LATINA/O STUDIES (Div II)

Chairs: Professor Maria Elena Cepeda & Professor Carmen Whalen

- Maria Elena Cepeda, Chair and Professor of Latina/o Studies; affiliated with: Women, Gender & Sexuality Stdy, American Studies Program
- C. Ondine Chavoya, Professor of Art; affiliated with: Latina/o Studies Program
- Jacqueline Hidalgo, Associate Dean for Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Professor of Latina/o Studies and Religion; affiliated with: Religion Department, Latina/o Studies Program
- Roger A. Kittleson, Professor of History; affiliated with: Latina/o Studies Program
- Nelly A. Rosario, Associate Professor of Latina/o Studies; on leave 2020-2021
- Alberto Sandoval-Sanchez, Bennett Boskey Visiting Professor
- Eddy Sandoval, Gaius Charles Bolin Fellow in Latina/o Studies
- Carmen T. Whalen, Carl W. Vogt ’58 Professor of History, Faculty Fellow of the Davis Center and the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; affiliated with: The Davis Center, VP-InstDivrstyEquity&Inclusion, Latina/o Studies Program

Latina/o Studies is an interdisciplinary and comparative field of study that explores the histories, representations, and experiences of Latinas and Latinos in the United States. Latinas and Latinos include peoples who come from or whose ancestors come from Latin America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean. The program seeks to cover the widest range of experiences, encompassing Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, and Dominicans, as well as more recent migrations from a wide variety of Central and South American countries. Courses, most of which use a comparative approach, seek to provide students with the tools to continue their work in areas of their particular interest. Focusing on a diverse group with a long history in the United States, which is also one of the fastest growing populations in the contemporary era, provides an opportunity to explore complex dynamics globally and within the context of the United States. The program examines topics such as the political and economic causes of migration, the impact of globalization, economic incorporation, racialization, the formation and reformulations of identities and communities, the uses of urban spaces, inter-ethnic relations, artistic expression, aesthetics, and visual and popular culture.

THE CONCENTRATION

The concentration in Latina/o Studies requires five courses. Students are required to take the introductory course (LATS 105), one 400-level Latina/o Studies seminar, and three electives. Two electives must be core electives, and one elective can be a related course in Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies or in Countries of Origin and Transnationalism. The three electives must include two different areas of study, and at least one elective must be at the 300 or 400 level. Additional courses may be approved by the Chair. Students, especially those considering graduate work or professional careers in the field, are encouraged to enroll in Spanish language courses at Williams.

Required course:

One of the following 400-level seminars:

LATS 408 / AMST 408 Envisioning Urban Life: Objects, Subjects, and Everyday People
- Taught by: Mérida Rúa
- Catalog details
LATS 409 / WGSS 409 / AMST 411(S) Transnationalism and Difference: Comparative Perspectives
- Taught by: Maria Elena Cepeda
- Catalog details
LATS 420 / ENVI 421 Latinx Ecologies
- Taught by: Jacqueline Hidalgo
- Catalog details
LATS 428(F) Performing Latina/o Cultural Citizenship
- Taught by: Alberto Sandoval-Sanchez
- Catalog details
LATS 471 / HIST 471 Comparative Latina/o Migrations
- Taught by: Carmen Whalen
- Catalog details

Two of the following core electives:

HIST 385 / LATS 385(S) Latinx Politics in New York City and Beyond
- Taught by: Carmen Whalen
- Catalog details
LATS 348 / AMST 348 / COMP 348: Graphic Narratives as Democratic Ideals
Taught by: Nelly Rosario
Catalog details

LATS 358 / ARTH 358: Latinx Installation and Site-Specific Art
Taught by: C. Ondine Chavoya
Catalog details

LATS 386 / HIST 386 / WGSS 386: Latinas in the Global Economy: Work, Migration, and Households
Taught by: Carmen Whalen
Catalog details

LATS 397(F, S): Independent Study: Latina/o Studies
Taught by: Maria Elena Cepeda
Catalog details

REL 309 T / AFR 309 / LATS 309: Scriptures and Race
Taught by: Jacqueline Hidalgo
Catalog details

One additional related course from either of the following subcategories OR from the core electives above:

Countries of Origin and Transnationalism

AFR 248 / HIST 248: The Caribbean: From Slavery to Independence
Taught by: Shanti Singham
Catalog details

ARTH 210: Intro to Latin American and Latina/o Art: Contradictions & Continuities, Postcolonial to the Present
Taught by: Mari Rodriguez Binnie
Catalog details

ARTH 440 / LATS 440: Contemporary Exhibitions: Los Angeles and Latin America
Taught by: C. Ondine Chavoya
Catalog details

HIST 143(F): Soccer and History in Latin America: Making the Beautiful Game
Taught by: Roger Kittleson
Catalog details

HIST 243: Modern Latin America, 1822 to the Present
Taught by: Roger Kittleson
Catalog details

HIST 346 / AFR 346: Modern Brazil
Taught by: Roger Kittleson
Catalog details

HIST 347(S): Democracy and Dictatorship in Latin America
Taught by: Roger Kittleson
Catalog details

HIST 492 T: Revolutionary Thought in Latin America
Taught by: Roger Kittleson
Catalog details

LATS 114 / AMST 114: Of Caravans and Narcos: U.S. Media Narratives about Central and South America
Taught by: Maria Elena Cepeda
Catalog details

PSCI 266: The United States and Latin America
Taught by: James Mahon
Catalog details

PSCI 349 T: Cuba and the United States
Taught by: James Mahon
Catalog details

PSCI 352 / GBST 352(F): Politics in Mexico
Taught by: James Mahon
Catalog details

RLSP 274 / WGSS 275 / COMP 286: Women's Contemporary Cultural Production in Latin America
Taught by: Roxana Blancas Curiel
Catalog details

WGSS 337 / ANTH 337: Race, Sex & Gender in Brazil
Taught by: Gregory Mitchell
Catalog details
Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies

Students can check with the program chair to see if other courses not listed here might count as electives.

**AFR 200(F, S)** Introduction to Africana Studies
- Taught by: Vanatta Ford, Neil Roberts
- Catalog details

**AMST 403 / AFR 333 / LATS 403** New Asian American, African American, Native American, and Latina/o Writing
- Taught by: Dorothy Wang
- Catalog details

**ARTH 462 / AMST 462 / LATS 462 / ARTH 562(F)** Art of California: Pacific Standard Time
- Taught by: C. Ondine Chavoya
- Catalog details

**HIST 380(F)** Comparative American Immigration History
- Taught by: Scott Wong
- Catalog details

**WGSS 240 / SOC 240 / AMST 241 / LATS 241 / THEA 241(S)** Performing Masculinity in Global Popular Culture
- Taught by: Gregory Mitchell
- Catalog details

**THE DEGREE WITH HONORS**

Honors in Latina/o Studies may be granted to concentrators after an approved candidate completes an honors project, delivers a public presentation of the work, and is awarded an honors grade by her/his advisor and two other faculty readers. In consultation with the advisor and the chair, faculty readers may be from outside the Latina/o Studies Program.

The honors project will be completed over one semester plus winter study. It may consist of a conventional research thesis of 40-70 pages or of other forms of presentation (e.g., video, art, theater). It may also combine a shorter research thesis with another medium.

To be accepted as a candidate for honors in Latina/o Studies, a student must meet these criteria:

- Submit and earn approval of a project proposal in April of the junior year. The proposal should be no longer than 5 pages and should lay out the project’s aim and methodology, identify the student’s advisor for the work, and include evidence of competence in the necessary media for projects that include non-thesis forms.

- Achieve a grade point average generally of at least 3.33 in LATS courses at the time of application.

Students admitted to the honors program must submit a 5-to 8-page revised proposal, with an annotated bibliography, by the second week of classes in the fall semester of her/his senior year. They should register either for LATS 493 in the fall semester and LATS 031 in Winter Study, or for LATS 031 in Winter Study and LATS 494 in the spring semester. These courses will be in addition to the 5 courses that make up the regular concentration.

**STUDY ABROAD**

Study abroad and other off-campus programs offer excellent opportunities for students to build on, and expand, the intellectual interests they develop as part of the Latina/o Studies concentration. Through their connections to various institutions in the U.S. and other nations, Latina/o Studies faculty can help place students in U.S. borderlands programs as well as programs in Mexico, Cuba, and other “countries of origin.” Any student seeking to include courses as part of a concentration in Latina/o Studies should feel free to contact the Program chair or other faculty. A maximum of 1 course taken away from Williams can count (as an elective) toward the completion of the concentration.

**FAQ**

Students MUST contact departments/programs BEFORE assuming study away credit will be granted toward the major or concentration.

**Can your department or program typically pre-approve courses for major/concentration credit?**

Yes, in some cases, if appropriate course information is available in advance (e.g. syllabi and/or course descriptions), though students should be sure to contact the department.

**What criteria will typically be used/required to determine whether a student may receive major/concentration credit for a course taken while on study away?**

Course title and description. Although syllabus and description, including readings and assignments, would be preferable.

**Does your department/program place restrictions on the number of major/concentration credits that a student might earn through study away?**

Yes. 1 of 5 for the concentration and can only count as an elective.

**Does your department/program place restrictions on the types of courses that can be awarded credit towards your major?**

No.
Are there specific major requirements that cannot be fulfilled while on study away?
Yes. Requirements that cannot be fulfilled: Intro Course, Senior Seminar, 2 Core Electives.

Are there specific major requirements in your department/program that students should be particularly aware of when weighing study away options? (Some examples might include a required course that is always taught in one semester, laboratory requirements.)
No.

Give examples in which students thought or assumed that courses taken away would count toward the major or concentration and then learned they wouldn’t:
None to date.

LATS 105 (F) Latina/o Identities: Constructions, Contestations, and Expressions
What, or who, is a Hispanic or Latina/o? At present, individuals living in the United States who are classified as such number approximately 57 million, constituting the country's largest "minority" group. In this course, we will study the interdisciplinary field that has emerged in response to this growing population, as we focus on the complex nature of "identity." Viewing identities as historically and socially constructed, we begin with a brief assessment of how racial, ethnic, class, and gendered identities take shape in the Hispanic Caribbean and Latin America. We then examine the impact of (im)migration and the rearticulation of identities in the United States, as we compare each group's unique history, settlement patterns, and transnational activity. Identity is also a contested terrain. As immigrants and migrants arrive, the United States' policymakers, the media, and others seek to define the "newcomers" along with long-term Latina/o citizens. At the same time, Latinas/os rearticulate, live, assert, and express their own sense of identity. In this light, we conclude the course with an exploration of these diverse expressions as they relate to questions of class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and national origins.

Class Format: The course will feature synchronous online class meetings with some small discussion groups.
Requirements/Evaluation: participation and several short papers (1-5 pages) throughout the semester
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators
Expected Class Size: 20
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Unit Notes: required course for concentration in Latina/o Studies
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora

Fall 2020
LEC Section: R1 MW 10:00 am - 11:15 am C. Ondine Chavoya, Maria Elena Cepeda

LATS 112 (F) Caribbean Diasporic Aesthetics: An Introduction
This course explores how aesthetics can serve as an organizing principle for the critique, analysis, and theorizing of racial and diasporic formations across the 20th century, with a specific focus on Caribbean diasporic populations and their cultural production. We will think about aesthetics as literary, visual, and sonic representations authored by and about communities of color in response to the uneven processes of racialization, migration, colonization, and nation-state formation that inflect how identity is shaped and experienced across time and space. Engaging the work of artists like Hew Locke, María Magdalena Campos-Pons, Kara Walker, and Miguel Luciano in conversation with Stuart Hall, José Quiroga, Krista Thompson, and Michelle Ann Stephens among others will illuminate these inquiries. The circuits of culture, goods, ideas, labor, and peoples that flow between the archipelagos of the Caribbean and the metropoles such as Miami, New York, and London will serve as critical sites to map our interventions.
Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, short writing assignments, a 4- to 5-page midterm paper, and a 10-page final paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 20
**Enrollment Preferences:** first-year students and Latina/o Studies concentrators

**Expected Class Size:** 18

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

**Attributes:** GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives GBST Latin American Studies Electives LATS Core Electives

**Not offered current academic year**

**LATS 114 (S) Of Caravans and Narcos: U.S. Media Narratives about Central and South America** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** LATS 114 AMST 114

**Primary Cross-listing**

What do contemporary U.S. media discourses about Central and South America reveal about relationships of power in the Americas? How does the systematic analysis of visual, textual, and sonic media discourse enhance our comprehension of broader social dynamics? How do South and Central Americans in the diaspora actively counter dominant media narratives about their communities? And what does it mean to center the unique histories, cultures, and political contexts of diasporic Central and South Americans within Latin/a/x Studies? Drawing from a wide range of scholarly materials and media platforms, this interdisciplinary course assumes a transnational approach to these issues, with an emphasis on how to conduct effective discourse analysis of everyday media texts. Above all, we will highlight the ways in which ethno-racial identity, gender, sexuality, class, and nation intersect to inform mainstream U.S. media narratives and our understandings of past and present modes of representation.

**Class Format:** discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** two short (5- to 7-page) essays; one class presentation; final take-home examination (5-7 pages)

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 12

**Enrollment Preferences:** LATS concentrators by seniority; AMST majors by seniority

**Expected Class Size:** 12

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

LATS 114 (D2) AMST 114 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course encourages students to develop critical thinking skills regarding the intersection of categories of difference (including ethno-racial identity, gender, sexuality, class, and nation) employing a variety of scholarly materials and everyday media texts. Students will be encouraged to consider past and current relationships of power across the Americas with an eye towards how attitudes towards Central and South Americans shape representations of these communities in the Global North.

**Attributes:** LATS Core Electives LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect

**Not offered current academic year**

**LATS 203 (S) Chicana/o/x Film and Video**

**Cross-listings:** AMST 205 WGSS 203 LATS 203 ARTH 203

**Primary Cross-listing**

Hollywood cinema has long been fascinated with the border between the United States and Mexico. This course will examine representations of the U.S.-Mexico border, Mexican Americans, and Chicanxs in both Hollywood film and independent media. We will consider how positions on nationalism, race, gender, identity, migration, and history are represented and negotiated through film. We will begin by analyzing Hollywood "border" and gang films before approaching Chicana/o/x-produced features, independent narratives, and experimental work. This course will explore issues of film and ideology, genre and representation, nationalist resistance and feminist critiques, queer theory and the performative aspects of identity. Through a focus on Chicana/o/x representation, the course explores a wide spectrum of film history (from the silent era to the present) and considers numerous genres.

**Class Format:** Discussion-oriented lecture class. In addition to class meetings and readings, students will be expected to watch 3-4 hours of film per week on GLOW or in the library.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** one short paper, mid-term exam, final exam and take home essays
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: Art majors; LATS concentrators
Expected Class Size: 20
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 205 (D2) WGSS 203 (D2) LATS 203 (D2) ARTH 203 (D1)

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora ARTH post-1800 Courses FMST Core Courses GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives LATS Core Electives

Spring 2021
LEC Section: 01 TBA C. Ondine Chavoya

LATS 220 (F) Introduction to Urban Studies: Shaping and Living the City

Cross-listings: AMST 221 LATS 220 ENVI 221

Primary Cross-listing

Generally, cities have been described either as vibrant commercial and cultural centers or as violent and decaying urban slums. In an effort to begin to think more critically about cities, this course introduces important topics in the interdisciplinary field of Urban Studies. Specifically, we will discuss concepts and theories used to examine the peoples and structures that make up cities: In what ways do socio-cultural, economic, and political factors affect urban life and development? How are cities planned and used by various stakeholders (politicians, developers, businesses, and residents)? How do people make meaning of the places they inhabit? We will pay particular attention to the roles of race, ethnicity, class, and gender in understanding and interpreting urban communities. Texts include works by anthropologists, historians, sociologists, cultural critics, cultural geographers, and literary writers.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, several short writing assignments (1-2 pages), two creative group projects and presentations, a midterm essay (6-7 pages) and final essay (8-10 pages)

Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students as well as American Studies majors and Latina/o Studies concentrators
Expected Class Size: 20
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 221 (D2) LATS 220 (D2) ENVI 221 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Space and Place Electives ASAM Related Courses ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives EXPE Experiential Education Courses GBST Urbanizing World Electives LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 222 (S) Ficciones: A Writing Workshop (DPE)

Cross-listings: ENGL 252 LATS 222

Primary Cross-listing

This course is focused on the art and practice of writing fiction. Sessions are divided into workshop and seminar. Workshop: Students will present short fiction or novel excerpts for peer critique and the editorial advice of the instructor. Seminar: We will study published fiction by Latina/o, Latin American, Afro-Diasporic, and other writers, paying close attention to how each author employs narrative elements--characterization, plotting, structure, dialogue mechanics, setting, tone, theme--as well as the values and visions expressed. Regular assignments and in-class exercises will help
students further strengthen their narrative skills.

Class Format: workshop

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, writing exercises, 4- to 5-page midterm paper (close-reading a text), 10- to 15-page final writing portfolio

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENGL 252 (D1) LATS 222 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Student work will encourage personal and cultural expression, with the opportunity to analyze the shaping of social differences, dynamics of unequal power, and processes of change.

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 224 (S) U.S. Latinx Religions

Cross-listings: REL 224 AMST 224 LATS 224

Primary Cross-listing

In this course, we will engage aspects of Latinx religious experiences, practices, and expressions in the United States of America. Given the plurality of Latinx communities and religious lives in the U.S.A., we can only consider select contexts that help us understand the challenges of studying and defining the "religious" and "hybridity" in Latinx contexts. We will survey certain selected religious traditions and practices --such as popular Catholic devotions to Guadalupe, crypto-Judaism, curanderismo, Latinx Muslims, and Santeria-- by focusing on particular moments of religious expression as elucidated in specific historiographies, ethnographies, art, literature, and film.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, short writing exercises, a 3-page essay, a 5-page essay, and an 8-12-page final review essay/project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: LATS concentrators and AMST and REL majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
REL 224 (D2) AMST 224 (D2) LATS 224 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 228 (F) Revolt and Revelation in 20th-Century Americas

Cross-listings: AFR 228 AMST 228 REL 223 LATS 228

Primary Cross-listing

Writing in 1971, Dominican priest and Peruvian theologian Gustavo Gutierrez asked "Is the Church fulfilling a purely religious role when by its silence or friendly relationships it lends legitimacy to dictatorial and oppressive government?" Such a question encapsulates the sometimes agonistic and other times deeply intertwined relationships between religious institutions, religious thought, and movements for political transformation in the 20th century Americas. This course examines those forms of "God-talk" broadly termed "liberation theologies" that responded to and challenged social relationships of class, colonization, race, culture, gender, sexuality, (dis)ability, and ecology. These theologies were borne out of and in turn deeply
shaped struggles against oppressive regimes and structures in the Americas, and as such we will focus on some specific theological writings—such as those of Gutiérrez—and their relationship to distinct social movements and struggles over land, economy, and political power, especially in Brazil, El Salvador, Perú, and the United States of America between 1960-2000.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, short writing exercises, a 5- to 6-page take-home midterm essay, and an 8- to 12-page final review essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: majors and concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AFR 228 (D2) AMST 228 (D2) REL 223 (D2) LATS 228 (D2)

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies Electives LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 232 (S) We the People in the Stacks: Democracy and Literatures of Archives

Cross-listings: LATS 232 ENGL 232

Primary Cross-listing

"Archives have never been neutral they are the creation of human beings, who have politics in their nature. Centering the goals of liberation is at the heart of the issue." --Jarrett Drake, former digital archivist at Mudd Manuscript Library, Princeton University This literature and writing course will examine the concept of archives through the lens of democratic ideals. A primary focus will be on how works of literature engage archives—their creation and deletions, their contents and omissions, their revelations and concealments. We will also look at the lives of archivists like Arturo Alfonso Schomburg. Readings include: "The Library of Babel" by Jorge Luis Borges; Important Artifacts and Personal Property From the Collection of Lenore Doolan and Harold Morris, Including Books, Street Fashion and Jewelry by Leanne Shapton; and All the Names by José Saramago. Drawing from the values explored in class, students will have opportunities to contribute to existing archives and to curate their own.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, short writing exercises, midterm project, final creative project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: LATS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12-15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
LATS 232 (D2) ENGL 232 (D2)

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 234 (S) From Conga to Hip Hop: Center-staging Latinidades on Broadway

Carmen Miranda and Desi Arnaz caused a sensation when they appeared on Broadway musicals in 1939 and 1940 respectively. Little did they know that their spectacular performances would inaugurate the stereotypes of the Latin Bombshell and the Latin Lover within the American national imaginary. In this course, we will examine Latina/o representation in The Great White Way at the intersection between identity, ethnicity, race, class, and gender. The course will introduce students to the Broadway musical genre and focus on the politics of Latina/o Otherness and Difference across time and space within the framing of a chronological and hemispheric/domestic perspective. Emphasis will be placed on how stereotypes are constructed, mobilized, and circulated and how Latinidades, agency, and empowerment result from the entanglement between ideology and given structures of feeling. In so doing, students will critically explore the cultural dynamics, historical contexts, and power relations at work in West Side Story, A Chorus Line, The Capeman, Rent, In the Heights, and other musicals.

Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: attendance, class presentations, 2-page essays; 5-page take-home midterm essay, 10-page final researched archival project on a topic of interest

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: LATS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Spring 2021

SEM Section: 01  TBA  Eddy Sandoval

LATS 240  (F)  Latina/o Language Politics: Hybrid Voices

Cross-listings: AMST 240  COMP 210  LATS 240

Primary Cross-listing

In this course we will focus on issues of language and identity in the contemporary cultural production and lived experience of various Latina/o/x communities. As such, how are cultural values and material conditions expressed through Latina/o/x language and literature? How does Latina/o/x identity challenge traditional notions of the relationship between language, culture, and nation? In what ways might Latina/o/x literary and linguistic practices serve as tools for social change? Departing from an overview of common linguistic ideologies, we will examine code-switching, bilingual education, recent linguistic legislation, and the English Only movement. Throughout the course we will survey texts culled from a variety of literary genres as well, including autobiography, novels, and poetry. Both directly and/or indirectly, these texts address Latina/o/x language politics, as well as the broader themes of power, community, ethno-racial identity, gender, sexuality, class, and hybridity.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, two essays, final take-home examination

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators, American Studies majors, Comparative Literature majors by seniority

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 240 (D2)  COMP 210 (D2)  LATS 240 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives  AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora  LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 241  (S)  Performing Masculinity in Global Popular Culture  (DPE)

Cross-listings: THEA 241  WGSS 240  SOC 240  AMST 241  LATS 241

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines popular cultural contexts, asking what it means to be a man in contemporary societies. We focus on the manufacture and marketing of masculinity in advertising, fashion, TV/film, theater, popular music, and the shifting contours of masculinity in everyday life, asking: how does political economy change the ideal shape, appearance, and performance of men? How have products - ranging from beer to deodorant to cigarettes -- had their use value articulated in gendered ways? Why must masculinity be the purview of “males” at all; how can we change discourses to better include performances of female masculinities, butch-identified women, and trans* men? We will pay particular attention to racialized, queer, and subaltern masculinities. Some of our case studies include: the short half-life of the boy band in the US and in Asia (e.g., J/K-Pop), hip hop masculinities at home and abroad, and the curious blend of chastity and homoeroticism that constitutes masculinity in the contemporary vampire genre. Through these and other examples, we learn to recognize masculinity as a performance shaped by the political economy of a given culture.
**Requirements/Evaluation:** masculinity journal, mid-term essay, visual analyses of pop culture artifact, choice of final essay or 12 page final paper

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** a short statement of interest will be solicited

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

THEA 241 (D1) WGSS 240 (D2) SOC 240 (D2) AMST 241 (D2) LATS 241 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course examines the construction of masculinity as it relates to intersecting identities such as race, sexuality, class, and global political economic considerations. Key to understanding masculinity are questions about the diversity of experiences of masculinity, cultural variations of gender norms, privilege, agency, patriarchy, heteronormativity, and interlocking systems of oppression.

**Attributes:** EXPE Experiential Education Courses FMST Related Courses LATS Comparative Race + Ethnic Studies Electives

Spring 2021

SEM Section: 01 TBA Gregory C. Mitchell

**LATS 246 (S) Aesthetics and Place-making in Latina/o New York**

**Cross-listings:** AMST 246 LATS 246

**Primary Cross-listing**

New York City has long served as a nexus of Latina/o migration and settlement since the late nineteenth century. From the New York sound of Afro-Cuban and Puerto Rican salsa to the poetics of slam poetry forged in the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, New York’s Latinas/os have defined and developed numerous forms of Latina/o popular expression. This course examines the aesthetic foundations of Latina/o New York, remaining attentive to the numerous diasporas that have migrated to and made the city their home. Student will engage with a multiplicity of popular cultural genres including memoirs, literature, poetry, sound, visual art, and photography in the context of the history of the city while focusing on key themes of racial formation, the politics of space and place, and the labor of culture.

**Class Format:** discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** attendance and class participation, short writing exercises, 4- to 5-page midterm paper close-reading a text, and a 10- to 15-page final paper

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** LATS concentrators and AMST majors

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 246 (D2) LATS 246 (D2)

**Attributes:** AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Space and Place Electives LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

**LATS 252 (S) Puerto Rico and its Diaspora**

**Cross-listings:** AMST 252 LATS 252

**Primary Cross-listing**

On September 20, 2018, Maria---a category four hurricane made landfall on Puerto Rico. The most powerful storm to hit the island since 1932, Maria caused widespread catastrophic damage on a land already suffering from the devastating effects of a decades-long economic recession. Three months after the hurricane, half the island remained without power, water service yet to be reestablished in many areas, and aid distribution
inadequate and inconsistent. The hurricane and its aftermath brought mainstream U.S. attention to Puerto Rico and its diaspora, while simultaneously calling attention to the island's status and relationship to the United States. This hybrid onsite-Skype-travel course is for students interested in learning about the historical, social, and political relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States. We will examine, for example, the political status of Puerto Rico, migration, race, social movements, and expressive cultural forms that have emerged as a result of this asymmetrical relationship.

Through the study of the impact and legacy of U.S. policies on the island, we will also consider how the fiscal and humanitarian crisis and proposed solutions affect the daily collective lives of the people in the U.S. territory and the diaspora. This course is a unique collaboration between Vassar, Williams, and the UPR. To enroll in this course, students must commit to participating in an alternative spring break/community engagement project in Puerto Rico and flexible with possible changes in class time when Skyping with students from the University of Puerto Rico. We will gather in Puerto Rico to meet with peers from UPR and for an alternative spring break collaboration, interfacing with various community organizations that have taken up vital social, medical, and economic roles vacated by the United States. Taller Salud, PECES, and Casa Pueblo are among the organizations in Puerto Rico that students may work with as a part of the course's community engagement component.

Class Format: to enroll in this course, students must commit to participating in an alternative spring break/community engagement project in Puerto Rico.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, short writing exercises, group work/project, a midterm essay (5-7 pages), and a final essay (10-12 pages)

Prerequisites: students should have some fluency with the Spanish language

Enrollment Limit: 8

Enrollment Preferences: should be first- and second-years, students considering an American Studies major or Latina/o Studies concentration; AMST majors and LATS concentrators.

Expected Class Size: 8

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 252 (D2) LATS 252 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Space and Place Electives EXPE Experiential Education Courses LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 286 (F) Conquests and (Im)migrations: Latina/o History, 1848 to the Present  (DPE)

Cross-listings: LATS 286 HIST 286

Primary Cross-listing

The first Latinx communities were formed in 1848 when the United States conquered half of Mexico's territory. In 1898 the United States annexed Puerto Rico and has retained sovereignty to this day. These early conquests and continuing im/migrations created Mexican and Puerto Rican communities in the United States. U.S. imperialism continued to shape the im/migrations that created Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, Guatemalan and other Latinx communities in the United States. This course explores U.S. military, political, and economic interventions and their impact on im/migrations and the making of Latinx communities. We also explore the impact of U.S. employers' and the U.S. government's recruitment of low wage workers in shaping im/migrations, destinations, and the formation of Latinx working-class communities. Im/migration and refugee policies have long defined who is eligible to enter and how, as well as who is deemed eligible for citizenship and belonging. Within this context, Latinas and Latinos have developed survival and family reunification strategies for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Class Format: This course is a discussion format. It will be offered in a "hybrid" format with synchronous class meetings and group discussion sections, offered in-person and remote.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation with short 1-2 page writing assignments; two 4-5 page essays, and a final 5-7 page essay. All writing assignments are based on course materials.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: LATS concentrators, History majors, or those intending to become concentrators or majors, seniors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
LATS 286 (D2) HIST 286 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This Difference, Power, and Equity course explores racialized dimensions of U.S. imperialism and U.S. labor recruitment, encouraging critical analysis. The course considers the impact on the formation of Latinx communities in the U.S. and on Latinas' and Latinos' lived experiences in the United States.

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora HIST Group F Electives - U.S. + Canada LATS Core Electives

Fall 2020
LEC Section: H1 MWF 11:45 am - 1:00 pm Carmen T. Whalen

LATS 309 (S) Scriptures and Race

Cross-listings: REL 309 AFR 309 LATS 309

Secondary Cross-listing
This course focuses on the relationships between constructions of race in the post-1492 American world and “Christian scriptures.” The big questions of the course examine the ways that contestations of power are intertwined with the making of, interpretation, and transformation of sacred texts. Both scriptures and race are conceptual constellations of human social imagination, and yet their conceptualization has often been embroiled in the hopes and traumas of everyday life in the Americas. How and why did these two terms come to have any relationship to each other? How and why do peoples engage “scriptures”? In what ways do “scriptures” informed how people imagine themselves, their communities, and their relationship to religious and racial “others”? How did “scriptures” and “race” inform each other in modern colonialisms and imperialisms? In this course, we will examine the ways that scriptures have been employed in order to understand and develop notions of race, and we will examine how ideas about and lived experiences of race have informed the concept of scriptures as well as practices of scriptural interpretation.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, short writing exercises, a 5- to 8-page take-home midterm essay, and a 10- to 15-page final essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
REL 309 (D2) AFR 309 (D2) LATS 309 (D2)

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 312 (S) Chicago

Cross-listings: LATS 312 ENVI 313 AMST 312

Primary Cross-listing
"The city of big shoulders has plenty of room for diversity," reads the official visitor's website for the City of Chicago. Focusing on this claim, this course asks students to think critically about what kind room has been made for diversity--social, spatial, and ideological. Additionally we examine the ways in which diverse social actors have shouldered their way into the imagined and physical landscape of the city. Working with ethnography, history, literature, critical essays, and popular culture, we will explore the material and discursive constructions of Chi-Town and urban life among its residents. Appreciating these constructions we also consider how Chicago has served as a key site for understandings of urbanity within a broader national and global context.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, group presentations and discussions, 5 critical briefs (2-pages) and a book review essay (15 pages)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20
LATS 313 (S) Gender, Race, and the Power of Personal Aesthetics

Cross-listings: WGSS 313 AFR 326 AMST 313 LATS 313

Primary Cross-listing

This course focuses on the politics of personal style among women of color in an era of viral video clips, the 24-hour news cycle, and e-commerce sites dedicated to the dermatological concerns of "minority" females. With a comparative, transnational emphasis on the ways in which gender, sexuality, ethno-racial identity, and class inform standards of beauty, we will examine a variety of materials including commercial websites, histories, personal narratives, ethnographies, sociological case studies, and feminist theory. Departing from the assumption that personal aesthetics are intimately tied to issues of power and privilege, we will engage the following questions: What are the everyday functions of personal style among women of color? Is it feasible to assert that an easily identifiable "African American," "Latina," "Arab American" or "Asian American" female aesthetic exists? What role do transnational media play in the development and circulation of popular aesthetic forms? How might the belief in personal style as activist strategy challenge traditional understandings of feminist political activity?

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, one student-led discussion period, two written essays of 5-7 pages, final take-home exam

Prerequisites: LATS 105, AMST 201, WGSS 101 or permission of instructor; first year students are not permitted to take this course

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators, American Studies majors, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors by seniority

LATS 316 (F) The Graphic Narrative: A "Global South" Perspective (DPE)

"[I]n a media-saturated world in which a huge preponderance of the world's news images are controlled and diffused by a handful of men' a stream of comic book images and words, assertively etched' can provide a remarkable antidote." --Edward Said, Introduction to Palestine by Joe Sacco. This course examines graphic narratives (and related texts and film) rooted in the "Global South," with particular emphasis on Latina/o and Latin American experiences. We will focus on how each author/artist deploys visual and narrative elements to express social, political, economic, and cultural realities. Regular assignments will offer students opportunities to create their own graphic narratives.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, short writing exercises, 4- to 5-page midterm paper (close-reading a text), 10- to 15-page final creative paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Readings in the course offer students the opportunity to analyze the shaping of social differences, dynamics of unequal power, and processes of change.

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 320 (S) The Latina/o AIDS Archive: A Cultural Recovery and Revisionary Project in Progress

The AIDS crisis is not over. The protease inhibitors made HIV/AIDS a treatable, chronic disease since 1996, but we must ask who has access to the health care system and the cocktail. The official story only showcased the experience of urban privileged white middle-class gay men. Minorities and women were marginalized and ignored. Puerto Rico and the Mexican Borderlands must be included in the AIDS archive since Latino/a bodies continually inhabited transnational spaces and circuits of migration that propagated the transmission of the virus since the beginning of the AIDS crisis. For many, addressing AIDS four decades into the epidemic, its effects on the Latina/o communities and familias is nothing but an anachronism. In this course students will visit alternative archives in order to recover the silenced history of the Latino/a AIDS crisis toward a revisioning of the hegemonic cultural narrative and rhetorical representation of the epidemic. Given that the Latino/a AIDS crisis remains untold, students will piece together the fragmentary narratives and images, reconsider critical moments, and collect the relegated voices of those who died and are still unaccounted for—los/as desaparecidos/as. Can the SIDA cultural production, material conditions, and lived experiences be recovered, touched, and felt to honor the dead? From an interdisciplinary perspective, this course will critically analyze film, documentaries, video, theater, solo performances, artwork, testimonials, interviews, poems, novels, memorials, the AIDS Quilt, and obituaries that document the Latino/a AIDS everyday experiences, survival practices, and artistic expressions. Among the topics to be covered are: the temporality of illness, mourning, memorialization, activism, and aesthetic intervention. The students will be introduced to the notions of "AmnesiAIDS" and "NostalgiAIDS" to theoretically understand a wide spectrum of conceptual issues such as memory, canonization, temporality, and historicism.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance, class presentations, 2-page critical essays; a 5-page take-home midterm essay and a 10-page final researched archival project essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Lats concentrators

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 327 (S) Racial and Religious Mixture (DPE)

Cross-listings: REL 314  AFR 357  LATS 327  AMST 327

Primary Cross-listing

The very term "mixture" implies that two or more distinct substances have been brought together. Distinctions of race and religion are social fictions; yet, the lived ramifications of these social fictions involve tense struggles over the boundaries of racial and religious communities. These boundaries are not just ideas but also practices. In the history of the Americas, mixed racial and religious identities and experiences have more often been the result of violent clashes than romantic encounters. Still, the romanticization of the New World as a geography that makes such mixtures possible reaches back to the earliest days of Spanish conquest in the Americas. This course critically reconsiders varying ways that racial and religious mixtures have been imagined, defined, challenged, negotiated, and survived under imaginative and legal rubrics of mestizaje, creolization, transculturation, passing, syncretism, religious hybridity, and mixed race studies.

Class Format: mostly discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, short writing exercises, a 3-page first essay, a 5- to 8-page second essay, and a 10- to 14-page final paper
LATS 330 (S) DNA + Latinx: Decoding the "Cosmic Race" (DPE)

Scientists working to assemble maps of the human genome have found a goldmine in the DNA of Latinx, Latin American, and other populations that derive ancestry from multiple continents. In this interdisciplinary course, we will explore Latinidades through a genealogical lens: What culture-specific issues emerge around history, identity, ethics, forensics, immigration, commerce, surveillance, art, science, and medicine? Readings will include The Cosmic Race by José Vasconcelos, The Cosmic Serpent by Jeremy Narby, Bird of Paradise: How I Became Latina by Raquel Cepeda, and The Social Life of DNA: Race, Reparations, and Reconciliation After the Genome by Alondra Nelson.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, writing exercises, 4- to 5-page midterm paper (close-reading a text), 10- to 15-page final writing portfolio

LATS 335 (S) Contemporary Immigration Landscapes

What is the relationship between racial formations, transnational migrations, and power? How do geometries of power shape our relationship to place? This course examines geographies of transnational migration, bringing together insights from critical race theory, queer theory, Indigenous studies, and postcolonial theories to enrich our understanding of human geography. We will look at the use of ethnic and racial formations as a bridge between cultural and political geography in the contemporary US immigration landscape. Through an interdisciplinary exploration of 'migration,' we will examine the depth and range of experiences of migrants and how these communities’ lives are structured through various axes of difference, such as race, gender, sexuality, class, and documentation status. We will give attention to the variegated landscape of immigration enforcement and its relationship to issues of labor, political economy, and environmental justice, among others. Through materials that embrace both historical and contemporary perspectives, this course will help students develop a critical understanding of how space matters when considering transnational processes of migration as well as migrant communities’ cultural place-making practices throughout the US. This course asks students to compare and contrast the intellectual genealogies covered and apply these theories of transnational racial formations to case studies that focus on political interventions for social justice (such as UndocuQueers in the immigrant justice movement).

Requirements/Evaluation: Class Participation (15%): Preparation for, and active participation in, class discussions. Teach-In Facilitation (20%): Group (3-4), led discussion for one 30 minute class segment. Essays (30%): Two 3-5 page essays, each comprising 15% of the final grade. Final
Paper (35%): An examination of the articulation of Latinx migrations and belonging in a case study that interrogates and builds on a major course theme, approximately 12 pages double-spaced, plus references / endnotes / images.

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: LATS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Spring 2021
LEC Section: 01 TBA Eddy Sandoval

LATS 338 (S) Latina/o/x Musical Cultures: Sounding Out Gender, Race, and Sexuality (WS)

Cross-listings: LATS 338 AMST 339 WGSS 338

Primary Cross-listing

In this class we will investigate a wide variety of Latina/o/x popular musical forms, with particular attention to issues of gender, sexuality, and ethno-racial identity. Employing interdisciplinary materials and approaches, this course focuses on the sonic and visual analysis of contemporary Latina/o/x popular music and the identities of its producers, performers, and audiences. We will focus on the following questions, among others: How are hybrid Latina/o/x identities expressed through popular music and dance? In what ways do gender, sexuality, and ethno-racial identity inform the performance and interpretation of particular Latina/o musical forms? What unique role does sound play in our understanding of popular music and identity?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, one semester-long original research project conducted in stages

Prerequisites: prior courses in AMST, LATS, or WGSS; not open to first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors, and American Studies majors by seniority

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
LATS 338 (D2) AMST 339 (D2) WGSS 338 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students are required to complete a semester-long research paper in steps, each of which is evaluated and completed again as needed. These include an abstract (1-2 pages), annotated bibliography (2-5 pages), outline (2-7 pages), rough draft (2 at 6-10 pages), peer editing exercise, and final draft (10-12 pages). The intention is that students learn practical skills related to effective writing and to encourage them to engage in writing in planned stages with consistent feedback.

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives LATS Core Electives WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses WGSS Theory Courses

LATS 340 (F) U.S. Afro-Latinidades

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to examine the history, lived experiences, and cultural productions of Afro-Latinx in the United States. Discussions in the course will center on three related questions: What is Afro-Latinidad? How does Blackness in Latin America differ from its articulation among Afro-Latinx in the United States? And, how have migration and sociopolitical processes impacted the lives of U.S. Afro-Latinx and our collective understanding of Afro-Latinidad? Throughout the course, we will draw on literature in the social sciences and humanities to examine the transnational nature of race and Blackness across the Americas, as well as the intersection between these identities and gender, sexuality, and class. We will also examine several media and cultural productions of U.S. Afro-Latinx (poems, novels, documentary films, blogs, and social media sites) and critically analyze their articulation of the Afro-Latinx experience.
LATS 346 (F) Latinas/os and the Media: From Production to Consumption

Cross-listings: LATS 346 AMST 346

Primary Cross-listing
This interdisciplinary course focuses on the areas of Latina/o media production, policy, content, and consumption in an attempt to answer the following questions, among others: How do Latinas/os construct identity (and have their identities constructed for them) through the media? How can we best understand the complex relationship between consumer, producer, and media text? How are Latina/o stereotypes constructed and circulated in mass media? Where do issues of Latina/o consumer agency come into play? In what ways does popular media impact our understanding of ethno-racial identities, gender, sexuality, class, language, and nation?

Requirements/Evaluation: student participation, one 2- to 3-page close reading exercise, and an original 10- to 12 page research paper conducted in stages

Prerequisites: LATS 105 or permission of the instructor; no first-year students are permitted to take this course

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators or American Studies majors by seniority

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora FMST Core Courses FMST Related Courses LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 348 (F) Graphic Narratives as Democratic Ideals

Cross-listings: COMP 348 AMST 348 LATS 348

Primary Cross-listing
This course examines the graphic narrative in terms of how each author/illustrator employs narrative elements (plotting, structure, characterization, text, and visuals) to express social realities within the context of democratic ideals. The primary focus will be on texts that explore themes of democracy and Latinidades. We will also discuss the "graphic activism" of artists like Sharon Lee De La Cruz of Digital Citizens Lab, a design collective with a focus on civic technology. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to create their own graphic narratives, either digitally or in print. Possible guest speaker: comic book artist Ivan Vélez (Planet Bronx, 2015 Creative Capital Award in Visual Arts).

Class Format: workshop

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and class participation, short writing exercises, 4-5 page midterm paper (close-reading a text), 10-15 page
LATS 358  (S)  Latinx Installation and Site-Specific Art

Cross-listings:  LATS 358  ARTH 358

Primary Cross-listing

This course will explore the various forms of installation and site-specific artworks created by Latinx artists for both museums and public space. We will examine the ways in which Latinx artists have used space as a material in the production of artworks and how this impacts the works' meanings and the viewer's experience. Within the context of U.S. Latinx culture and history, we will connect notions of space with ideas about cultural citizenship, civil rights, and social justice. A variety of art forms will be studied, from traditional to experimental, including murals, sculpture, performance, video, and several multimedia, interactive, or participatory projects. While establishing a historical lineage and theoretical frameworks for analyzing this growing genre, we will pay particular attention to how these works engage urban space and often challenge the institutional assumptions of museums and curatorial practice. Likewise, we will examine the important debates associated with various public art and museum installation controversies.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation:  two short papers, periodic research reports, final research paper, and presentation

Prerequisites:  LATS 105 or ARTH 102 or permission of instructor; GRADART exempt from ARTH 102 prerequisite

Enrollment Limit:  12

Enrollment Preferences:  Latina/o Studies concentrators and Art majors

Expected Class Size:  12

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 358 (D2)  ARTH 358 (D2)

Attributes:  AMST Arts in Context Electives  AMST Space and Place Electives  ARTH post-1800 Courses  LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 385  (S)  Latinx Politics in New York City and Beyond  (DPE)

Cross-listings:  HIST 385  LATS 385

Secondary Cross-listing

Latinas and Latinos have long sought inclusion in the U.S. polity and society. The meanings and terms of inclusion have shifted historically, as have the methods for seeking that inclusion. This course explores activism that has included community building to meet immediate needs, social service approaches, community-based organizing, political and social movements, and participation in pre-existing unions and political groups, as well as electoral politics. At times working within existing structures, Latinx communities have also questioned and challenged those existing structures. Activists have addressed a wide variety of often intersecting issues including education, workers' rights, women's rights and feminism, immigration rights and legal status, environmental justice, LGBTQ+ visibility and rights, as well as others. New York City has long been home to a diverse group of Latinas and Latinos, and provides an important lens to Latinidades and to the politics of recognition, inclusion, and radical transformation. For final projects, students will select a contemporary issue to explore in greater depth and/or explore Latinx politics in another community.
Class Format: discussion-based course

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation and short writing assignments, two essays of 3-5 pages each, final project of 7 to 10 pages, and final presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 40

Enrollment Preferences: History majors and Latina/o Studies concentrators, seniors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

HIST 385 (D2) LATS 385 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course explores how Latinx communities have sought inclusion in the U.S. polity and society, in the face of marginalization based on race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and/or political perspective, as well as other intersecting markers of difference. At times working within existing structures, Latinx communities also challenged those structures and power relations. Questions of difference, power and equity are explored at the structural, community, and individual levels.

Attributes: HIST Group F Electives - U.S. + Canada LATS Core Electives

Spring 2021

SEM Section: 01  TBA  Carmen T. Whalen

LATS 386 (S) Latinas in the Global Economy: Work, Migration, and Households

Cross-listings: HIST 386 WGS 386 LATS 386

Primary Cross-listing

An increasingly global economy, from 1945 to the present, has affected Latinas in their home countries and in the United States. The garment industry, one of the first industries to go global, has relied extensively on Latina workers in their home countries and in the United States. Domestic work, a traditional field of women's work, also crosses borders. Challenging the myth that labor migration is a male phenomenon and that women simply follow the men, this course explores how the global economy makes Latinas labor migrants. What impact has the global economy and economic development had on Latinas' work and their households in their home countries? How have economic changes and government policies shaped Latinas' migrations and their incorporation in the changing U.S. economy? How have Puerto Rican, Mexican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan women confronted the challenges created by a globalizing economy and balanced demands to meet their households' needs?

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation and group presentations, short writing assignments, two short essays, and a final paper that will be presented to the class

Prerequisites: open to first-year students with instructor's permission

Enrollment Limit: 25

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

HIST 386 (D2) WGS 386 (D2) LATS 386 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives HIST Group D Electives - Latin America + Caribbean HIST Group F Electives - U.S. + Canada LATS Core Electives WGS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Not offered current academic year

LATS 397 (F)(S) Independent Study: Latina/o Studies

Latina/o Studies independent study.
LATS 398 (S) Independent Study: Latina/o Studies
Latin/o Studies independent study.

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: LATS Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 403 (S) New Asian American, African American, Native American, and Latina/o Writing

Cross-listings: AMST 403  LATS 403  AFR 333

Secondary Cross-listing
The most exciting and forward-thinking writing in the English language today is being done by formally experimental writers of color. Their texts push the boundaries of aesthetic form while simultaneously engaging questions of culture, politics, and history. This course argues not only for the centrality of minority experimental work to English literature but a fundamental rethinking of English literary studies so as to confront the field's imbedded assumptions about race, a legacy of British colonialism, and to make the idea of the aesthetic more open to ideas generated in critical race studies, diaspora studies, American studies, and those fields that grapple more directly with history and politics. In the critical realms of English, work by minority writers is often relegated to its own segregated spaces, categorized by ethnic identity, or tokenized as "add-ons" to more "central" or "fundamental" categories of literature (such as Modernism, poetics, the avant-garde). Recent work by Asian American, African American, Native American and Latino/a writers challenges our assumptions and preconceptions about ethnic literature, American literature, English literature, formal experimentation, genre categorization, and so on. This writing forces us to examine our received notions about literature, literary methodologies, and race. Close reading need not be opposed to critical analyses of ideologies. Formal experimentation need not be opposed to racial identity nor should it be divorced from history and politics, even, or especially, a radical politics.

Requirements/Evaluation: one shorter paper (7-8 pp.), one final paper or creative project (10-12 pp.), two short response papers, a presentation, and participation

Prerequisites: none but those with some previous experience with literature and/or literary analysis might be helpful

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: American Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 403 (D2) LATS 403 (D2) AFR 333 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives  AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora  AMST 400-level Senior Seminars  LATS Comparative Race + Ethnic Studies Electives

Not offered current academic year

LATS 408 (F) Envisioning Urban Life: Objects, Subjects, and Everyday People

Cross-listings: LATS 408  AMST 408
Primary Cross-listing

What is the relationship between real life in urban communities and the multiple ways in which they are imagined? What does it mean to be "urban," to live in an "urban community," or to be the product of an "urban environment"? Who do we think the people are who populate these spaces? This course takes a critical look at specific populations, periods, and problems that have come to dominate and characterize our conceptions of the quality, form, and function of U.S. urban life. A few of the topics we may cover include historical accounts of the varied ways in which poverty and "urban culture" have been studied; race, class, and housing; the spatial practices of urban youth and the urban elderly; and gendered perspectives on social mobility and community activism. Finally, this course will explore how diverse social actors negotiate responses to their socio-spatial and economic circumstances, and, in the process, help envision and create different dimensions of the urban experience.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, a short essay, a series of writing exercises, and a semester-long final project

Prerequisites: prior courses in AMST, LATS, or permission of instructor; not open to first year students

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: senior Latina/o Studies concentrators and senior American Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 408 (D2) AMST 408 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST 400-level Senior Seminars AMST Space and Place Electives ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives LATS 400-level Seminars

Not offered current academic year

LATS 409 (S) Transnationalism and Difference: Comparative Perspectives

Cross-listings: LATS 409 WGSS 409 AMST 411

Primary Cross-listing

In the age of satellite television, e-mail, and mobile applications such as WhatsApp and Skype, transnational living has rapidly emerged as the norm as opposed to the exception. However, what does it really mean to "be transnational"? How are the lived experiences of transnational individuals and communities shaped by categories of difference such as gender, ethno-racial identity, sexuality, and class? What impacts do the growing number of transnational citizens and residents in the U.S. have on our understanding of "American" identity in the local, national, and global contexts? In this interdisciplinary, comparative course we will analyze recent theories regarding the origins and impacts of transnationalism. Particular attention will be paid throughout the semester to the interplay of gender, ethno-racial identity, sexuality, and class in connection with everyday transnational dynamics. The broad range of case studies examined includes China, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Middle East.

Requirements/Evaluation: student participation, an original 12-15 page research paper conducted in stages, and peer editing

Prerequisites: LATS 105, WGSS 101 or AMST 201; junior or senior standing

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors, and American Studies majors by seniority

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 409 (D2) WGSS 409 (D2) AMST 411 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora ASAM Related Courses GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives LATS 400-level Seminars

Spring 2021

SEM Section: 01 TBA Maria Elena Cepeda
LATS 420  (S)  Latinx Ecologies

Cross-listings: LATS 420  ENVI 421

Primary Cross-listing

An August 2015 Latino Decisions poll found that Latinxs, more than other ethnic groups in the U.S.A., are deeply concerned about climate change and the "environment". How and why might some Latinxs be disproportionately impacted by climate change? How have a few distinct Latinx theorists and activists imagined and constructed ecology? How are struggles for environmental justice related to broader Latinx concerns with and constructions of place? This seminar will examine a few moments in distinct Latinx histories and geographies such as California migrant farmworkers and the struggle over pesticides, urban movements over waste management such as the Young Lords' garbage offensive, food justice movements and urban gardening, as well as literary and theological representations of affective and sacred ecologies such as Helena María Viramontes' *Their Dogs Came With Them* and Ecuadoran-U.S. ecofeminist Jeanette Rodríguez's theological texts. Evaluation will be based on class participation, presentations, annotated bibliography, short writing assignments, writing workshop participation, and a final 20-page research paper.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, presentations, annotated bibliography, short writing assignments, writing workshop participation, and a final 20-page research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Latinx Studies concentrators; Environmental Studies majors and concentrators

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 420 (D2) ENVI 421 (D2)

Attributes: LATS 400-level Seminars

Not offered current academic year

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LATS 428  (F)  Performing Latina/o Cultural Citizenship  (WS)

Being conscious of citizenship is a commonplace preoccupation for most Latinas/os in the United States of America. How can Latinas/os belong to the national imagined community when many are reminded daily that they are second-class citizens, and even presumed to be criminals, rapists, and drug dealers? How do Latinas understand and negotiate an imperialist and colonial past of violence and deterritorialization? How do Latinas/os feel when they historicize citizenship and discover hidden archival scripts documenting how their ancestors’ land was stolen, or how they were forced to migrate in response to military interventions or invasions that caused economic devastation and death? In this course students will critically think about past and present everyday performances and transactions of citizenship, its many embodiments, and structures of feeling. Most important, students will embark on a theoretical journey of research and readings to make sense of how citizenship is experienced and felt and how it is historically situated en el aquí y ahora. Students will explore, within an interdisciplinary perspective and a critical cultural studies framework, the many forms of citizenship, including sexual citizenship, intimate citizenship, economic citizenship, diasporic citizenship, transnational citizenship, academic citizenship and others.

Requirements/Evaluation: none

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: LATS Concentrators

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: LATS 400 Level seminar

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: 5 papers at 2 pgs each (each receiving feedback); assignments will be responses to specific articles/topics covered in class; attention will be paid to organization of ideas, argument, and critical thinking. Students will also submit a midterm paper (5pgs) and a final paper (8pgs) on a topic of their choice, in consultation with the professor.

Attributes: LATS 400-level Seminars
LATS 440 (F) Contemporary Exhibitions: Los Angeles and Latin America  (DPE)

Cross-listings: LATS 440  ARTH 440

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar examines connections between Latinx and Latin American art through a series of recent exhibitions organized as part of a Getty initiative entitled Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA that opened in 2017. While the chronological span for the overall project reaches from Pre-Colombian art to present, we will focus on modern and contemporary art after the 1960s and consider key themes of art and activism, borders and diaspora, globalization and modernism, and popular culture and science fiction in the visual arts. Diverse in scope, these shows explored important developments in the arts of the Americas from the late-20th and 21st centuries, including, abstraction, Chicano muralism, Conceptual art, craft, feminist art, Kinetic art, Modernist design and architecture, social practice, and queer activism. Students will pursue individual research projects directly related to the art exhibitions we study, and examine photography, performance, painting, sculpture (including installation and participatory art), and video by artists both canonical and lesser known. Student projects will analyze the critical responses to the exhibitions while also exploring the roles of archives, art criticism, and curatorial practice in contemporary art history.

Requirements/Evaluation: several short writing and research assignments, oral presentations, class participation, and a final research paper of 16-20 pages

Prerequisites: ARTH 102 (graduate students are exempt from the prerequisite)

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: senior Art majors and senior Latina/o Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 440 (D2) ARTH 440 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Course themes of art and activism, borders and diaspora, globalization and modernism in the visual arts and how they intersect with the exploration of difference, power, and equity and the various ways that artists have produced works and developed practices that critically probe this intersection. Through discussion, presentations, and writing assignments students will develop skills in analyzing artworks and exhibitions that respond to and/or document social inequality and social injustice.

Attributes: ARTH post-1800 Courses  LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect

Not offered current academic year

LATS 462 (F) Art of California: Pacific Standard Time  (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: ARTH 462  AMST 462  ARTH 562  LATS 462

Secondary Cross-listing

In this course, we will study the visual arts and culture of California after 1960 and consider the region’s place in modern art history. We will focus on a series of recent exhibitions organized as part of a Getty initiative entitled Pacific Standard Time. Diverse in scope, these shows explored important developments in postwar art in California, including feminist art, African American assemblage, Chicano collectives, Modernist architecture, craft, and queer activism. In this seminar, we will pursue research projects directly related to the art exhibitions we study, and examine southern California conceptualism, photography, performance, painting, sculpture (including assemblage and installation), and video by artists both canonical and lesser known. Student projects will analyze the critical responses to the exhibitions, while also exploring the roles of archives, art criticism, and curatorial practice in contemporary art history.

Requirements/Evaluation: Several short writing and research assignments, oral presentations, class participation, and a final research paper of 16-20 pages written in stages over the course of the semester. The course will feature synchronous online class meetings with some small discussion groups. Student presentations will be recorded offline and posted to GLOW.

Prerequisites: ARTH 102 - Grad Art exempt from ARTH 102 prerequisite

Enrollment Limit: 12
Enrollment Preferences: senior Art major and senior Latina/o Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 462 (D1) AMST 462 (D2) ARTH 562 (D1) LATS 462 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: There will be considerable focus on writing and peer-editing as a means of shaping critical thinking. We will treat writing as a process; revision is built into the syllabus. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Course themes of art and activism, borders and diaspora, globalism and modernism in the visual arts and how they intersect with the exploration of difference, power, and equity and the various ways that artists have produced works and developed practices that critically probe this intersection. Through discussion, presentations, and writing assignments students will develop skills in analyzing artworks and exhibitions that respond to and/or document social inequality and social injustice.

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives AMST Space and Place Electives ARTH post-1800 Courses LATS Comparative Race + Ethnic Studies Electives

Fall 2020

SEM Section: R1 MW 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm C. Ondine Chavoya

LATS 471 (S) Comparative Latina/o Migrations

Cross-listings: HIST 471 LATS 471

Primary Cross-listing

Since the 1970s, policymakers, scholars, the media, and popular discourses have used the umbrella terms "Hispanic" and "Latina/o" to refer to Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans and more recent immigrants from Central and South American countries. As a form of racial/ethnic categorization, however, these umbrella terms can mask widely divergent migration histories and experiences in the United States. In this course, we develop theoretical perspectives and comparative analyses to untangle a complicated web of similarities and differences among Latino groups. How important were their time of arrival and region of settlement? How do we explain differences in socioeconomic status? How fruitful and appropriate are comparative analyses with other racial/ethnic groups, such as African Americans or European immigrants? Along the way, we explore the emergence of Latina/o Studies as an interdisciplinary and comparative field of study, as well as methods used in Latino and Latina history, specifically oral histories, government documents, newspapers, and interdisciplinary approaches.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation and presentations, a proposal, an annotated bibliography, a short historiographical essay, and a research paper based in part on primary sources

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: History majors and Latina/o Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 8-15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

HIST 471 (D2) LATS 471 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives HIST Group F Electives - U.S. + Canada LATS 400-level Seminars

Not offered current academic year

LATS 493 (F) Senior Honors Thesis: Latina/o Studies

Students beginning their thesis work in the fall must register for this course and subsequentially for LATS 31 during Winter Study.
Prerequisites: approval of program chair; limited to senior honors candidates

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2020
HON Section: H1   TBA   Maria Elena Cepeda

LATS 494 (S) Senior Honors Thesis: Latina/o Studies
Students beginning their thesis work in Winter Study must register for this course.

Prerequisites: approval of program chair; limited to senior honors candidates

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2021
HON Section: 01   TBA   Maria Elena Cepeda

LATS 497 (F) Independent Study: Latina/o Studies
Latina/o Studies independent study.

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

LATS 498 (S) Indep Study: Latina/o Studies
Independent Study: Latina/o Studies

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

Winter Study

LATS 31 (W) Senior Thesis: Latina/o Studies
Students must register for this course to complete an honors project begun in the fall or begin one to be finished in the spring.

Class Format: thesis

Prerequisites: approval of program chair

Enrollment Preferences: limited to senior honors candidates

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year

LATS 99 (W) Independent Study: Latina/o Studies
Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.

Class Format: independent study
Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year