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LALS Curriculum Materials

Latin American and Latinx Studies

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Spring 2012

### 2012 Courses Spring LAS

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# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR COURSES



Spring 2012



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## AH 103 THE ARTS OF AFRICA, OCEANIA, AND THE AMERICAS

M 11:15-12:00, W/F 10:10-11:30 or M 12:20-1:15, W/F 10:10-11:30, L. Aronson

A survey of the arts of Africa (south of the Sahara), Oceania (the South Sea Islands), and native North, Central, and South America. This course examines a variety of styles, techniques and socioreligious functions of the arts and architecture of these non-Western cultural areas.

## AN 252C AZTECS, INCAS, AND MAYAS

TU/TH 3:40 – 5:00pm, J Ek

This course provides an introduction to the study of the Prehispanic civilizations of the New World. The curriculum will cover pertinent archaeological, ethnohistoric, and epigraphic data from three of the best known pre-Hispanic states: the Maya of southern Mesoamerica, the Aztecs of central Mexico, and the Inca of the Andes. These three examples provide interesting case studies to understand similarities and variability in the political, economic and social organization of the complex societies of the New World. While discussion will focus on the specific examples of the Aztec, Inca, and Maya civilizations, the perspective of this course is explicitly comparative. These case studies will be examined within the framework of anthropological theories of ancient states. For each civilization, we will examine several categories of variability, including: environmental context, origins of complexity, political geography and spatial organization, social organization, economy, religion and ideology, and political structure. Examination of each of these variables, in addition to other topics of interest for each specific case study, will facilitate a comparative approach to understanding New World state.

## FS 212: SPANISH AMERICAN LITERATURE

TU/TH 11:10-12:30am, M 11:15-12:10pm, M. Lander

TU/TH 2:10-3:30am, M 1:25-2:20pm, M. Lander

We will be reading Poetry, Narrative and Theatre from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Authors such as Darío, Neruda, Mistral, Cortázar, Paz, Rulfo, Bombal, and Valenzuela will be studied.

## FS 323 - SPANISH IN THE MEDIA

TU/TH 3:50 – 5:30pm, C. Grant

A study of the Spanish-speaking world within its contemporary cultural context, especially as manifested in the media (newspapers, magazines, radio, television). This course is designed to give students a more complex understanding of Hispanic culture. We will study such topics as political, social, and economic trends in the Spanish-speaking world, the relationship between language and society, and dialect as an expression of culture.

## FS 363 - CONTEMPORARY HISPANIC CARIBBEAN LITERATURES AND CULTURES

M/W 4:00 – 5:20pm. V. Lorenzo

This course examines some of the discourses of political, racial, and national identities in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic through the study of short stories, novels, poetry, films, and cultural essays. Special attention will be given to the negotiations of these identities in the Spanish Caribbean and the Spanish Caribbean diaspora. Students will analyze texts by writers or filmmakers such as Mayra Santos Febres, Luis Rafael Sánchez, Antonio José Ponte, Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, Aurora Arias, and Rita Indiana Hernández. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

## GO 209: THE LATIN AMERICAN PUZZLE

MWF, 10:10-11:05am, A. Vacs.

A comprehensive analysis of Latin American political, social, and economic processes and institutions from a multidisciplinary perspective. The course examines Latin America's political development, ethnic problems, gender roles, and economic strategies as well as the changing role of institutions such as the state, socioeconomic organizations, the church, and the military. It considers how Latin American societies changed after independence while noting those political, social, and economic aspects that remain unchanged. The objective of the course is to provide a critical examination of the evolution and transformation of Latin America while offering the analytical elements necessary to interpret similar processes in other geographical areas and historical periods.

## HI 217C: CARIBBEAN HISTORY: HEGEMONY, IMPERIAL DESIGNS, AND IDENTITY IN THE GREATER ANTILLES

Wed, 4:00-7:00pm, H. Franqui

The course will focus on the Caribbean's relationship with the US from the 1800s to the present, focusing on Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico. We will explore different projects of economic, political, social, cultural, and military control; the variegated responses of Antillean popular sectors and the elite, and the effects of such interactions on national identity and self-perception. Some topics to be considered include: Monroe Doctrine, Manifest Destiny, modern racism, The War of 1898, Projects of Nation Building and Assimilation, Intervention and Occupation in the Caribbean, and Revolution and Resistance.



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