



LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES AUTUMN 2016

Courses numbered 10000-19000 are general education and introductory courses. Courses numbered 20000- 29900 are intermediate, advanced, or upper-level courses and are open only to undergraduates. Courses numbered 30000 and above are graduate or professional school courses and are available to undergraduate students only with the consent of the instructor. Undergraduates registered for 30000-level courses will be held to the graduate-level requirements. To register for courses that are cross listed as both undergraduate and graduate (20000/30000), undergraduates must use the undergraduate number (20000).

Courses that begin with the LACS code are hosted by the Center and include descriptions. All other courses (ANTH, HIST, SPAN, etc) are cross-listed with Latin American and Caribbean Studies, but are hosted by other departments. To view course times and locations for a specific quarter, please visit classes.uchicago.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

ARTH 16215 (LACS 16215)

Art & Architecture of Tenochtitlan/Mexico City

Savannah Esquivel

TR 4:30-5:50 PM

This course provides an introduction to the art and architecture of ancient to contemporary Mexico through a case study of Mexico City (formerly Tenochtitlan). Beginning with the ancestral cities of Tula and Teotihuacan, continuing through the Spanish Conquest and Fall of Aztec Tenochtitlan in 1521, and concluding with the legacy of the 1910 Mexican Revolution, the 1968 Tlatelolco massacre and Olympics, we will examine the criteria inhabitants and historians use to define a “city.”

The course asks two questions: (1) how individuals use public monuments and performance to choreograph the urban environment (2) how the creation of historical narratives and cultural exchange impact the practices of daily life in an ancient and modern city. The tension between antiquity and modernity, global and local identities, colonialism and resistance, and the relationship between art and community formation will be major themes.

SPAN 22003 (LACS 22003)

Introducción a las literaturas hispánicas: del modernismo al presente

Agnes Lugo-Ortiz

R 1:30-4:20 PM

En este curso haremos un recorrido panorámico por algunas de las principales tendencias de la escritura hispanoamericana y sus diásporas desde a finales del siglo XIX hasta el presente. Habremos de prestar particular atención no sólo a las dimensiones estéticas de los textos sino también a las condiciones socio-históricas y políticas que los posibilitaron y en las que, a su vez, ellos incidieron. Entre los autores y autoras a estudiar se encuentran José Martí, Rubén Darío, Mariano Azuela, María Luisa Bombal, Horacio Quiroga, Teresa de la Parra, Jorge Luis Borges, Luis Rafael Sánchez y Pedro Pietri, entre otros/as.

HIST 26123 (KNOW 23001, LACS 26123)

Aztecs and Romans: Antiquity in the Making of Modern Mexico

Stuart McManus

TR 3:00-4:20 PM

Modern Mexico stands in the shadow of two vibrant premodern urban societies: the Mexica (commonly known as the Aztecs) and the Romans. In this course, we will examine how Mesoamerican and Mediterranean antiquities overlapped and interacted in shaping the culture, politics, and society of the area we call Mexico from the late colonial period to the twenty-first century. Topics will include creole patriotism, the political thought of the early Mexican Republic and the Mexican Revolution of 1910, nationalist archaeology, indigenismo, mestizaje, and neoclassical and neo-Aztec art and architecture. All readings will be in translation.

SPAN 28116 (LACS 28116)

Cómo domar una pluma salvaje: territorialidad, identidad, y resistencia en literatura mexicanoamericana/chicana

Jose Estrada

TR 1:30-2:50 PM

ENGL 28614 (LACS 28614)

Contemporary Latina/o Poetry

Rachel Galvin

TR 1:30-2:50 PM

From Julia de Burgos' feminist poems of the 1930s to poetry of the Chicano Movement, Nuyorican performance poetry, and contemporary "Avant-Latino" experiments, this course explores the eclectic forms, aesthetics, and political engagements of Latin@ poetry in the 20th and 21st centuries. (C)

LACS 29700

Reading/Research: Latin American Studies

Students and instructors can arrange a Reading and Research course in Latin American Studies when the material being studied goes beyond the scope of a particular course, when students are working on material not covered in an existing course or when students would like to receive academic credit for independent research.

LACS 29801

BA Colloquium: Latin American Studies

M 3:00-5:50 PM

This colloquium, which is led by the preceptor and BA adviser, assists students in formulating approaches to the BA essay and developing their research and writing skills, while providing a forum for group discussion and critiques. Graduating students present their BA essays in a public session of the colloquium during the Spring Quarter.

LACS 29900

Prep BA Essay: Latin American Studies

Independent BA thesis course

UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE COURSES

LACS 16100/34600 (ANTH 23101, HIST 16101/36101, SOSC 26100, CRES 16101)

ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017 | LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES

updated 8/26/2016

Introduction to Latin American Civilizations I

Alan Kolata

MWF 1:30-2:20 PM

May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This course is offered every year. Autumn Quarter examines the origins of civilizations in Latin America with a focus on the political, social, and cultural features of the major pre-Columbian civilizations of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec. The quarter concludes with an analysis of the Spanish and Portuguese conquest, and the construction of colonial societies in Latin America.

ARTH 20603/30603 (LACS 20603/30603)

Image and Text in Mexican Codices

Claudia Brittenham

M 1:30-4:20 PM

In most Mesoamerican languages, a single word describes the activities that we would call “writing” and “painting.” This seminar will investigate the interrelationships between image and text in Central Mexico both before and immediately after the introduction of alphabetic writing in the 16th century. We will also review art historical and archaeological evidence for the social conditions of textual and artistic production in Mexico, and how these traditions were transformed under Spanish colonial rule. We will consider the materiality of text and image by working with facsimiles of Mesoamerican books in the Special Collections of the Regenstein Library. At the end of the course, students will have acquired a basic literacy in Aztec and Mixtec writing systems, and will have refined their ability to look productively and write elegantly about art.

LACS 26221/36221

Advanced Seminar on Haitian Kreyol Language I

William Balan-Gaubert

TR 9:00-10:20

This advanced-level 3 course sequence helps students develop their skills in understanding, summarizing, and producing written and spoken arguments in Haitian Kreyol through readings and debates on various issues of relevance in Haitian society. In addition to reading, analyzing, and commenting on advanced texts (both literary and nonliterary), students practice and extend their writing skills.

LACS 24705/34705 (HIST 26122/36122)

Argentine Histories

Pablo Palomino

TR 10:30-11:50 AM

This seminar introduces students to current scholarship on modern Argentina, with an emphasis on the 20th century but drawing also on cutting-edge literature from the 19th to understand long-term processes.

The themes are diverse: the links between Argentina and global history; social classes, economic regions, and political regimes; urban and domestic spaces; the gendered nature of politics; the history of the state and its elites; the anthropology and economics of food and music; the forms of remembering; human rights; sexual identities; and of course, football and psychoanalysis. All revolving around the production of, and the challenges to, Argentina's egalitarian ethos.

LACS 25108/35108 (HIST 26218/36218)

History in Practice: Musical Multiculturalism in Brazil

Sergio Assad 1:30-2:50 PM

TR

Brazil is a country uniquely identified with its musical history. This course is designed to describe how Indigenous, African and European influences merged over the course of the 19th and 20th centuries to create Brazil's rich and complex musical tradition. We will focus especially on the interaction of erudite and popular influences, and on the musical and social processes that gave birth to distinctly Brazilian genres such as Samba, Choro, Maracatu, and Frevo. Taught by a renowned Brazilian composer and guitarist, this course will explore Brazil's musical history through live musical performance as well as lectures, readings, recordings, and discussion.

LACS 25110/35110 (HIST 26316/36316)

Revolutions, Constitutions and War: A Continent Transformed. The United States and Latin America, 1850-1880

Erika Pani

MW 1:30-2:50 PM

During the central decades of the 19th century (1840-1870), the decentralized political structures that had been set up after independence throughout most of the continent, North and South, were refashioned. Under the banners of nationalism, freedom, and democracy, through war, diplomatic wrangling and innovative law-making, the American republics—and the continent's monarchical regimes—took on new shapes. The course will explore the ways in which political and territorial controls were refashioned, as were some of the central—and most contentious—tenets of the political order (sovereignty, property, citizenship...) during these turbulent decades.

LACS 27901/47901 (CHDV 27901/47901)

Modern Spoken Yucatec Maya 1

John Lucy

This sequence is a basic introduction to the modern Yucatec Maya language, an indigenous American language spoken by about 750,000 people in southeastern Mexico. Three consecutive quarters of instruction are intended for students aiming to achieve basic and intermediate proficiency. Students receiving FLAS support must take all three quarters. Others may elect to take only the first quarter or first two quarters. Students wishing to enter the course midyear (e.g., those with prior experience with the language) must obtain consent of instructor. Materials exist for a second year of the course; interested students should consult the instructor. Students wishing to continue their training with native speakers in Mexico may apply for FLAS funding in the summer.

HIST 28000/38000 (LACS 28000/38000)

US Latinos: Origins and Histories

Ramón Gutiérrez

TR 9:00-10:20 AM

An examination of the diverse social, economic, political, and cultural histories of those who are now commonly identified as Latinos in the United States. Particular emphasis will be placed on the formative historical experiences of Mexican Americans and mainland Puerto Ricans, although some consideration will also be given to the histories of other Latino groups, i.e., Cubans, Central Americans, and Dominicans. Topics include cultural and geographic origins and ties; imperialism and colonization; the economics of migration and employment; legal status; work, women, and the family; racism and other forms of discrimination; the politics of national identity; language and popular culture; and the place of Latinos in US society.

ENGL 28613/38613 (LACS 28613/38613)

Poetry of the Americas

Rachel Galvin

TR 3:00-4:00 PM

ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017 | LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES

updated 8/26/2016

This course investigates the long poem or “post-epic” in 20th- and 21st-century North and Latin America. As we test the limits of the term post-epic, we will consider whether it may be applied equally to the heroic tale and the open field poem. How do poets interpret the idea of “the Americas” as lands, nations, and sources of identity in these works, and in what tangled ways do their poetics develop through dialogue across linguistic and geographical distances? Authors may include Pablo Neruda, Derek Walcott, Kamau Brathwaite, Gwendolyn Brooks, Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales, Vicente Huidobro, Aimé Césaire, Jimmy Santiago Baca, Anne Carson, Lisa Robertson, M. NourbeSe Philip, Urayoán Noel, and Jennifer Tamayo.

GRADUATE COURSES

SPAN 33710 (LACS 33710)

Text/Image/Territory in Nineteenth-Century Latin America

Agnes Lugo-Ortiz

F 1:30-4:20 PM

In this seminar we will explore how concepts of territory and territorialization were textually and visually articulated in nineteenth-century Latin America. Our inquiry will not only interrogate the aesthetic principles and procedures through which the nation (conceived as geography) was envisioned in the literature and arts of the period, most saliently around the figure of the landscape. We will also investigate alternative forms of spatialization related, yet irreducible, to the imperatives of the modern nation-state, such as the cognitive mappings associated to scientific explorations and to the symbolization of private property. What are the epistemological presuppositions and ideological implications of such practices? What scenarios did they produce? Who was deemed or destined to inhabit them, and within what temporality? In our discussions we will engage key theoretical works on space, territory and landscape (e.g. Lefebvre, Mignolo, Cosgrove, W.J.T. Mitchell, Casid, Mirzoeff) and may focus on literary texts by Bello, Echeverría, Sarmiento, Matto de Turner and Cirilo Villaverde, and on visual artifacts by Rugendas, Blanes, Laplante, Christiano Junior, and Velasco, among others.

SPAN 34110 (LACS 34110)

Ecocritical Perspectives in Latin American Literature & Film

Victoria Saramago

W 1:30-4:20 PM

This course provides a survey of of ecocritical studies in Latin America. Through novels, poems, and films, we will examine a range of trends and problems posed by Latin American artists concerning environmental issues, from mid-19th century to contemporary literature and film. Readings also include works of ecocritical criticism and theory that have been shaping the field in the past decades. Taught in Spanish.

LACS 40100

Reading/Research: Latin American Studies

Students and instructors can arrange a Reading and Research course in Latin American Studies when the material being studied goes beyond the scope of a particular course, when students are working on material not covered in an existing course or when students would like to receive academic credit for independent research.

LACS 40300

MA Paper Prep: Latin American Studies

Independent MA thesis course

LACS 40501

MA Proseminar

Required course for the Master's in Latin American Studies degree program. Students will gain an introduction to the variety of disciplinary approaches, discourses, and foci that fall under the large rubric of Latin American Studies. The proseminar introduces students to specialists in the field at the University of Chicago and to the research and investigation in which they are involved. Open only to program students.

LACS 47813

Advanced Seminar in Mesoamerican Linguistics

John Lucy

PQ: Students must make arrangements directly with John Lucy to enroll in this course

HIST 69002 (LACS 69002)

Colloquium: Slavery and Emancipations—Atlantic Histories

Julie Saville

This course explores political, economic, and cultural aspects of slave emancipations, emphasizing major transformations in Caribbean-Atlantic and North American slave systems since the first abolitionist measures of the mid-eighteenth century through the early twentieth centuries. The interpretive possibilities opened by varying comparative frameworks will be considered in order to explore ways to think historically about material, ideological, and symbolic connections fashioned by slavery and the slave trade and the refashioning of these relationships in a world whose interconnections were increasingly premised on the illegitimacy of laws and many of the practices of enslavement.

HIST 79101 (LACS 79101)

Seminar: Topics in Latin American History 1

Emilio Kourí

This two-quarter research seminar is devoted to the craft of reading and writing Latin American history. Specific topics will shift from year to year, depending on this instructor. For 2016-2017, the first quarter will be devoted to the study of social history in Latin American historiography, with an emphasis on agrarian and indigenous societies. This seminar can be taken either as a two-quarter seminar sequence, which culminates in a winter quarter research paper, or as an autumn quarter colloquium.