavily in the works of Dwight Conquergood, Norman Denzin, and D. Soyini Madison, we give a rest to traditional forms of qualitative inquiry as we disrupt the notion of "business as usual" in the academic space. We will examine the interpenetrating relationships among performance, ethnography, and culture. The readings and assignments forefront localized critical pedagogy, critical personal narratives, decolonizing and interpretive inquiry as moral, political discourse. From the everyday space where gender, race, class, and performances intersect, we will examine how the practices of critical inquiry can be used to imagine, write and perform a free democratic society.

Economics

ECON 765: Economic Development

13430 MW 9:30-10:45am

James Boyce

816 Thompson

545-0915

boyce@econs.umass.edu

Organization: Graduate Lecture/Seminar

Description: This course is the first in a two-semester introduction to the field of development economics. Major topics include: (1)Distribution and well-being: Poverty, inequality, and determinants of variation in the distribution of income across countries and over time. (2)Agriculture: Agricultural markets, agricultural growth, agrarian structure, technological and institutional change. (3)Environment: Investment in natural capital; adjustment of national accounts for environmental degradation; population policy debates; political economy of sustainable and non-sustainable development. (4)External sector: External assistance, international finance, and political conditionality. (5)Conflict: The economic implications of conflict and war-to-peace transitions. Percentage of

Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 30%

Education

EDUC 677: Foundations of Bilingual/ESL/Multicultural Education

13672 M 7:30-9:00pm

Laura A. Valdiviezo

Furcolo Hall 210

545-7043/545-0246

lav@educ.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This course is designed to explore the political, philosophical, and pedagogical foundations of multicultural education through engaging various approaches to teaching culturally and linguistically diverse student populations including Latino populations in the U.S. Participants in the course will examine from different theoretical and political perspectives the nature of pluralism and intergroup relations in society. They will analyze the influences on learning of sociocultural and sociopolitical variables such as ethnicity, language, and social class background, among others; to understand how structures, policies, and practices in schools may perpetuate inequities and discrimination or be transformed to address these; and to develop a sound philosophical and pedagogical rationale for multicultural education in linguistically and culturally diverse schools.

Requirements: Participants in the course will be required to conduct observations of second language learners in school settings and to develop a report of the observations as well as an analysis of teaching second language learners.

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

EDUC 615S – W/E: Language & Literacy Policy

17158 Th 7:00-9:30pm

Theresa Austin

Furcolo Hall 207

545-0138

taustin@educ.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This is an introductory course in the field of language planning and policy which is situated in the broader field of sociology of language. Selected case studies will provide a basis for critically examining issues such as: ideology and language planning efface, language education policies, literacy movements, and language shift and death. Discussion will deal with questions such as: 1) What impact does the sociopolitical context have on language policies and practices? 2) How do language policies reflect existing power relationships between individuals and groups? 3) What role does language play in policy and planning for social justice? 4) What are the consequences when one community's sociocultural, econotechnical, and political spheres are dominated by another language group? 5) How are movements toward language standardization or national language policies impacting the daily lives and future prospects of members from language minority groups?

Notes: for upper division students who are interested in doing research or senior projects

English

ENGLISH 491A: Neruda In Translation

13787 M 6:30-9:00pm

Martín Espada

Bartlett Hall

545-6594

mespada@english.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This is an introduction, in English translation, to the person 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, 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 recognition as Nobel Laureate to his isolated 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 expected to compare translations with one another, as well as against the original text. The course is cross-listed through Latin American Studies.

Geosciences

GEO-SCI 494F: Geography through Film

17549 M 2:30-5:00pm

Richard W. Wilkie

Morrill III 233

545-2078

rwilkie@geo.umass.edu

Organization: Film one a week (seminar)

Description: Exploration of geographic places and themes, using films and photographs to enhance one's "visual place literacy" and understanding of both physical landscapes and "human built" cultural landscapes throughout the world. A number of films are set in Latin America, as it is a region where Prof. Wilkie has conducted research throughout his career. Underlying this approach is the need to develop an integrative understanding of the forces of change that have led to the evolution and transformation of places within a global context. Students are asked to respond to each film with short response papers that

answer certain questions, and then to discuss the film with the group. In most cases there are no right or wrong answers, but answers that help illuminate what the film was attempting to say to the audience and whether it accurately portrayed some version of reality. These films are used to help stretch your cognitive understanding of the world.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 33%

History

HISTORY 120: Latin American Civilization: Colonial Period

14438 TuTh 9:30-10:20AM

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

HISTORY 121: Modern Latin America

14442 MW 9:05-9:55am

Joel Wolfe

Herter Hall 708

545-6766

jwolfe@history.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

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.

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

HISTORY 355: The Caribbean

18434 MWF 12:20-1:10pm

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 History 120 or 121 helpful.**HISTORY 394DH: 394DH Dictators in Spanish America**

17430 MWF 10:10-11:00am

Jane Rausch

Herter Hall 721

545-6763

jrausch@history.umass.edu**Organization:** Honors Seminar**Description:** 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.**Requirements:** will include several shorter reviews and a ten-page research paper due some weeks before the end of the semester.**HISTORY 593E: Mexican Expulsions in the U.S.**

18443 TuTh 1:00-2:15pm

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. We will examine 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. These cases will form the background for our contemporary research topic that will examine modern day cases of Mexican expulsions 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. Final grade will be based on various writing assignments, book review, primary research, and major research paper.

Latin American Studies

LATIN-AM 398A: Holyoke Tutorial
15072 by arrangement

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

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

POLISCI 345: Revolutionary Nationalism & Imperialism in the Caribbean
15899 MWF 1:25AM-2:15PM

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

Organization: Lecture

Description: This course is a sequel of sorts to POLISCI 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%

POLISCI 491B: Race and Gender Matters: Comparative and Global

Perspectives

17875 W 5:00-7:30pm

Sonia E. Alvarez

Thompson Hall 424

545-6192

soniaa@polsci.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This discussion-centered research seminar examines the dynamics of race and gender politics in the North and South of the Americas, focusing on contemporary social movements and the development of political strategies and identities grounded in race and gender. Course readings introduce students to competing conceptions of race, gender, politics and the political as well as to a range of approaches to the study of social movements. Drawing principal empirical examples from the U.S., Brazil, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, with comparative reference to the case of South Africa, the course explores similarities and differences in the historical, political, and cultural construction of gender and race relations. We will assess comparatively how dominant race and gender discourses and policies shape, are challenged, and are (sometimes) re-shaped by social movements and examine transnational organizing around race and gender inequalities.

Requirements: Class presentations and seminar facilitation at least three times in the semester; 15-20 pp research paper.

Portuguese

PORTUG 408 & 697K: Brazil in Film and Fiction

18455/ ThTu 4:00-6:30

18456 ThTu 4:00-6:30

Daphne Patai

Herter Hall 423

545-4922

daphne.patai@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: An introduction to Brazilian culture through the study of significant feature films made in Brazil, accompanied by readings of fiction and non-fiction works. Major themes include: cannibalism, colonialism, slavery, life in the backlands, religious syncretism, women's status, the dictatorship, urban life. Weekly screening of films (on Tuesdays), and discussions (on Thursdays).

Films will be selected from the following directors: Marcel Camus (“Black Orpheus”), Nelson Pereira dos Santos (“How Tasty Was M Little Frenchman” and “Vidas Secas”), Carlos Diegues (“Xica da Silva,” “Bye By Brazil,” and “Quilombo”), Glauber Rocha (“Black God White Devil” and “Antonio das Mortes”), Susana Amaral (“Hour of the Star”), Walter Salles (“Central Station”), Ruy Guerra (“Estorvo”), Bruno Barreto (“Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands” and “Four Days in September”), Andre Klotzel (“Memorias Postumas de Bras Cubas”), Fernando Meirelles (“City of God”). [Some changes may be made as DVDs of some Brazilian classics become available.]

Social Thought & Political Economy

STPEC 492H: Decolonizing Knowledge -Power: Afro-American & Native American Critical Theories and Social Movements.

16555 W 6:00-8:30pm

Augustin Laó-Montes
Thompson Hall 514
545-2769
lao@soc.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: Not available at this time.

Restrictions and Notes: This course is open to Senior STPEC majors only. Prerequisite: STPEC 391H with a grade of 'C' or better. STPEC juniors may request this course by filling out a STPEC add request form available from the STPEC Program Office.

Sociology

SOCIOL 197L: Introduction to Latin American Societies

17314 MWF 11:15am-12:05pm

Millie Thayer
Thompson Hall 524
545-3577
thayer@soc.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: This class will use sociological concepts to explore the diverse cultures, societies and politics of the Latin American and Caribbean region. Themes covered will include: colonialism and neocolonialism; class and inequality; race, ethnicity and identity; gender and sexuality; religion, social control and change; art, music and dance; revolutions and social movements; globalization and migrations. Through readings, films, guest speakers, and class activities, students will gain a sense of the shared characteristics of the region, as well as its internal differences.

Latin-American content: 100%

SOCIOL 329: Social Movements

17326 MWF 1:25-215pm

Millie Thayer

Thompson Hall

545-3577

thayer@soc.umass.edu**Organization:** Lecture

Description: This three credit community service learning 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. (Archive description)

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

Note: An optional one-credit honors colloquium section is available for this class by permission. Organizational meeting for colloquium will be held during the first week of classes.

SOCIOL 793G: World Systems

17885 Tu 6:00-8:30pm

Augustin Laó-Montes

Thompson Hall 514

545-2769

lao@soc.umass.edu**Organization:** Seminar**Description:** Not available at this time.**Spanish****SPANISH 322: Introduction to Spanish American Literature I**

16423 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.

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

SPANISH 323: Introduction to Spanish American Literature II

16414 TuTh 9:30-10:45AM

16439 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.

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

SPANISH 497LL - Latin American Film

18543 MW 4:00-6:30

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 494SS: Literatura del Caribe

18525 Tu 4:00-6:30pm

Margara Russotto

Herter Hall

545 2887

margheri@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Description not available at this time.

SPANISH 597HB: U.S. Latino/a Literature & Culture

18545 TuTh 11:15am-12:30pm

Luis A. Marentes

Herter Hall 425

545-4923

marentes@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Lecture

Description: Not Available at this time.

SPANISH 797P: Imaginarios Femeninos en Latinoamérica

18555 Tu 4:00-6:30pm

Margara Russotto

Herter Hall

545 2887

margheri@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: The seminar will study Latin American women writers, inside and outside the canon. Exploration of their recurrent topics: body in poetry, re-writing of history, illness, authorship, autobiography, the “self” representation, among others. Some hypothesis about the writing of women from Latin America. Emphasis on the relationship between writing and the socio-cultural context of Modernity.

Requirement: Active and constant participation. Oral presentations. Annotated bibliography. Final paper (12-15 pages on a topic to be selected in consultations with the Professor).

Class will be conducted entirely in Spanish.

Percentage of Latin American Content: 99%

SPANISH 797HB: Spanish in the United States-Sociolinguistic Aspect

18554 W 4:00-6:30pm

Patricia Gubitosi

Herter Hall

545-4917

gubitosi@spanport.umass.edu

Organization: Seminar

Description: This course explores the Spanish spoken in the US and its variety throughout the different geographical and social dialects in the country. The nature of the changes that take place in the language of the subordinate group in a high developed and complex society will be examined under the framework of the sociolinguistic theory. The course will prepare students to critically read and develop their own research in the field. This seminar concentrates on collecting and analyzing data and understanding the role played by the extra linguistic variables in the motivation of linguistic change processes.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latino Content: 75%

Theater

THEATER 130: Contemporary Playwrights of Color

16625 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. (Archive description)

Five College Latin American Studies Seminar

Striking Back Against the Empire: Puerto Ricans, Colonialism, Rebellion and Diaspora Communities

Tuesdays 6:00-9:00pm

Hampshire College | SS-171

Martín Espada

(UMass)

Wilson Valetín-Escobar

(Hampshire College)

Description: There is growing interest in studying empire and citizenship in a postcolonial context. Yet, how can this perspective apply to delocalized Puerto Rican communities? Moreover, how can we discuss postcoloniality in the absence of a sovereign nation-state? In order to address these questions, we will study the historical antecedents of globalization and empire formation in the Americas, with a particular emphasis on Puerto Rico's unique position in the Atlantic world. Drawing from a wide array of disciplinary perspectives, including sociology, history, political science, cultural studies and literature, this seminar will analyze Puerto Rico and its Diaspora in a global context. Starting from the Spanish conquest through the U.S. invasion, and the mass migration of Puerto Ricans after World War II into the U.S., we will examine how the scattered Puerto Rican nation developed in relation to European and U.S. expansion. We will begin with the emergence of the transoceanic movement of peoples and commodities to examine how ordinary Puerto Ricans became involved in the global economy and how their social and historical experiences overlapped with other racialized/colonized communities during the 19th and 20th centuries. We

will also consider how local and global processes shaped social movements, anti-colonial struggles, transnational initiatives, Diaspora narratives, and cultural/aesthetic agency. This course will feature numerous invited guest speakers from neighboring universities and Latin@ communities.

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

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