



# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES WINTER 2017

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](http://classes.uchicago.edu).

## UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

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ANTH 22615 (LACS 22615)

### **Indigeneity, Religion and the Environment**

**Mareike Winchell**

Around the world, appeals to indigenous difference accompany contentious struggles over land, territory, and resources. While indigenous claims are often seen as strategic responses to shifting legal conditions, this course focuses on Andean practices of land and ritual as they shape, and are reshaped by, political claims to rights and resources. The course is divided into three parts: Indigeneity in the Andes, Intimate Politics, and Ecology and Insurgency. By way of close readings of contemporary ethnographic texts, we will explore Andean relations and attachments to places and things, from land to silver, water to oil. We will then ask how such relations and their politics advance or unsettle common assumptions about the environment, non-Western peoples, and culture at large. If land is approached as a living being to be cared for and nurtured through daily ritual labors, how are such practices sustained or unsettled in conditions of widespread ecological degradation, mineral extraction, or land dispossession? How are notions of living matter, earth spirits, or the agency of nature appropriated within or reconfigured by political claims to indigenous and environmental rights? Combining weekly discussions, reading responses, and a final paper, we will work collaboratively to track the generative ways that notions of indigeneity, religion, and environment are combined and recombined to forge a new terrain of politics.

LACS 26414 (ANTH 23051)

### **Corporeal Collisions: The Catholic Church and Life Politics in Latin America**

**Stefanie Graeter**

**MW 11:30-12:50**

Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical *Laudato si'* proclaimed an eco-ethical vision of Catholicism squarely aligned with environmental and anti-capitalist agendas the world over. Echoing a past of liberation theology in Latin America, Pope Francis has fortified leftist resistances to ecologically destructive practices, often already allied with local Catholic priests and institutions. On the other side of the political spectrum, however,

Opus Dei and other factions of the church align themselves with the agenda of the right, including opposition to LGBT and abortion rights legislation of the past decade. The aim of this course will be to historicize this complex and heterogeneous relationship between the Catholic church and Latin American life politics. Considering its wide range of influences, the course will hone in on the relation the church has had on the conceptualization of corporeal life, which unites its involvement in both ecological and procreative politics in Latin America today.

LACS 26619 (HMRT, CRES)

## **Who Counts, What Counts? Racial Governance in 21st Century Latin America**

**Karma Frierson, Ignacio Martín-Baró Prize Lecturer**

TR 9:30-10:50AM

In 2015 for the first time in Mexico's history, there was an official count of its population of African descent, leaving Chile as the only nation in the hemisphere not to do so. A year prior, Brazil introduced a quota system for all federal jobs, leading to new questions about who qualifies for these positions. These examples and more highlight a new era in Latin America that questions who counts—both literally as with censuses and figuratively as with affirmative action—as Afro-descended in a region characterized by racial mixture. In this course we will analyze the new turn toward racial governance as we grapple with the following questions. How does the racial governance of the 21st century upend or echo the racial governance of the colonial era? How does this new era affect our understanding of race and identity? What is lost and gained by counting people as black?

SPAN 28017 (LACS 28017)

## **Cervantes in the Americas**

**Medardo Rosario**

Miguel de Cervantes continues to be a literary referent for some of the most important authors in the Americas. Jorge Luis Borges, Mario Vargas Llosa, Carlos Fuentes, Roberto Bolaño and Jorge Volpi are among those who have reflected on Cervantes' literary works. In this course we will examine some of the most representative examples of the transatlantic dialog that emerged from the appropriation of Cervantes' Don Quixote as inspiration for the production of literary texts in the Americas. Each text will be paired with a section of Don Quixote in order to establish a transatlantic dialog that aims to explore how certain cultural materials are re-appropriated and re-contextualized to produce new manifestations of art.

LACS 29700

## **Reading/Research: Latin American Studies**

**ARR.**

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.

PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required.

LACS 29900

## **Prep BA Essay: Latin American Studies**

**ARR.**

Independent BA thesis course. PQ: Consent of undergraduate adviser required

## UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE COURSES

LACS 16200/34700 (ANTH 23102; HIST 16102/36102; SOSC 26200; CRES 16102)

### **Introduction to Latin American Civilizations II**

**Dain Borges**

MWF 1:30-2:20PM

May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This course is offered every year. Winter Quarter addresses the evolution of colonial societies, the wars of independence, and the emergence of Latin American nation-states in the changing international context of the nineteenth century.

LACS 22502/32502

### **Elementary Haitian Kreyol 2**

**William Balan-Gaubert**

MW 3:00-4:20PM

This 3 course sequence will provide students with an in-depth study of the Haitian Kreyol language in its modern context, with emphasis on developing students' proficiency in speaking and writing, and in listening and reading comprehension. The course will also provide necessary cultural and historical context.

LACS 24706/34706 (ANTH 26026/31640)

### **Science in the South: Decolonial Approaches to the Study of Science, Technology and Medicine in Latin America**

**Stefanie Graeter**

TR 11:00-12:20PM

This seminar will bridge anthropologies and histories of science, technology, and medicine to Latin American decolonial thought. Throughout Latin America, technoscientific objects and practices, with their presumed origin in the Euro-Atlantic North, are often complexly entangled with neo-imperial projects of development and modernization that elongate social forms of colonization into the present. Technoscience and its objects, however, can also generate new creative, political, and life-enhancing potentials beyond or despite their colonial resonances, or even provide tools to ongoing struggles for decolonization. Together, seminar participants will explore what a decolonial approach to the study of science, technology, and medicine in the Global South, particularly in Latin America, has been and could become and how decolonial theory can inflect our own disciplinary, conceptual, and political commitments as anthropologists of technoscience.

HIST 26127/36127 (LACS 26127/36127)

### **Latin America During the Age of Revolutions, c. 1750-1850**

**Fidel Tavárez**

During the period known as the Age of Revolutions, roughly spanning between 1750 and 1850, Latin American territories went from being colonies of two Iberian empires to being a collection of independent countries. This course examines the tumultuous history that led to the dissolution of the Spanish and Portuguese empires and the birth of new republics and monarchies in the Americas. The course begins by analyzing the

imperial reforms of the eighteenth century and their relationship to Enlightenment thought. The course also considers the many tax revolts and indigenous and slave rebellions that surfaced in reaction to imperial reforms. The course then proceeds to examine the traumatic effects of the Napoleonic wars in the Iberian world, as well as the many innovative political experiments that came about in an effort to safeguard the Spanish and Portuguese empires. Finally, the course examines the many conflicts, wars, and liberation projects that ultimately culminated with Latin American independence. By the end of the course, students will have a firm understanding of the process of Latin American independence and its contribution to the formation of a new global order in the nineteenth century.

SPAN 26620/36620 (LACS 26620/36620)

### **Imagining the Self**

**Larissa Brewer-García**

**MW 3:00-4:20**

This course examines the construction of the self in early modern Spanish and Spanish American writings across different literary genres. We will examine the various ways in which the lyrical or narrating self is formed and deformed by the literary conventions that define him or her. We will also read seminal theoretical texts on autobiography and discuss the ways in which theory both informs and complicates our reading of self-narratives. Notes: Taught in Spanish; PQ: 20300

## **GRADUATE COURSES**

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SPAN 33700 (LACS 33700)

### **Narrating the Other: The Non-Human in Latin American Literature and Culture**

**Laura Gandolfi**

**M 3:00-5:50PM**

This seminar explores the construction of “Otherness” in contemporary Latin American literature and culture from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century. We will examine the representation of multiple “others” (such as animals, monsters, corpses, and cyborgs) in novels, short-stories, poems, non-fiction writings, and photography, and we will reflect on the ways in which contemporary literary and artistic production addresses and problematizes the human/non-human binary opposition. Special emphasis will be given to questions of animality, monstrosity, abjection, disgust, deviance. Critical and theoretical readings may include Giorgio Agamben, Georges Batailles, Rosi Braidotti, Martha Nussbaum. Authors and artists may include Juan José Arreola, Jorge Luis Borges, Julio Cortazar, Teresa Margolles, Guadalupe Nettel, Horacio Quiroga. Taught in Spanish.

LACS 40100

### **Reading/Research: Latin American Studies**

ARR.

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.

PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required

LACS 40300

**MA Paper Prep: Latin American Studies**

ARR.

Independent MA thesis course

PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required.

LACS 47813

**Advanced Seminar in Mesoamerican Linguistics**

**John Lucy**

ARR.

Advanced course for the study of Mesoamerican Languages and Linguistics topics. Students must work with John Lucy to establish the language to be studied.

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

HIST 79302 (LACS 79302)

**Seminar: Inequality in Latin American History 2**

**Brodwyn Fischer**

T 2:00-4:50PM

Students write the seminar paper in the winter quarter.