SYLLABUS

Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies
LACS 101 / TuTh 10am – 11:40am, Oxford Science Building 415

Pablo Palomino / pablo.palomino@emory.edu
Office Hours: Pierce 215, TuTh 9-10, W 3-4, and by appointment

Description

This course provides a multidisciplinary approach to major historical and current issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its goal is to provide an introduction to the major socio-cultural areas of the region, to the economic and ideological features of its engagement with globalization, to different disciplinary styles in Latin American scholarship, to relevant political and policy debates—from ethnicity to economic development—and to social, academic, and policy themes that Oxford students can pursue in the region.

The requirements for a successful course are your full attendance and active participation in class and two exams. The course combines the instructor’s lectures, the discussion of a very varied body of scholarship on an array of topics and countries, and the analysis of cinema and other artistic production. The exam prompts require a thorough study of the readings, lectures, films, and any other material discussed in class.

After completing this course, students will be ready to pursue advanced courses on Latin America and the Caribbean, will have a comparative perspective to study the United States and other regions of the world, and will be able to engage in debates on the history, the culture, and the politics of globalization.

Grading

Class attendance and participation 50%
Mid-Term Exam 25%
Final Exam 25%

Grade Scale

A = 94-100  A- = 90-93  B+ = 87-89  B = 83-86  B- = 80-82  C+ = 77-79
C = 73-76  C- = 70-72  D+ = 67-69  D = 63-66  F = 0-62

Absences: Only one unexcused absence is permitted. After that, one point per absence will be discounted from the final grade.

Honor code: Plagiarism and academic dishonesty will automatically result in an F grade.
Laptops are not allowed in class, except on specifically indicated occasions.
Smartphones are not allowed in class under any circumstance.

**Office hours:** Students are expected to attend office hours within the first three weeks of class. Failure to do this will affect their class attendance and participation grade.

**Accessibility and Accommodations:** Students must contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) to receive a letter outlining specific academic accommodations and should discuss them with their professor as early in the semester as possible. OAS contact information: (770) 784-4690 oas_oxford@emory.edu / http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access/students/index.html

**Bibliography**

**Books (available at the campus bookstore)**

**Articles and book chapters (available on Canvas)**

- Rob Baggott and George Lambie, “‘Enticing Case Study’ or ‘Celebrated Anomaly’? Policy Learning from the Cuban Health System,” *The International Journal of Health Planning and Management*, September 6, 2017.


- Mauro Castelló González et al., “International Medical Collaboration: Lessons from Cuba,” *Children (Basel, Switzerland)* 3, no. 4 (October 18, 2016)


- Angela Stuesse, *Scratching out a Living: Latinos, Race, and Work in the Deep South* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2016), Chapters 1 “Southern fried” and 5 “Pecking order.”


**Filmography**

The Library will screen the following movies and loan DVD copies. The movies can be watched through paid Internet media providers (some of them indicated below). It is the student’s responsibility to watch the films on time.

- *Cidade de Deus* [City of God], Fernando Meirelles (Brazil, 2002) / Amazon Video, YouTube, Google Play, iTunes, Vudu, Netflix Streaming

- *Nostalgia de la luz* [Nostalgia for the light], Patricio Guzmán (Chile 2010) / Amazon Video, Netflix DVD

- *Y tu mamá también* [And your mother too], Alfonso Cuarón (Mexico 2001) / Amazon Video, iTunes, Netflix Streaming

- *Habana blues* [Havana Blues], Benito Zambrano (Cuba, 2005) / iTunes, Netflix DVD

**Schedule of classes**

**Introduction**

1 / Jan-18 Th / Introduction
2 / Jan-23 Tu / Moya, “Latin America: The Limitations and Meaning…”
3 / Jan-25 Th / Chasteen, Ch. 2 “Encounter” + Ch. 3 “Colonial crucible”
4 / Jan-30 Tu / Chasteen, Ch. 4 “Independence” + Ch. 5 “Postcolonial blues”
Ethnicities
5 / Feb-1 Th / Arocena & Bowman: “The awakening of indigenous culture in Bolivia”
6 / Feb-6 Tu / Arocena & Bowman: “Brazil: where were the blacks?” + Brazil Reader
7 / Feb-8 Th / Film discussion: City of God Screening Tu Feb 6
8 / Feb-13 Tu / Archetti, “Male hybrids” + Arocena & Bowman: “Global lessons from the Beautiful Game”
9 / Feb-15 Th / Alcubierre & Bazán, “José Vasconcelos’ classical readings”
10 / Feb-20 Tu / Telles & Flores, “Not just color”

Modernities
11 / Feb-22 Th / Chasteen, Ch. 6: “Progress” + Ch. 7: “Neocolonialism”
12 / Feb-27 Tu / Chasteen, Ch. 8: “Nationalism” + Hess, “Walt Disney’s Saludos Amigos”
13 / Mar-1 Th / Review session
14 / Mar-6 Tu / Midterm exam
15 / Mar-8 Th / Music, tradition, and modernity in Latin America

SPRING BREAK
16 / Mar-20 Tu / Chasteen, Ch. 9: “Revolution” + Schwall, “Cultures in the body”
17 / Mar-22 Th / Chasteen, Ch. 10: “Reaction”
18 / Mar-27 Tu / Feitlowitz, “Night and Fog”
19 / Mar-29 Th / Film discussion: Nostalgia for the Light Screening Tu Mar 27
20 / Apr-3 Tu / Chasteen, Ch. 11: “Neoliberalism and beyond…” + Film discussion: Y tu mamá también Screening Sun 1 Apr
21 / Apr-5 Th / Kincaid, A Small Place
22 / Apr-10 Tu / Dossier: five readings on the Cuban health system
23 / Apr-12 Th / Film discussion: Habana blues Screening Apr 10 Tu

Latin Americans in the United States
24 / Apr-17 Tu / Mora, “Cross-field effects and ethnic classification”
25 / Apr-19 Th / Stuesse, Scratching Out a Living + Gonzales, Lives in limbo

Conclusion
26 / Apr-24 Tu / Hunter & Borges, “Transforming subjects” + Arocena & Bowman:
“Gender and representation”
27 / Apr-26 Th / Conclusion + Review session

Final Exam date: TBA