AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

AFROAM 170 – The Grassroots Experience in American Life and Culture

Spire #  
Course Instructor:  

TuTh 11:30AM - 12:45PM  
Email:  

Course Description: This course combines instruction in research techniques in a variety of Humanistic and Social Science disciplines, and hands-on experience with those techniques, with substantive materials focusing on the long struggle of minority populations for full participation in American cultural and public life.

Prerequisite: None

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

AFROAM 692Q – African Diaspora Studies: An Introduction to Concepts and Historiography

Spire #  
Course Instructor: Agustin Lao-Montes

Th 4:00-6:00 PM  
Email: lao@umass.edu

Course Description: This course will offer an introduction to 1) key concepts and definitions e.g. diaspora, Pan-Africanism, Afro-centrism, etc. 2) the classic works in the field. 3) major trends in contemporary scholarship. We will be reading a selection of works discussing the contours and history of the field as well as examples of recent scholarship. Two papers on major themes will be required. This course is required for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies and is open both to students pursuing the certificate and to graduate students with a general interest in the subject.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content:

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHRO 230 – Race and the American Museum

Spire # 54763  
Course Instructor: Whitney Battle-Baptiste

TuTh 1:00-2:15 pm  
Email: wbbaptiste@anthro.umass.edu
Course Description: The museum stands as an institution that holds both cultural and social aspects of our past and present lives. The museum also functions as a symbol of power and truth. However, the potential that museums can act as agents of social change for some is a radical idea. Although many museums still value the process of collection, preservation and display, the need to broaden access and diversify their appeal has become essential for the museum’s survival. Through this course, we will begin by exploring ways that race is represented in the context of the American museum. We will also interrogate the contentious relationship between exhibit curators, marginalized communities, historians, and archaeologists. We will then consider several specific museums and will pay close attention to how they are becoming sites of confrontation, experimentation, and debate through partnerships with descendant communities and other stakeholders.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor.

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

ANTHRO 205 – Power and Inequality in the United States

Spire # 42899 Course Instructor: Whitney Russel

MoWe 11:15-12:05 Email: wrussell@umass.edu

Course Description: The roots of racism and sexism and the issues they raise. The cultural, biological, and social contexts of race and gender and examination of biological variation, genetic determinism, human adaptation, and the bases of human behavior. (Gen Ed SB, DU)

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

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

COMMUNICATION

COMM 297SE – ST- Storied Encounters

Spire # Course Instructor: Kimberlee Perez

TuTh 1:00- 2:15 Email: kmperez@umass.edu

Course Description: This course approaches stories and storytelling through critical communication and performance studies. Stories and storytelling are sites of encounter: between speaker and listener, social/structural and personal, language and place. To consider "what stories do" means simultaneously engaging in practices of listening, analysis, and response. The stories we will look at include contemporary non-fiction authors who lend their perspectives to pressing cultural issues and social in/justice. From the study of stories, participants will generate stories grounded in their own experiences with opportunities to share them.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 25%
COMM 394EI – Performance & Politics of Race

Course Instructor: Kimberlee Perez

TuTh 11:30- 12:45

Course Description: This course looks at the ways race, racial identities, and interracial relations are formed through and by communication practices in present-day U.S. America. Though focusing on U.S. America in the current historical moment, the course takes into account the ways history as well as the transnational flows of people and capital inform and define conversations about race and racial identities. Race will be discussed as intersectional, taking into account the ways race is understood and performed in relation to gender, sexuality, class, and nation. The course will focus on the performance and communications of race, ranging from everyday interactions, personal narratives and storytelling, intra- and inter-racial dialogue, and staged performances.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

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

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

COMP-LIT 691NS – Lit. & the Formation of the Nation-State in the 19th Century

Course Instructor: Marisol Barbon

TuTh 1:00- 2:15

Course description: This course examines the formative role literature played in the process of nation-building in the Americas during the 19th century with particular emphasis on Argentina, Peru and the United States. Authors include-- but are not limited to-- James Fenimore Cooper, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ricardo Palma, Clorinda Matto de Turner, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento and Esteban Echeverría. After a brief introduction to methodology and theory and a careful historical contextualization of each writer we will analyze the texts focusing on topics such as gender and romance, race and miscegenation, the past, and space/nature/frontier.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 100%
EDUCATION

EDUC 693F: Teaching Social Justice: Equity and Justice in STEM Education

Spire #55824 Course Instructor: Enrique (Henry) Suárez
Thu 4:00-6:30pm (ET) Email: easuarez@umass.edu

Course Description: This course examines the relationships among the body of knowledge and the practices of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM disciplines) and the structures that undergird social, political, and economic inequities and injustices. But what does Justice mean, and what does its presence and absence look like? How do you work towards it in your research and pedagogy? Through this course, we will work towards a shared definition, and you will decide what exactly it means to you, what justice looks like specific to your research, and STEM learning opportunities. Most importantly, we will work towards a vision of transformative STEM education that builds on students’ life-ways and life-worlds, rather than solely striving for “access. The course will enable students to develop a theoretical framework to analyze the complexity of interactions among STEM disciplinary practices and justice through five modules: race & culture, gender identity & expression, Indigenous ways of knowing, language & communication, and dis/ability.

Prerequisite: Designed for advanced undergraduate students (seniors), STEM graduate students, and Education graduate students interested in developing a justice-oriented scholarship on STEM Education

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 25+ %

ENGLISH

ENG 300-04 – Junior Year Writing (Caribbean Family Sagas)

Spire #46361 Course Instructor: Rachel Mordecai
TuTh 10:10-11:15 am Email: mordecai@umass.edu

Course Description: This seminar will read Caribbean family-saga novels and ask how they mediate ideas of belonging. Students will work on developing the skills and strategies that support strong academic writing in English-lit classrooms. They will also think carefully about the role of reproduction in how families are constituted; what it means to represent a nation through the story of a family; how multi-generational stories map time onto space; and the power of naming, mis-naming, nick-naming, and refusing to name. Authors may include Erna Brodber, Patrick Chamoiseau, Dionne Brand, Julia Alvarez, Rosario Ferré, Maryse Condé, and others. Assignments will include formal and informal papers, some of which will go through the draft-and-revision process; other possible assignments include in-class presentations and online reader-response postings.
Prerequisite: This course is primarily intended for English majors; other interested students should contact the professor for permission to enroll.

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

**ENG 891B – Poetry of the Political Imagination**

Spire #  
Course Instructor: Martín Espada

Mo 1:00-3:30 PM  
Email: mespada@english.umass.edu

**Course Description:** Poetry of the political imagination is a matter of both vision and language. Any progressive social change must be imagined first; any oppressive social condition, before it can change, must be named in words that persuade. Poets of the political imagination go beyond protest to define an artistry of resistance. This course explores how best to combine poetry and politics, craft and commitment. Students will read classic works ranging from the epigrams of Ernesto Cardenal, written against the dictator of Nicaragua, to Allen Ginsberg’s *Howl*, the book that sparked an obscenity trial. They will also read the farmworker poems of Diana García, born in a migrant labor camp; the emergency room sonnets of Dr. Rafael Campo; the prison poetry of political dissident Nazim Hikmet; and the feminist manifestos of Julia de Burgos, among others.

Prerequisite: None

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

**HISTORY**

**HIS 121 – Modern Latin America**

Spire # 30380  
Course Instructor: Joel Wolfe

MoWe 1:25-2:15 PM  
Email: jwolfe@umass.edu

**Course Description:** Discussions of Latin America usually fall back upon facile generalizations that emphasize recent changes to explain "current events." This 4-credit course examines in detail the creation of modern Latin America. We will concentrate on the struggles over land and labor, the creation of nation-states, and the conflicts within those states over issues of citizenship and social justice. The course will also address the contentious role the United States has played in the region. The class fulfills general education requirements in history (HS) and global diversity (DG).

Prerequisite: None

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

**HIS 154 – 01 Social Change in the 1960s**

Spire # 55234  
Course Instructor: Julia Sandy-Bailey
**Course Description:** Few periods in United States history experienced as much change and turmoil as the "Long Sixties" (1954-1975), when powerful social movements overhauled American gender norms, restructured the Democratic and Republican parties, and abolished the South's racist "Jim Crow" regime. This course examines the movements that defined this era. We will explore the civil rights and Black Power movements; the student New Left and the antiwar movement; the women's and gay liberation movements; struggles for Asian American, Chicano/a, Native American, and Puerto Rican freedom; as well as the rise of conservatism. Throughout the semester, we will assess Sixties social movements' ideals, strategies, and achievements, and their ongoing influence upon U.S. politics, society, and culture. (Gen.Ed. HS, DU)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content:** 30%

**HIS 155 – Empires to Nations: The Making of the Atlantic World, 1400-1800**

**Spire #** 

**Course Instructor:** Asheesh Siddique

**MoWe 10:10-11:00 AM** 

**Email:** asiddique@umass.edu

**Course description:** The transformation of the Atlantic World from a world of empires into one of nation-states through examining the interactions between Africans, American Natives, and Europeans from the fifteenth through the end of the eighteenth century. (Gen. Ed. HS, DG)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content:** 25%

**HIS 220 – Capitalism and Alternatives in Latin America**

**Spire #** 

**Course Instructor:** Kevin Young

**MoWe 10:10-11:00 AM** 

**Email:** kayoung@umass.edu

**Course Description:** Why have poverty and inequality been so persistent in Latin American history? What strategies have different people proposed to deal with these problems? In attempting to answer these questions, we will survey the major periods in Latin American and Caribbean economic development, focusing on the last 150 years. Recurring issues will include natural resource extraction, industrialization, labor conditions and class hierarchy, control of the workplace, environmental impacts, the "segmentation" of the workforce along racial, gender, and other hierarchies, the role of the state in the economy, foreign intervention, and the relationship of democracy to the economy. We will pay close attention to the relationship between the economy and political power, social movements, and the non-human environment.

**Prerequisite:** None
HIS 397ES – Special Topics- US Empire and Solidarity in Central America

Course Instructor: Diana Sierra Becerra

Tu Th 1:00-2:15 PM

Course Description: This course will examine the role of U.S. imperialism in the region and the revolutionary organizing of Central Americans to build a world free of exploitation and state violence. As a diverse group of people, Central Americans have practiced solidarity to unite their struggles across class, racial, and rural and urban divides, and national borders. Why has the United States intervened in the region? What do these solidarity practices have to teach us? We will mainly focus on the twentieth century and explore the following topics: export economies and labor organizing, racial ideologies and nationalism, women guerrillas and revolutionary movements, US-Central America solidarity, and the present-day movement for immigrant rights.

Prerequisite: None

PUBLIC HEALTH

PUBHLTH 389 – Health Inequalities

Course Instructor: Luis A Valdez

TuTh 2:30-3:45 PM

Course Description: While the health and wellbeing of the nation has improved overall, racial, ethnic, gender and sexuality disparities in morbidity and mortality persist. To successfully address growing disparities, it is important to understand social determinants of health and translate current knowledge into specific strategies to undo health inequalities. This course will explore social justice as a philosophical underpinning of public health and will consider the etiology of disease rooted in social conditions. It aims to strengthen critical thinking, self-discovery, and knowledge of ways in which socioeconomic, political, and cultural systems structure health outcomes.

Prerequisite: There are no pre-reqs in particular, however, as it currently stands the course is reserved for public health majors. Contact instructor.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 273 – Power

Course Instructor: Angelica Bernal
Course Description: Power is a central feature of political life and one of the key concepts of political science. This course will examine the main approaches and controversies in the study of power. We will investigate how these approaches help us to better understand how power operates in the real world by engaging with various case studies, including: how power works in prisons, schools, at home, in local and global politics, in an Appalachian mining town, a small village in Malaysia, and in countless ways in every day life. (Gen. Ed. DG, SB)

Prerequisite: None

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

POLISCI 352 – US Latin American Relations

Course Instructor: Justin Gross

Tu Th 2:30-3:45 PM

Course Description: This course will focus on U.S. foreign policy towards Latin America, national and coordinated policies of Latin American states towards the United States, and – to a lesser degree – relationships among Latin American countries. The first half of this course is devoted to tracing historical developments in U.S.-Latin American relations during the 1800s and 1900s, with special attention to U.S. military interventions over the course of these two centuries. We then shift to a focus on particular policy areas (e.g. war on drugs, migration, human rights, trade agreements) and contemporary decision-making. Throughout, we will place great emphasis on consequences of asymmetric power relations, the roles of public opinion and ideology in constraining policy options, and the relationship between domestic politics and foreign policy.

Prerequisite: Contact Instructor

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

POLISCI 352 – Honors Colloquium for US Latin American Relations

Course Instructor: Justin Gross

Spire #

Course Description: Honors students with at least intermediate-level Spanish-language reading and listening comprehension skills will be eligible to take this colloquium. Each week, we will read original documents in Spanish, listen to a Spanish-language podcast or radio recording, and/or watch a video in Spanish, related to the topic covered in the current week. Whereas the emphasis of the main course will be on U.S. foreign policy in Latin America, the honors colloquium will focus on Latin American perspectives and responses (government officials, agencies, members of the public, etc.) through consideration of relevant materials in Spanish. Weekly discussions will be conducted in a mix of Spanish and English according to the comfort level of individual students, though all will be urged to move outside their comfort zone from time to time. Longer written assignments may be composed in either English or Spanish, but some shorter writing exercises will be completed in Spanish. Students not quite proficient enough to speak at length in Spanish will be expected to make at least some effort to communicate some of their ideas in Spanish each week, while native and advanced speakers will be
encouraged to support their development of communication skills and vocabulary in discussion of politics and inter-American relations.

Prerequisite: Honors students.

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

POLISCI 392AP – Seminar: Activism, Participation, and Protest

Spire #  
Course Instructor: Sonia E. Alvarez

We  4:00-6:30 PM  
Email: soniaa@umass.edu

Course Description:

Prerequisite: Drawing on varied theoretical approaches from a range of disciplines—including not only several subfields in Political Science, but also Sociology, Anthropology, Feminist Studies, Geography, African Diaspora Studies, History, Cultural Studies, and more, this course examines historical and contemporary modalities of political activism, participation, and protest. Through the comparative analysis of select case studies, principally from Latin America and the U.S, we will explore the dynamic development of feminisms, anti-racist/Black mobilizations, and contemporary anti-austerity and pro-democracy protests.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 50+%
PORTUGUESE

PORTUG 408- Brazilian in Film and Fiction

Spire #52480 Course Instructor: Patrícia Martinho

TuTh 2:30-3:45 PM Email: pmartinhofer@umass.edu

Course Description: The principal aim of this course is to introduce students to Brazilian history and culture through film and selected readings, by focusing on how filmmakers, writers, and artists represent key aspects of Brazilian society past and present: the colonization process; culture contact between Europeans and native Brazilians; slavery and race relations; economic development; immigration and internal migration; life in the backlands; urban problems; the dictatorship and its aftermath; contemporary Brazil. A second aim is to develop analytical skills and writing abilities. Course and readings are in Portuguese; films have subtitles in English. (Gen. Ed. AL, DG)

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

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

PORTUG 597LU Special Topics- Lusophone Film Festival

Spire # Course Instructor: Patrícia Martinho

Email: pmartinhofer@umass.edu

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

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

SOCIOLOGY

SOC 244 – Sociology of Immigration

Spire # 35403 Course Instructor: Ide O’Carroll

TuTh 11:30-12:45 Email: iocarroll@umass.edu

Course Description: This course examines who, why, and how different groups immigrate to the U.S. and what happens once they arrive -- how they are received by mainstream society and how they perceive their experience in a new country. Specific topics include entry, immigration controls, education, identity, discrimination, employment, language, legal status, belonging, settlement, trans-nationalism, political participation, and examples of efforts to reform U.S. immigration laws.
SOC 329 – Social Movements

Spire # 35335  Course Instructor: Millicent Thayer
TuTh 1:00-2:15  Email: thayer@soc.umass.edu

Course Description: Explores how and why social movements occur, what strategies they use, how they create collective identities, how issues such as civil rights, workers' rights, women's rights, the environment, the global economy mobilize activists' participation within the circumstances faced.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor
Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 25%

SPANISH

SPAN 301 – CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH

Spire #  Course Instructor: Margara Russotto
TuTh 2:30-3:15 pm  Email: margheri@umass.edu

Course Description: Advanced conversational course designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish. The goal is to enrich your conversational skills and your practical knowledge about Hispanic culture and language. You will participate in a variety of communicative activities such as dialogues, conversations, interviews, film reviews, group discussions and oral presentations. Taught in Spanish.

Prerequisites: Contact instructor.
Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 90%

SPAN 322-02 – Introduction to Spanish-American Literature I

Spire #  Course Instructor: Emma Rivera-Rábago
**Course Description:** Introduction to the literature of Spanish America from the beginnings to 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, and drama. **COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH. (GenEd: AL DG)**

Prerequisite: Spanish 240 OR consent from instructor

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

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**SPAN 323-01 – Spanish American Literature II**

**Spire #**

**TuTh 11:30-12:45**

**Course Instructor:** Emma Rivera-Rábago

**Email:** rivera@spanport.umass.edu

**Course 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. **COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH. (GenEd: AL DG)**

Language of Instruction: Spanish

Prerequisite: Spanish 240 OR consent of instructor.

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

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**SPAN 324 – Introduction to Latino/a Literature**

**01 Spire 35521**

**Course Instructor:** Stephanie Fetta/TO

**TuTh 10:00 - 11:15**

**Email:** sfetta@umass.edu

**Course Description:** In this course students will think critically about the various "wild tongues" that have defined U.S. Latinx literature and culture in the 20th and 21st centuries. Our analysis will center on issues of power as they are experienced by diverse U.S. Latinx populations, focusing specifically on dominant Latinx groups in the United States including Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Chicanx, and Central Americans. Students will be required to engage critically with primary texts, as well as reflect on the ways in which these issues exist in the world around us. We will consider pinnacle works of Latinx studies - such as those of Piri Thomas, Elizabeth Acevedo, and Nelly Rosario-alongside other forms of cultural production, such as film. Course texts are written in both English and Spanish. Class discussion will take place in Spanish. All assignments must be completed in Spanish.

Prerequisite: SPAN 240, 314 or Contact instructor
SPAN 382 – Spanish in the US

Course Instructor: Meghan Armstrong-Abrami

TuTh 11:30-12:45

Email: armstrong@umass.edu

Course Description: This course examines Spanish in the United States from a sociolinguistic perspective, including linguistic, historic, demographic, social, educational and political issues. We will explore the formal linguistic structures of Spanish in the U.S. and everyday social lives of Spanish speakers. Topics will include: regional differences, bilingualism, codeswitching, language ideologies, Spanish as a heritage language, Spanish in politics and the media (e.g. TV, movies, music), Spanish in various social institutions (e.g. medical or labor contexts), bilingual education, and language and identity. Special focus will be given to Spanish in Massachusetts and the Northeast region of the US. When possible, students will be engaged with opportunities to apply their learnings in a community-engaged way. Readings will be in Spanish, while class lectures will be in English. (Gen. Ed. SB, DU)

Prerequisite: Contact instructor.

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

SPANISH 417 Cultures and Civilizations of Spanish America

Course Instructor: Luis Marentes

Tu Th 2:30- 3:45 PM

Course description: This course gathers together an array of recent Latin American, Spanish, Caribbean, and Latinx films with an emphasis on addressing the experiences of marginalized people. We will explore the historical and cultural contexts in which these films are made and seen, in many cases reaching vast audiences across the world, and we will push at the boundaries of the category "Hispanic" in cinema. Analysis and discussions will also draw on insights from film theory, such as approaches to world cinema, "Third Cinema," national and transnational cinemas, and Hamid Naficy's concept of "accented cinema." Taught in English with films subtitled in English. Spanish majors encouraged to submit written work in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Contact instructor

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

SPAN 597EC – Escritura Creativa En Español / Creative Writing in Spanish
Th 4:00-6:30 pm

Spire # Course Instructor: Margara Russotto

Th 4:00-6:30 Email: margheri@umass.edu

Course Description: Creative writing course / laboratory in different literary genres to express the deepest levels of the Spanish language. Writing and rewriting practice, also in class, with a dynamic syllabus. Free personal exploration. Guest writers and discussion on the creative process. Preparation of a Portfolio and a public reading of the best works at the end of the semester. Taught in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Designed for advanced students of Spanish and native speakers of interest to the area of Literature, Art, Education, Pedagogy, Health Studies, Psychology and Psychoanalysis, and others humanistic and scientific fields. Taught in Spanish. LIMITED SPACES.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 90%

SPAN 697– Latinx Studies and Gender

Spire # Course Instructor: Stephanie Fetta

W 4:00-6:30 pm Email: sfetta@umass.edu

SERVICE-LEARNING

SRVCLRNG 293-01 – Learning through Community Engagement

Spire # 53845 Course Instructor: Candice Travis

M 4-6:45pm Email: ctravis@umass.edu

Course Description: This course engages students in the practice of community engagement, and asks, ‘What constitutes meaningful, effective, and justice-oriented community service?’ With an emphasis on critical pedagogy, self-reflection, empathy, and critical service-learning, students will work with existing community assets to address social issues of inequality, injustice, and anti-democratic structures. The course proceeds through multiple units focused on current social problems, including education inequity, racial/ethnic inequality, environmental injustice, and public health disparities. The course is organized around the principle of critical pedagogy, because in spaces of community engagement, work, and organizing, learning is a central component for making positive social change. This course will help students envision liberatory practices of engagement, service, and learning through the hands-on tackling of particular social problems. Community partner work will include youth mentorship through after school programs and support of local meal programs.

Prerequisite: n/a

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