

**CENTER FOR
LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN
& LATINO STUDIES**

**FALL 2021
Course Description Guide**



Machmer Hall 310

UMass-Amherst

irivera-clacls@umass.edu

Anthropology

ANTHRO 150 – Ancient Civilizations

Eric Johnson: ericjohnson@anthro.umass.edu

M/W 11:15 am – 12:05 pm Spire# 23861

Course Description: The emergence and character of the world's first civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley, Shang China, the Olmec and Maya of Mesoamerica, and the Chavin of Peru. Topics include the Neolithic background to the rise of civilizations and theories on the rise and fall civilizations.

Prerequisite: N/A

25% Latin X Content

ART-HISTORY

ART-HIST 328 – Arts of the Americas to 1860

Ximena Gomez: xgomez@umass.edu

T/TH 10:00 am – 11:00 am Spire# 56846

Course Description: Survey of the arts of the Americas from the 16th century to 1860. Emphasis on the collision of indigenous traditions with British, French, and Spanish colonial visual cultures in the Americas; the visual arts' role in the construction of identities, politics, religion, and society.

Prerequisites: N/A

60% Latin X Content

ART-HIST 628 – Arts of the Americas to 1860

Ximena Gomez: xgomez@umass.edu

T/TH 10:00 am – 11:00 am Spire# 56847

Course Description: Survey of the arts of the Americas from the 16th century to 1860. Emphasis on the collision of indigenous traditions with British, French, and Spanish colonial visual cultures in the Americas; the visual arts' role in the construction of identities, politics, religion, and society.

Prerequisites: N/A

60% Latin X Content

ART - HIST 391R – Visual Legacies of Colonialism

Ximena Gomez: xgomez@umass.edu

T 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm Spire# 68205

Course Description: In this seminar students will investigate the myriad ways that the European invasion of the Americas in the sixteenth century continues to inform contemporary popular culture. The course begins in the colonial period, using the primary documents and images to identify and deconstruct the derogatory tropes that manifested in colonial visual culture. In the second part of the course, students will critically analyze contemporary popular visual media, including Hollywood films, television shows, and advertisements that utilize colonial stereotypes, and discuss the social consequences of their endurance, especially for marginalized people.

Prerequisites: N/A

Latin X Content: 100%

ART - HIST 691R – Visual Legacies of Colonialism

Ximena Gomez: xgomez@umass.edu

T 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm Spire# 68206

Course Description: In this seminar students will investigate the myriad ways that the European invasion of the Americas in the sixteenth century continues to inform contemporary popular culture. The course begins in the colonial period, using the primary documents and images to identify and deconstruct the derogatory tropes that manifested in colonial visual culture. In the second part of the course, students will critically analyze contemporary popular visual media, including Hollywood films, television shows, and advertisements that utilize colonial stereotypes, and discuss the social consequences of their endurance, especially for marginalized people.

Prerequisites: N/A

Latin X Content: 100%

Communication

COMM 125 – Intro. to Rhetoric and Performance Studies

Claudio Moreira: cmoreira@comm.umass.edu

MW 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm Spire# 25367

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the major ideas and concepts of rhetorical and performance studies and their contributions to social action. Students will be introduced to the thinkers and movements in rhetoric and performance most significant to how we understand ourselves: the ways we represent and remember our pasts, live our presents (presence), and image our futures. Theories of rhetoric and performance will be connected to each other and to our communication practices to examine how theories can be deployed as part of the art of living our lives. Assignments in this course will also connect theory and practice: students will be quizzed on readings to assess knowledge of concepts and theory and will complete out of class assignments that require practical applications of concepts/theories to community contexts. Students will also be expected to be able to engage in critical assessment: of the theories and their applications, as well as of their own (students') commitment to the work of education and personal growth.

Prerequisites: Open to sophomores and freshmen only. COMM 125 is one of five 100-level courses that can be used as prerequisites

Latin X Content: 30%

COMM 494MI – Music, Culture and Communication

Henry Geddes: geddes@comm.umass.edu

TTH 11:30 am – 12:45 pm Spire#25368

Course Description: This course takes the view that our experience of music is mediated by biology, society and culture. As such it tells us a lot about who we are in relation to our cultural and physical environment. Like other forms of communication, music can be studied in terms of its texts, institutions, and audiences. Unlike other forms of communication, music is best understood from an interdisciplinary perspective that deals with the physics of sound, human biology, and musicology. In addition to asking the question, "What does the music mean?" I urge you to ask: What is the chain of biological, physical, social, and cultural events that render music meaningful and popular? What sorts of networks and emotional affiliations make musical performance/ consumption possible, whether it be a concert, film, public transport, shopping mall, Walkman, funeral, file sharing, etc.? How do the modes of listening vary across these fields? How do boundaries shift with the globalization of music, especially with the advent of digital distribution on the Internet?

Prerequisite: Open to Senior and Junior Communication majors only. This course was formerly numbered COMM 4970. If you have already taken COMM 4970 you cannot take this course. This course serves as an Integrative Experience (IE) requirement for BA-COMM majors.

Percentage of Latin X content: 30-40%

Comparative Literature

COMPLIT 121 – International Short Story

Instructor:TBD Spire#25625

TTH 10:00 am – 11:15 am

Course Description: This class offers an introduction to the short story as a literary genre. It will cover a wide variety of texts, particularly -- but not exclusively -- from the Anglo and Latin American traditions from the 19th century until the present. All works will be read in translation. The main objective of the class is to teach students the analytical tools how to read, interpret, and discuss short stories. Further, it aims at improving critical writing skills and your awareness of the world. We will explore the cultural context and the power relations operative within each individual story, especially with reference to race, class, and gender. Russian, Czech, German, French, Italian, Spanish, English, American, and Latin-American stories from Romanticism to the present. Fantastic tales, character sketches, surprise endings; main types of the short story. (Gen. Ed. AL)

Prerequisite: N/A

Percentage of Latin American, Caribbean and/or Latinx content: 50%

COMPLIT 691 NW: Writing the New Writing the New World

Instructor: M. Barbon mbarbon@complit.umass.edu

TTH 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Course Description: This course offers a hemispheric and comparative approach to the study of Anglo- and Latin American literatures and cultures from the late fifteenth until the eighteenth century, from the age of exploration to the late colonial period. We will look at a wide variety of texts produced in the wake of European imperial expansion in the Americas (e.g. letters, journals, natural histories, ethnographies, captivity narratives and travel accounts) that chronicle the creation of the so-called New World. How has exploration and travel writing produced the Americas for a European readership and what were the epistemological challenges authors were facing when writing the “New World”? How did non-Europeans (e.g. indigenous writers) react to these representational practices and what revisionist accounts did they provide? How was culture contact portrayed and how were racial ideologies constructed? These are just a few of the questions this course will address.

COMPLIT 231 – Comedy

Instructor: TBD Spire#25676

TTH 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Course Description: Our course begins with the premise that contemporary American comedy is informed by the histories of ethnic American groups -- African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans and U.S. Latinos/Latinas -- along with issues of race, class, sexuality and citizenship. American comedians, independent filmmakers, feminists and transgendered comics deploy the language of comedy to invoke serious social matters in contemporary American life: racism, heterosexism, homophobia, class biases against the poor and the undocumented, misogyny, war and other burning issues of the day. We will thus consider that the ends of comedy are more than laughter. Comedy confronts political issues that are constitutive of and threatening to the U.S. body politic. (Gen Ed AL)

Prerequisite: N/A

Percent of Latin American, Caribbean and/or Latinx content: 25%

COMP-LIT 335 – Comic Art in America, 1895 – Present GenEd U, AL

Instructor: N.C. Christopher Couch nccouch@gmail.com

Spire #12344

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to comic art in America, from the beginnings of the newspaper comic strip through the development of comic books, the growth of graphic novels, and current developments in electronic media. It focuses on the history and aesthetics of the medium, comparison between developments in the United States, Mexico, South America, and Canada, and the social and cultural contexts in which comic art is created and consumed. General education course with the designation for United States Diversity (U) and Liberal Arts.

Prerequisites: N/A

Percentage of Latin American, Caribbean and/or Latinx content: 25%

EDUCATION

EDUC 615S – Language & Literacy Policy and Planning

Instructor: Theresa Austin taustin@educ.umass.edu

Tu 4:00-6:30 Spire #26638

Course 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.

Prerequisite: N/A

Percentage of Latin American, Caribbean and/or Latinx content: At least 25%

EDUC 677 – Foundations of Bilingual, ESL and Multicultural Education

Instructor: Laura Valdiviezo lav@educ.umass.edu

Tu 7:00-9:30 Spire #13424

Course Description: This seminar examines the political, philosophical, and pedagogical foundations of multicultural education through various approaches to knowledge construction and production that shape from education institutions to teaching culturally and linguistically diverse student populations. The course presents perspectives on issues of access and provision of high quality public education particularly for students in underserved communities (Latinos in the U.S./Indigenous peoples in the Americas). Through the analysis of sociocultural and sociopolitical variables such race, ethnicity, language, gender and social class the course addresses issues of inequality in structures, policies, and practices in schools in the United States and globally.

Prerequisite: N/A

Percentage of Latin American, Caribbean and/or Latinx content: 50%

HISTORY

HIST 120 – Latin America: The Colonial Period

Instructor: Heidi Scott hvscott@history.umass.edu

TuTh 1:25-2:15 + Discussion Spire #28538

Course Description: This course surveys the history of colonial Latin America, examining the encounters between Europeans, the Indigenous peoples of the Americas, and African peoples over the course of three centuries. The class explores the reciprocal effects of this contact. What impact did the conquest have on the peoples, cultures, environments, and demography of the Americas? What were the characteristics of the societies, cultures, and environments that emerged from this ongoing process of contact, conflict, and colonialism? We examine, among other themes, experiences and portrayals of conquest, the formation of colonial communities, the role of the Catholic Church, the formation of racialized caste systems, everyday life in colonial society, and the collapse of empire in the early nineteenth century. Opposing viewpoints and historiographical debates set the tone for at least some lectures and discussions. We make frequent use of textual and visual primary source materials throughout the semester. Assignments for the course include a midterm exam, an assignment based on the analysis of historical sources, a book review, and active participation. (Gen.Ed. HS, DG)

Prerequisite: N/A

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

HIST 121 – Modern Latin America

Instructor: Joel Wolfe jwolfe@history.umass.edu

MoWe 1:25-2:15 + Discussion Spire #28477

Course Description: Discussions of Latin America usually fall back upon facile generalizations that emphasize recent changes to explain “current events.” This course will examine 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: N/A

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

HIST 220 – Capitalism and Alternatives in Latin America

Course Instructor: Kevin Young kayoung@umass.edu

MW 10:00-10:50 + Discussion Spire#28600

Course Description: Why have poverty and inequality proven so persistent in modern Latin American history? What strategies have people proposed to deal with these problems, and with what consequences? 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: the liberal export era of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the “import substitution” or state-led industrialization efforts of the mid-twentieth century, experimentation with radical alternatives to capitalism in Cuba and elsewhere, the neoliberal reforms of the 1980s and after, and recent attempts to forge alternatives to neoliberalism. Key recurring issues will include natural resource extraction, agricultural systems, industrialization, control of the workplace, environmental impacts, the role of the state in the economy, foreign intervention, attempts at regional cooperation, and the relationship of democracy to the economy. We will pay close attention to the relationship between economic policies and political power, social movements, and the non-human environment. The economy and its features— ownership structures, labor systems, wealth, poverty, inequality, unemployment, gender and ethnic hierarchies, environmental degradation, etc. – are not natural: they are determined to a great extent by human actions and conflicts. We will investigate how differing human visions and interests have shaped economic conditions, social relationships, and the environment.

Prerequisite: N/A

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

History 300: Women and Revolutions

Instructor: Diana Sierra Becerra dianasierrab@umass.edu

TTH 1 - 2:15PM

Course Description: In the twentieth-century, working-class women built revolutions to dismantle oppressive systems and create a free society. They organized workers, waged armed struggle, and built alternative institutions. Why did women join revolutionary movements? How did gender shape their participation? How did women define revolutionary theories and practices? We will consult primary and secondary sources to understand the experiences and dreams of radical women. We will focus on historical case studies primarily from Latin America.

75% Latin American History

History 394PIH: History and its Publics | T & TH, 10AM - 11:15AM

Instructor: Diana Sierra Becerra dianasierrab@umass.edu

TTH 10:00 am – 11:15 am

Course Description: History is a tightly woven “bundle of silences.” This course will examine how public history—a practice that makes history accessible to broader audiences—can tighten or unravel those bundles. Who benefits from historical erasure and how does it work? How do institutions, public spaces, and everyday practices construct our understanding of the past? This course will highlight public history practices that confront colonialism, imperialism, and white supremacy. Workers, survivors of state violence, activists, and academics, have used public history to intervene in political debates. Some have gone further, using history to identify strategies for how we get free.

50% Latin X Content

HISTORY 397PRH-01(15711) - Power and Resistance in Latin America (Honors)

ST-Power&Resistance/LatinAmer (Lecture)

Instructor: K. Young kayoung@umass.edu

MW 2:30-3:45

Course Description: Why have ordinary Latin Americans joined social movements, often at high personal risk? How and when have those movements achieved their goals, and what common obstacles have they faced? What factors have influenced the forms and strategies that movements adopt? This course surveys the history of Latin American and Caribbean social movements from the late nineteenth century to the present day, seeking to identify key patterns and lessons in the process. Some of the case studies will include labor movements in twentieth-century Chile and Cuba, peasant/indigenous movements in Mexico and the Andes, feminist and LGBTQ movements in Brazil and Honduras, mobilization against military dictatorship in Argentina in the 1970s, the transnational campaigns against U.S. intervention in Central America in the 1980s, and recent struggles in defense of natural resources and the environment. We will also consider some of the groups who have mobilized in opposition to these movements. Classes will involve a mix of lectures and seminar-style discussion. Requirements include several short quizzes, a take-home essay, and an independent research paper.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 245 – Government & Politics in the English Speaking Caribbean

Instructor: Carlene Edie cjedie@polisci.umass.edu

TuTh 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm

Course Description: Focus on the English-speaking Caribbean, formerly the British West Indies: Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Grenada. Analysis of the political institutions, processes and movements which give expression to the forces at work in these societies, especially those of class, ethnicity, and relations of production. Regional economic integration and political federation examined: the utility or otherwise of CARICOM, failure of West Indies federation, etc.

Prerequisite: This course is open only to Political Science majors at first. Course will be open to non-majors after initial ramping of Registration period. It is also recommended that you have taken POLISCI 111.

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

POLISCI 343 – Government & Politics in East Africa

Instructor: Carlene Edie cjedie@polsci.umass.edu

TuTh 11:30-12:45

Course Description: Comparative analysis of the politics of change in Tanzania and Kenya. Economic dependency and underdevelopment; decolonization and liberation; ideology and practice; democratization and economic liberalization. Emphasis on interaction between domestic and external politics.

Prerequisite: This course is open only to Political Science majors at first. Course will be open to non-majors after initial ramping of Registration period. Upper-division standing requirement, and needed to have taken POLISCI 111. Otherwise, consent of instructor is needed.

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

POLISCI 340 – Latin American Politics

Instructor: Sonia Alvarez soniaa@polsci.umass.edu

TTh 4:00-5:15 PM

Course Description: 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.

Prerequisite: N/A

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

POLISCI 777 – Latin American politics

Instructor: Sonia Alvarez soniaa@polsci.umass.edu

Wed 5:30-8:00 PM

Course Description: Interdisciplinary analysis of core issues and contemporary challenges in Latin American politics. Special attention to neoliberalism, post-neoliberalism, and the “Pink Tide” or leftist turn in politics from the 1990s to 2010s; the crises of the Left and rise of right-wing governments and movements; precarious democracy and processes of de-democratization; decoloniality and pluriversal politics; neo-extractivism and resistance; and, gender, race, sexuality and protest politics.

Prerequisite: none

Percent Latin American and/or Latinx content: 100 percent.

PORTUGUESE

PORTUG 301 – Conversational Portuguese II

Instructor: Luiz Amaral amaral@umass.edu

MoWeFr 1:00-2:15

Course Description: Discussions based on varied topics of current interest and from modern Portuguese writers, to develop speaking ability in Portuguese. Conversations focus on everyday life situations. Use of current newspapers, magazines, articles and pamphlets dealing with social and cultural issues.

Prerequisite: PORTUG 240 or equivalent

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

PORTUG 316 – Brazil

Instructor: Luiz Amaral amaral@umass.edu

TuTh 1:00-2:15

Course Description: This course presents some current topics in Brazilian culture and civilization through the lyrics of well-known Brazilian songwriters. The course also has a significant language component to help students improve their written and oral abilities in Portuguese. We start by studying the “MPB de protesto” from the 60's and 70's in opposition to the Military Government (Caetano Veloso, Chico Buarque, Geraldo Vandré, Milton Nascimento, Gilberto Gil, Raul Seixas, Ivan Lins, Elis Regina). We then move into the 80's and 90's Rock and Roll era when songwriters discuss some serious social issues in a society that was trying to learn how to live in a democracy (Cazuza, Legião Urbana, Titãs, Paralamas do Sucesso). Finally, we listen to some of the best 21st century Brazilian Hip-Hop artists to understand why poverty, police brutality, racism and gender discrimination still play a significant role in Brazilian society (MV Bill, Racionais MC's, Gabriel o Pensador, Amanda NegraSim, Emicida, Sara Donato).

Prerequisite: PORTUG 240 or permission from instructor

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

History, Gender Relations, and Affections: Narratives of Loves, Pleasures, and Violence in Western Best Seller Literature (20th- 21st centuries)

Instructor: Professor Ana Carolina Eiras Coelho Soares (2020 Brazilian Fulbright Schollar)

Time/Date: TBA

This course aims to promote a transdisciplinary debate, within the analytical perspectives of gender studies, feminist epistemology, and historical narratives, about the notions of " loves", "pleasures", and " violences" constructed in Western literature considered " best-seller" for women, and usually written by women, in order to understand how the ways of living and feeling among people were constructed from this so-called "new" literature: the chick-lit.

Emotions are traditionally undervalued by the traditional patterns of historical construction and, nevertheless, they are fundamental elements in the social, political, cultural, and economic structures in the lives of people in the past and in the present, influencing the logics of the powers/knowledges and individual and collective practices. In this “chick-lit” literature, whose target audience are women, it is necessary to think about the cultural and social heritages of these writings and their influence in the contemporary world, showing the various power games in the relations between genders; the networks of power; social authorizations; moral interdictions; various silences and possible forms of resistance.

SPANISH

SPAN 301 – Conversational Spanish I

Instructor: Margara Russotto margheri@spanport.umass.edu

TTH 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Course Description: Advanced conversational course designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish. A variety of cultural texts will be the base for classroom activities. These activities are designed to improve 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.

Prerequisite: Grade C or higher in Spanish 240 or with the permission of the instructor

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 99%

SPAN 301 – Conversational Spanish I**Instructor:** Carole Cloutier cloutier@spanport.umass.edu**MWF 11:15 am – 12:05 pm**

Course Description: Advanced conversational course designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish. A variety of cultural texts will be the base for classroom activities. These activities are designed to improve 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.

Prerequisite: Grade C or higher in Spanish 240 or with the permission of the instructor
Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 99%

SPAN 301 – Conversational Spanish I**Instructor:** Tal GoldFajn tgolfajn@umass.edu**TTH 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm**

Course Description: Advanced conversational course designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish. A variety of cultural texts will be the base for classroom activities. These activities are designed to improve 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.

Prerequisite: Grade C or higher in Spanish 240 or with the permission of the instructor
Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 99%

SPAN 310 – Advanced Language through Culture**Instructor:** David Rodriguez Solas dsolas@umass.edu**TuTh 4:00-5:15**

Course Description: An advanced Spanish course that introduces students to academic writing through the study of Latin American or Spanish cultural production. Taught in Spanish.

Prerequisite: N/A

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

SPAN 322 – Introduction to Spanish-American Literature I

Instructor: Emma Rivera-Rábago rivera@spanport.umass.edu

MoWeFr 11:15-12:05

Course 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. COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH.

Prerequisite: Spanish 240 OR consent from instructor

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

SPAN 323-01 – Introduction to Spanish-American Literature II

Instructor: Emma Rivera-Rábago rivera@spanport.umass.edu

TuTh 10:00-11:15

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.

Prerequisite: Spanish 240 OR consent of instructor.

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

SPAN 323-02 – Introduction to Spanish American Literature II

Instructor: Emma Rivera-Rábago rivera@spanport.umass.edu

TuTh 11:30-12:45

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.

Language of Instruction: Spanish

Prerequisite: Spanish 240 OR consent of instructor

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

SPAN 397MC Special Topics – Introduction to Latin American “Minicuento”

Instructor: Margara Russotto margheri@spanport.umass.edu

TuTh 4:00-5:15

Course Description: Introducción al género literario más conciso, difícil e iconoclasta de todos. Revisión de una tradición antigua, recreada y renovada por los escritores latinoamericanos mediante recursos extremos, tales como la perfección formal, el humor y la sátira social. Estudio de autores fundamentales (Monterroso, Shua, Campobello, Cortázar, Sequera, entre

otros). Se requiere participación activa y consistente de los estudiantes: presentaciones orales, informes de lectura, reseñas, examen midterm y un ensayo final. Course taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: Grade C or higher in Spanish 240 or with the permission of the instructor
Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 99%

SPAN 417 – Culture and Civilizations of Spanish America

Instructor: Luís Marentes marentes@spanport.umass.edu

MoWe 2:30-3:45

Course Description: We will study the historical development of Latin American culture and civilization as a hybrid phenomenon, paying particular attention to the relationship between indigenous groups and others. We will consider the way in which “Indian” and “indigenous” are categories that emerged with the encounter between Americans and Europeans, and how their meaning has changed with time, as they have been appropriated by different factions and groups. To approach this topic, we will read primary and secondary sources in Spanish and English. Throughout the semester students will write brief texts responding to the readings and linking them to current events. Students will also write a final paper and follow Latin American news on a regular basis. (Gen.Ed. AL, G)

Prerequisite: SPAN 311, 354 or consent of instructor.

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

SPAN 597LT – Literary and Cultural Theory in the Luso-Hispanic World

Instructor: Regina Galasso rgalasso@umass.edu

We 4:00-6:30

Course Description: This seminar will study theoretical tools for analysis of literary and cultural production in the Luso-Hispanic world. It will provide students with the theoretical tools necessary to understand the key concepts and issues in literary and cultural studies. It will provide an overview of current trends in cultural and literary theory applied to Luso-Hispanic studies and will encourage students’ independent critical thinking. This seminar furthermore seeks to offer an overview of the research conducted by the faculty of the Spanish and Portuguese Program, who selected collectively the materials and will be in charge of teaching specific sessions during the semester. In addition, we will have guest speakers from other departments at UMASS, the Colleges, and beyond who will present on their current research. Class is conducted in English.

Prerequisite: This is a graduate course. It is also open to advanced undergraduates.

Undergraduates need approval from the instructor prior to enrolling in the course.

Percentage of Latin Am and/or Latinx Content: 70%

History, Gender Relations, and Affections: Narratives of Loves, Pleasures, and Violence in Western Best Seller Literature (20th- 21st centuries)

Instructor: Professor Ana Carolina Eiras Coelho Soares (2020 Brazilian Fulbright Schollar)

Time/Date: TBA

This course aims to promote a transdisciplinary debate, within the analytical perspectives of gender studies, feminist epistemology, and historical narratives, about the notions of "loves", "pleasures", and "violences" constructed in Western literature considered "best-seller" for women, and usually written by women, in order to understand how the ways of living and feeling among people were constructed from this so-called "new" literature: the chick-lit.

Emotions are traditionally undervalued by the traditional patterns of historical construction and, nevertheless, they are fundamental elements in the social, political, cultural, and economic structures in the lives of people in the past and in the present, influencing the logics of the powers/knowledges and individual and collective practices. In this "chick-lit" literature, whose target audience are women, it is necessary to think about the cultural and social heritages of these writings and their influence in the contemporary world, showing the various power games in the relations between genders; the networks of power; social authorizations; moral interdictions; various silences and possible forms of resistance.