

LAS Spring 2014 Courses

LAS, SPAN 152–10 The Cultural Evolution of Latin America, CRN 15969 (4 credits) (HU)

M, W, 7:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

The historical and cultural evolution of Latin America. Discussion of representative literary works in their cultural and historical contexts. Prerequisite: SPAN 141 or consent of instructor. *Professor Bush*

LAS, ANTH 196–10 Indigenous Cultures of Latin America, CRN 18835 (4 credits) (SS)

T, TR, 2:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

This course examines social change in Latin American from the perspective of indigenous peoples. The main goals are to develop an appreciation for the diversity of cultures found in Latin America, to apply anthropological concepts like cultural ecology, ethnicity, acculturation, and religious syncretism, and to apply these concepts to contemporary issues, including cultural survival, human rights, and environmental sustainability.

Professor Casagrande

LAS, SSP 198–10 The Illusions of Color: Race & Ethnicity in Americas, CRN 16488 (4 credits) (SS)

M, W, 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

How is it possible the someone who is officially considered black in the United States, can simultaneously embody different racial identities through Latin America, for example, pardo (Brown) in Brazil and mestizo (mixed blood) in Mexico? Even more, how is it possible that someone from Italian origins was not officially considered white in early twentieth-century US, but was viewed as white in the Latin American context at the same time period? This course offers a historical comparative analysis of the nature and dynamics of race between the United States and Latin America. The course seeks to advance the argument that the color of skin is determined by symbolic categories constructed in relationship to specific social and historical contexts, which are misrepresented as natural. Throughout the semester, we will analyze concrete historical and contemporary examples of the forms in which racial categories have been associated to social and individual identity, national formation, and social mechanisms of power. The readings and arguments are not confined to disciplinary boundaries, but draw from multiple historical, sociological, anthropological, and artistic sources. This material provides sufficient empirical information to uncover the social and symbolic dynamics that have produced, reproduced, and transformed racial classifications over time and across space. *Professor Ceron-Anaya*

LAS, SPAN 263–10 The Spanish American Short Story, CRN 18757 (4 credits) (HU)

M, W, 11:10 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

Comparative study of representative works by major writers such as Quiroga, Borges, and Cortazar, among others. *Department permission required. Professor Bush*

LAS, GS 296–10 Latin America and Its Fragments, CRN 18906 (4 credits) (HU)

M, W, 11:10 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

This class is an introductory survey course within the Latin American Studies Program. It offers students the possibility of approaching a number of issues from a multidisciplinary perspective, including questions of nation–state formation, political economy, social violence, and post–conflict societies. The primary goal of the class is to question the study of Latin America as an object, de–centering our view and attending to the multiplicity of forces that shape a highly heterogeneous region. *Professor Puente*

LAS, SPAN 398–10 Research Project, CRN 17070 (1 credits) (ND)

Instructor permission required. Professor Portela

HIST 049–10 History of Latin America, CRN 18540 (4 credits) (SS)

T, TR, 9:20 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

Spanish and Portuguese colonization of America and the struggles for independence, preceded by a brief view of the ancient American civilizations and Iberian backgrounds. *Professor Zepeda Cortes*

HIST 303–10 Topics in History: History of Latin American Relations, CRN 17331 (4 credits) (SS)

T, TR, 2:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

From the Monroe Doctrine to NAFTA, U.S.–Latin American relations have been controversial. This course examines Latin American responses to the challenges posed by their powerful neighbor. Topics include: the Mexican–American War, the Spanish–Cuban–American War, the Panama Canal, the Good Neighbor Policy, state terror in the Cold War era, the war on drugs, and migration. *Professor Zepeda Cortes*