Latin American & Caribbean Studies

Course Offerings – Summer 2021

CORE

LACS 101.01 Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
ONL Hollis M France  
(P) 07/13-08/11 ONLINE (Summer II)

LACS 101.02 Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
ONL Sarah E Owens  
(P) 05/17-06/04 ONLINE (Maymester)

Category A: HISTORY – POLITICS – CIVILIZATION

ANTH 328.01 Aztecs, Maya, and their Ancestors  
ONL Barbara E Borg  
(P) 07/13-08/11 ONLINE (Summer II)

Category B: LITERATURE – CULTURE – LANGUAGES

No offerings.

Course Offerings – Fall 2021

CORE

10432 LACS 101 01 M 3.000 Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
TR 09:25 am-10:40 am Haley L Osborn  
(P) 08/24-12/13 TBA

11667 LACS 101 02 O 3.000 Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
ONL Maria Luci De Biasi Moreira  
(P) 08/24-12/13 ONLINE

13438 LACS 101 03 M 3.000 LC 25: Intro Latin Am & Caribbean Stu  
MWF 11:00 am-11:50 am Christina M Garcia  
(P) 08/24-12/13 ECTR 217 First Year Experience and Learning Community 25
### Category A: HISTORY – POLITICS – CIVILIZATION

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SPAN 333: Remixing Culture: Latin America through Adaptation Studies (Osborn)

This course aims to identify and analyze patterns of evolution and adaptation in Latin American culture through the study of source “texts” (literary works, film, visual arts, and songs) and their reinterpretations by new authors, artists, directors, and performers. While drawing from theories on Adaptation Studies, we will establish our own working definition for what constitutes an “adaptation” and develop the language to distinguish between these and other forms that do not meet adaptation criteria. As we question and dissect the production of adaptations on artistic, intellectual, and professional levels, we will identify processes of cultural negotiation and locate the gradual shapeshifting of cultural codes from one version of each source text to the next. Our final class project, “Remixing Culture,” a podcast dedicated to exploring the sociocultural implications of adapting literary works in new contexts, will represent the culmination of our community building and research.

SPAN 333: “México lindo y querido” (Weyers)

The Mexican Republic shares an extensive land border with the United States. It is one of our most important trade partners. Mexico is the top foreign destination for US vacationers. A significant part of our country was once part of Mexico. Much of the growing Spanish-speaking population in the United States is originally from Mexico. Still, Mexico is widely misunderstood on this side of the Rio Grande.

Through history, art, gastronomy, music and multiple other cultural manifestations, we will explore Mexico's past, present and future. Understanding a country and its people is a complicated task. Appreciating those factors is an important beginning. By the conclusion of the course, you can expect to understand some of the complexities of our important neighbor to the south. More importantly, I hope that your appreciation of Mexico opens new doors for you.
SPAN 366 is Survey of Latin American Literature 20th and 21st Century (Carrillo-Arciniega)
El curso hace una revisión de la producción literaria en todos los géneros de lo más relevante de la literatura hispanoamericana desde el modernismo con Rubén Darío, Gutiérrez Nájera, Delmira Agustini; las vanguardias con Huidobro, Vallejo, Alfonzina Storni; el Boom con Rulfo, Borges, Cortázar hasta la narrativa actual con Roberto Bolaño. Asimismo, directores más importantes del mundo hispanoamericano como Pablo Larraín.

SPAN 492: Literatura y cultura chicana-latina: identidad y alteridad (Avendaño)
Literatura y Cultura Chicana-Latina: Identidad y Alteridad" es un seminario interdisciplinario. En esta clase se estudia la cuestión de identidad y alteridad según las experiencias de hispanos nacidos y/o criados en los Estados Unidos. Se estudiarán las experiencias biculturales/bilingües de latinos mediante el análisis de sus obras literarias. El objetivo es familiarizar a los estudiantes con cuatro comunidades latinas en los Estados Unidos—los mexicano-americanos, o chicanos, los puertorriqueños que residen en el continente, los cubanoamericanos, y los dominicano-americanos. Se estudiará la historia y presencia en EEUU de cada grupo y las tendencias migratorias a EEUU. En esta clase se estudia cómo estos individuos definen su herencia cultural, racial y nacional en relación a la de sus padres, y cómo conceptualizan su identidad por medio del Otro. Las siguientes son algunas de las preguntas que se considerarán: ¿Cuales son las conexiones culturales que estos grupos mantienen con su país de origen o el de sus antepasados? ¿Cómo se perciben a sí mismos dentro de la sociedad estadounidense y cómo los perciben otros estadounidenses? ¿Por qué es la lengua tan importante en cuanto a la cultura de estos grupos?

LTSP 252 Society History and Culture in Spanish American Literature: Queer, Black, and Nonhuman Narratives of Latin America (García)
In this literature in translation course, we will study Latin American literary representations of queer, trans* and black corporealities at the intersection of the nonhuman. Starting with the Argentine classic, Kiss of the Spider Woman (1976), and concluding with the Dominican Afro-Futurist novel Tentacles (2015), we will explore how Latin American writers unsettle the boundaries of the human as a way to contest dominant subject models. Rather than appeal to a universal humanism, Critical Race and Trans* theorists point to the concept’s origins in colonial projects and racial taxonomies. Following their lead, we will trace how these literary texts foreground a shared enfleshment and artificiality, that which has often been deemed in excess to human essence and connects human bodies to animals, technology, and the divine. In so doing, we will see how these writers disrupt social hierarchies and produce new forms of community based on difference, as opposed to a common identity.

INTL 290 ST: Humanitarian and Development Aid - A Critical Examination (Wuigk)
This course introduces students to the various actors involved in humanitarian aid and international development assistance such as: United Nations organizations, bilateral donor organizations like USAID and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). After providing an overview over the history of humanitarian and development aid the course will examine global structures of poverty and inequality. Students will learn to analyze how effective the current aid system is. We will look at the classic question: does development aid do more harm than good? The course examines economic, political and cultural effects of aid programs on the recipient countries. We will look especially at countries where multiple donors operate uncoordinated, pursuing inconsistent agendas such as Haiti.
The main objective of the course is to expose students to the criticism that surrounds international humanitarian and development aid and develop an understanding of what needs to change moving forward.