

Skidmore College

Creative Matter

LALS Curriculum Materials

Latin American and Latinx Studies

Fall 2012

2012 Courses Fall LAS

Jordana Dym

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AH 103 - Ways of Seeing: The Arts Of Africa, Oceania, and The Americas.

M/W 2:30-3:50 and TH 2:10-3:05 or M/W 2:30-3:50 and TH 3:15-4:10. Credits: 4.

A survey of a broad range of arts from select cultures of sub-Saharan Africa, Oceania (the South Sea islands), Mesoamerica and Native North America. The course questions the history of studying, collecting, and displaying these arts from the perspective of "primitivism," and its related debates and biases. It also situates them within their proper historical and cultural framework, taking into consideration everything from governance, gender, identity, audience, the role of the artist, and methods of production, to the effects of colonialism, trade and globalization, and issues of modernity, including the responses of contemporary artists. (Designated a non-Western culture course; fulfills humanities requirement.)

FS 212 - Survey of Spanish-American Literature. Prof. Violeta Lorenzo.

M/W 4:00-5:50. Credits: 4

A study of the main currents of Spanish American literature from Colonial times to the present.

Prerequisites FS 208 or permission of instructor.

(Fulfills humanities requirement.)

FS 220 - Language Across the Curriculum. Prof. Grace Burton.

W 10:10-11:05. Credits: 1

A course designed for students who want to use their foreign language skills in any course taught in English at the college. Prerequisites: FS 203. Must be taken S/U.

FS363: Spanish American Women Images. Prof. Beatriz Loyola.

M/W 2:30-3:50. Credits: 3

This course explores the diversity of images and literary voices of Spanish American women through the study of short stories, novel, poetry, drama and film. Readings reflect both traditional and nontraditional portrayals of women in what has been a particularly male-oriented culture. In this course students examine representations of women in Spanish American culture and their historical roots, considering traditional gender roles and more contemporary attempts to break with social expectations linked to sex and gender, as well as the complex interactions of gender with nationality, class, race and ethnicity. Students will read works by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Rosario Castellanos, Rosario Ferré, Rigoberta Menchú, Nancy Morejón, Cristina García, and others.

GO 309 - Latin America and The United States. Prof. Aldo Vacs.

TU-TH 12:40-2:00. Credits: 3

An examination of the relations between Latin America and the United States, including their political, strategic, and economic aspects. The course reviews some of the major theoretical interpretations of these relations and analyzes some crucial historical events and developments before focusing on crucial contemporary topics including collective security, revolutionary change, imperialism and nationalism, economic issues, human rights and democracy, drug traffic, and migration. Prerequisites: GO 103 or permission of instructor.

GO 315 - Immigration Politics and Policy. Prof. Robert Turner.

M/W 2:30-3:50

Credits: 4

An examination of immigration and the issues arising from it-the reshaping of cities, suburbs and rural areas, and the altering of racial dynamics, labor markets, politics, and culture in the U.S. Students will address varied topics such as the historical evolution of American immigration policy, theories of immigration, the economic costs and benefits of immigration, the assimilation of recent immigrants, and the future direction of U.S. immigration policy. Prerequisites: GO 101.

HI-363R 002 Mapping the Americas. Prof. Jordana Dym.

TU/TH 11:10-12:30. Credits: 4

Historians often use maps to understand or illustrate contemporary or past topographical features or political boundaries, but have only recently adopted these graphic texts as primary sources important for their role in making history as well as depicting scientific fact. In this class, students will engage recent scholarship to

understand how maps can reveal something about not only the peoples, spaces, and times they portray, but also the societies that create and consume them. The class will consider maps' role in how local, regional, national and international spaces of the Americas came to be defined, measured, organized, occupied, settled, and disputed. In consultation with the instructor, students will write a research paper on a related topic in the history of cartography. Although we will focus on mapping American spaces, this course will also interest those studying how the Americas intersect with multiple societies, from early modern European empires "discovering" new lands to indigenous societies reclaiming land and resource rights today. (Fulfills social sciences requirement.)

LA 377 - Colloquium In Latin American Studies. Prof. María Lander

M 5:00-7:00. Credits: 1

The course includes presentations and discussions by students, faculty, and guest lecturers, instruction on library research, writing, and oral presentation skills. It may also include field trips or a small community service project. Must be taken S/U.