LATIN AMERICAN & LATINO STUDIES (LALS)

LALS 016 Topics in Literature
An introduction to Writing about Literature, with emphasis on a particular theme, genre, or period. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CIMS 015, CLST 019, ENGL 015, GSWS 017
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Freshman Seminar

LALS 070 Colonial Latin America
The year 1492 was pivotal in the history of the world. It precipitated huge population movements within the Americas and across the Atlantic - a majority of them involuntary as in the case of indigenous and African people who were kidnapped and enslaved. It led to cataclysmic cultural upheavals, including the formation of new cultures in spaces inhabited by people of African, European and indigenous descent. This course explores the processes of destruction and creation in the region known today as Latin America in the period 1400 - 1800. Class readings are primary sources and provide opportunities to learn methods of source analysis in contexts marked by radically asymmetrical power relationships.
For BA Students: History and Tradition Sector
Taught by: Norton
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 070, HIST 070
Activity: Recitation
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Fulfills History Tradition Distribution Requirement

LALS 071 Latin American Survey 1808-Present
This course examines central themes of Latin American history, from independence to the present. It engages a hemispheric and global approach to understand the economic and social transformations of the region. We will explore the anti-imperial struggles, revolutions, social movements, and global economic crises that have given rise to new national projects for development, or have frustrated the realization of such goals. Taking a historical perspective, we will ask: What triggers imperial breakdown? How did slaves navigate the boundary between freedom and bondage? Was the Mexican Revolution revolutionary? How did the Great Depression lead to the rise of state-led development? In what ways have citizens mobilized for equality, a decent standard of living, and cultural inclusion? And what future paths will the region take given uneasy export markets and current political uncertainty?
For BA Students: History and Tradition Sector
Taught by: Teixeira
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: AFRC 073, HIST 078
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 072 Introduction to Latin American and Latino Studies
Designed to introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of Latin American and Latino Studies, this is a seminar oriented toward first and second year students. Readings will range widely, from scholarly work on the colonial world that followed from and pushed back against the “conquest”; to literary and artistic explorations of Latin American identities; to social scientists’ explorations of how Latinos are changing the United States in the current generation.
Taught by: Dr. Ann Farnsworth-Alvear
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HIST 072
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 078 The African Diaspora: Global Dimensions
This class examines the cultural and social ramifications of the African diaspora on a global level. It is divided into two major sections. The first section provides the historical background to the African diaspora by focusing on the forced migration of Africans to Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the Americas. We will then delve into the black experience in French and British colonial spaces. In this section, we will also endeavor to move beyond the Atlantic-centric paradigm in studies of the African diaspora by examining free and unfree migrations of African people across the Indian Ocean to places as far away as India and the Philippines. The second half of the class devotes significant attention to the historical legacy of slavery and colonialism in places like Brazil, Cuba and the United States. In this section, we will discuss such issues as race relations, the struggle for civil rights for African-descent people as well as the emergence and the implementation of affirmative action policies in places like Brazil and the US.
Taught by: Ferreira
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: AFRC 073, HIST 078
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 107 Freshman Seminar: The World After 1800
Freshmen seminars are small, substantive courses taught by members of the faculty and open only to freshmen. These seminars offer an excellent opportunity to explore areas not represented in high school curricula and to establish relationships with faculty members around areas of mutual interest. See www.college.upenn.edu/admissions/freshmen.php
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 012, PSCI 010
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 116 Caribbean Culture and Politics
This course offers anthropological perspectives on the Caribbean as a geo-political and socio-cultural region, and on contemporary Caribbean diaspora cultures. We will examine how the region's long and diverse colonial history has structured relationships between race, ethnicity, class, gender and power, as well as how people have challenged these structures. As a region in which there have been massive transplantations of peoples and their cultures from Africa, Asia, and Europe, and upon which the United States has exerted considerable influence, we will question the processes by which the mixing of peoples and cultures has occurred. Course readings include material on the political economy of slavery and the plantation system, family and community life, religious beliefs and practices, gender roles and ideologies, popular culture, and the differing ways national, ethnic, and racial identities are expressed on the islands and throughout the Caribbean diaspora.
Taught by: Thomas, D.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 116, ANTH 116
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 121 Silver and Gold in the Americas from pre-history to the present
Precious metals have shaped pre-Colombian economies and socio-cultural processes in the Americas for thousands of years. After 1492, gold and silver sent from the "New World" to the "Old World" played a key role in changing economies all over the world. Locally, mining centers were places marked by forced labor, conspicuous consumption, and the destruction of ecosystems. Internationally, gold and silver prices have long had outsized effects on monetary and trade policies. This course uses case studies to delve into the fascinating history of precious metals and mining in North and South America. We will analyze documents describing the gold objects ransacked by Spanish conquistadors, examine 17th Century proto-industrial silver mining at Potosi, trace the impact and human cost of the huge gold strikes in Minas Gerais, in colonial Brazil, read new work on the California and Yukon moments of "rush" and their long-term impact on US monetary policy, and follow new reports about the conflicts at the heart of transnational gold mining in the present. Students will gain experience working with primary sources and will produce an in-depth research paper.
Taught by: Farnsworth-Alvear
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HIST 121
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 121 Silver and Gold in the Americas from pre-history to the present
Precious metals have shaped pre-Colombian economies and socio-cultural processes in the Americas for thousands of years. After 1492, gold and silver sent from the "New World" to the "Old World" played a key role in changing economies all over the world. Locally, mining centers were places marked by forced labor, conspicuous consumption, and the destruction of ecosystems. Internationally, gold and silver prices have long had outsized effects on monetary and trade policies. This course uses case studies to delve into the fascinating history of precious metals and mining in North and South America. We will analyze documents describing the gold objects ransacked by Spanish conquistadors, examine 17th Century proto-industrial silver mining at Potosi, trace the impact and human cost of the huge gold strikes in Minas Gerais, in colonial Brazil, read new work on the California and Yukon moments of "rush" and their long-term impact on US monetary policy, and follow new reports about the conflicts at the heart of transnational gold mining in the present. Students will gain experience working with primary sources and will produce an in-depth research paper.
Taught by: Farnsworth-Alvear
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HIST 121
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 157 Accordions of the New World
This course focuses on the musical genres and styles (both traditional and popular) that have grown up around the accordion in the New World. We will begin our explorations in Nova Scotia and move toward the Midwest, travelling though the polka belt. From there, our investigation turns toward Louisiana and Texas--toward zydeco, Cajun, and Tex-Mex music. We will then work our way through Central and South America, considering norteno, cumbia, vallenato, tango, chamame, and forro. Our journey will include in the Caribbean, where we will spend some time thinking about merengue and r&n-scrape music. Throughout the semester, the musical case studies will be matched by readings and films that afford ample opportunity to think about the ways that music is bound up in ethnicity, identity, and class. We will also have occasion to think about the accordion as a multiply meaningful instrument that continues to be incorporated into debates over cultural politics and mobilized as part of strategies of representation through the New World.
Taught by: Rommen, T.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 157, FOLK 157, MUSC 255
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 174 Capitalism, Socialism and Crisis in the 20th Century Americas
From the crisis of the Great Depression through the 1970s, the United States and Latin America produced remarkable efforts to remake society and political economy. This course analyzes the Cuban and Guatemalan revolutions, as well as social movements that transformed the United States: the black freedom movement, the labor movement, and changing forms of Latino politics. In all three countries, Americans looked for ways to reform capitalism or build socialism; address entrenched patterns of racism; define and realize democracy; and achieve national independence. They conceived of these challenges in dramatically different ways. Together, we'll compare national histories and analyze the relationships between national upheavals in studying the US and Latin America together, the class allows students to explore central questions in both regions' histories. What did capitalism, socialism, and communism amount to? What did democracy mean? What were the roots of racial inequality and how did Americans address it? Why were Americans so enticed by economic growth, and how did they pursue it? How did the Cold War shape social movements? What purposes did unions serve? How did Christianity inform movements for and against social change? Studying these regions together also allows us to explore international interactions. How did the black freedom movement in the US relate to the Cuban revolution? How did Latin American immigration shape the US labor movement? How did US Cold War policy influence Latin American revolutionary movements? The goal of this class is for you to interpret the readings and decide what you think. What you learn in this class, and the quality of our experience together, depends on your reading closely, coming to class with informed ideas and questions, and being prepared to help your classmates answer theirs. We will read approximately 100 pages per week. No background is required.
For BA Students: History and Tradition Sector
Taught by: Offner
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: HIST 174
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 175 Society and Culture in Brazil
With its booming economy, the recent inauguration of its first female president, and its selection as host to the 2012 World Cup and Olympic games, Brazil is growing in global prestige. But amid all these exciting developments are devastating socioeconomic inequalities. Access to safe living conditions, livable wages, higher education, and overall social mobility remain painfully out of reach to many Brazilians, the majority of whom are the descendants of slaves. Why do these problems persist in a country that has had such an enduring and widespread reputation as a "racial democracy"? What are the possibilities of closing the equality gap in Brazil?
Taught by: Walker, T.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 175, HIST 175
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 208 International Organizations in Latin America
International Organizations play a powerful role in mitigating conflict at the global level. What role do they play in solving problems related to global politics, economic development, corruption, inequality and civil society in Latin America? How much power, influence and control do they possess in the region? This course examines the role and impact international organizations have had on Latin America since the mid-20th century. After a review of theoretical and methodological perspectives on the significance of IOs in international relations, students will examine the workings, issues and often controversies surrounding IOs in Latin America, including the IMF, World Bank, UN, OAS and ICC as well as regional organizations such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and area trade blocs and agreements of Mercosur, NAFTA and others. Students will also explore the regional impact of transnational civil society organizations, such as human rights organizations and the International Olympic Committee. Students will be invited to participate in the Washington Model OAS from April 10-17.
Taught by: Bartch
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: PSCI 208
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 209 Latino/as and the Law
Based in concepts and principles of Constitutional law, this course explores the interpretation and impact of seminal court cases in U.S. history as applied to Latino/as in the United States and abroad. With a particular focus on the 20th century, students will examine how court decisions have affected civil rights, immigration policies, welfare, political incorporation and identity and other important issues affecting Latino/as. Students will also explore additional themes including the status and treatment of Latinos in the criminal justice system, representation of Latino/as in the judiciary, and how Supreme Court decisions have also affected U.S. foreign policy with Latin America. Students will be introduced to a number of guest speakers who are academic experts and practitioners in the field.
Taught by: Bartch
Also Offered As: PSCI 202
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 213 Latin American Politics
This course examines the dynamics of political and economic change in twentieth century Latin America, with the goal of achieving an understanding of contemporary politics in the region. We will analyze topics such as the incorporation of the region to the international economy and the consolidation of oligarchic states (1880s to 1930s), corporatism, populism, and elitist pacts (1930s and 1940s), social revolution, democratic breakdown, and military rule (1960s and 1970s), transitions to democracy and human rights advocacy (1980s) makre-oriented reforms (1990s), and the turn to the left of current governments (2000s). The course will draw primarily from the experiences of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile and Mexico. No prior knowledge of the region is required.
Taught by: Falleti
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: PSCI 213
Activity: Recitation
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 227 Educating for Democracy in Latin America and the U.S.
What does it mean to educate for a democracy, and for what type of democracy should we educate for? This course will examine these central questions and others pertaining to citizenship, democracy, and education as it relates to Latin America and Latino/as in the U.S. The course will first examine theories of education for democracy comparing and contrasting the works of persons including U.S. progressive-era writer John Dewey, Brazilian scholar Paolo Freire, and Penn President and political scientist Amy Gutmann. The course will delve into a civic and political education curriculum and pedagogies that have been carried out in institutions, inequality, and culture in the region. The latterpart of the course will examine civic education practices of Latino/as here in the U.S. from primary schools to higher education. This course offers a service-learning component where students will be encouraged to volunteer with educational organizations in the Philadelphia community.
Taught by: Bartch
Also Offered As: PSCI 228
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 231 Perspectives in Brazilizan Culture
Topics vary. For current course description, please see department's webpage: http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml/portuguese/undergraduate/courses.html
Taught by: Flannery Marcia
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PRTG 221
Prerequisite: Taught in Portuguese
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 232 Race and Ethnic Politics
This course examines the role of race and ethnicity in the political discourse through a comparative survey of recent literature on the historical and contemporary political experiences of the four major minority groups (Blacks or African Americans, American Indians, Latinos or Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans). A few of the key topics will include assimilation and acculturation seen in the Asian American community, understanding the political direction of Black America in a pre and post Civil Rights era, and assessing the emergence of Hispanics as the largest minority group and the political impact of this demographic change. Throughout the semester, the course will introduce students to significant minority legislation, political behavior, social movements, litigation/court rulings, media, and various forms of public opinion that have shaped the history of racial and ethnic minority relations in this country. Readings are drawn from books and articles written by contemporary political scientists.

Taught by: Gillion
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 232, PSCI 231
Activity: Recitation
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 233 World History: Latin America Topics vary.
Topics vary
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 234, ARTH 369, EALC 141, GSWS 233, HIST 233
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 235 Latinos in United States
This course presents a broad overview of the Latino population in the United States that focuses on the economic and sociological aspects of Latino immigration and assimilation. Topics to be covered include: construction of Latino identity, the history of U.S. Latino immigration, Latino family patterns and household structure, Latino educational attainment, Latino incorporation into the U.S. labor force, earnings and economic well-being among Latino-origin groups, assimilation and the second generation. The course will stress the importance of understanding Latinos within the overall system of race and ethnic relations in the U.S., as well as in comparison with previous immigration flows, particularly from Europe. We will pay particular attention to the economic impact of Latino immigration on both the U.S. receiving and Latin American sending communities, and the efficacy and future possibilities of U.S. immigration policy. Within all of these diverse topics, we will stress the heterogeneity of the Latino population according to national origin groups (i.e. Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latinos), as well as generational differences between immigrants and the native born.

Taught by: Emilio Parrado
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SOCI 266
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 238 Span Civil War & Postwr
Also Offered As: HIST 238
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 248 The Haitian Revolution
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 248, HIST 248
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 249 The Haitian Revolution
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 249, HIST 249
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 250 Regime Change in Latin America: A Role for the United States?
Why has the United States government participated in regime change in Latin America? How have these interventions affected Latin American political and economic outcomes? How have they helped or hurt U.S. interests in the region? This lecture course provides an introduction to the history and politics of U.S. participation in regime change in Latin America since 1949. For each event, the course will help students understand (1) the goals of the U.S. government; (2) the historical and political context of the intervention; and (3) the outcomes and consequences, both in Latin America and for the United States. One set of short writing assignments will train students to identify the main argument of a reading and assess the quality of the evidence presented in support of that argument; a second set of short writing assignments will train students to make and defend their own argument (see draft syllabus for details).

Taught by: Kronick
Course offered spring; even-numbered years
Also Offered As: PSCI 250
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 254 Archaeology of the Inca
The Inca created a vast and powerful South American empire in the high Andes Mountains that was finally conquered by Spain. Using Penn's impressive Museum collections and other archaeological, linguistic, and historical sources, this course will examine Inca religion and worldview, architecture, sacred temples, the capital of Cuzco, ritual calendar, ceque system, textiles, metalworking, economic policies and expansionist politics from the dual perspectives of Inca rulers and their subjects. Our task is to explain the rise, dominance, and fall of the Incas as a major South American civilization.

For BA Students: History and Tradition Sector
Taught by: Erickson
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 254
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 258 Caribbean Music and Diaspora
This course considers Caribbean musics within a broad and historical framework. Caribbean musical practices are explored by illustrating the many ways that aesthetics, ritual, communication, religion, and social structure are embodied in and contested through performance. These initial inquiries open onto an investigation of a range of theoretical concepts that become particularly pertinent in Caribbean contexts--concepts such as post-colonialism, migration, ethnicity, hybridity, syncretism, and globalization. Each of these concepts, moreover, will be explored with a view toward understanding its connections to the central analytical paradigm of the course--diaspora. Throughout the course, we will listen to many different styles and repertories of music ranging from calypso to junkanoo, from rumba to merengue, and from dance hall to zouk. We will then work to understand them not only in relation to the readings that frame our discussions but also in relation to our own North-American contexts of music consumption and production. (Formerly Music 258).

Taught by: Rommen
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 256, MUSC 257
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 273 The Immigrant City
This course focuses on immigrant communities in United States cities and suburbs. We survey migration and community experiences among a broad range of ethnic groups in different city and suburban neighborhoods. Class readings, discussions, and visits to Philadelphia neighborhoods explore themes including labor markets, commerce, housing, civil society, racial and ethnic relations, integration, refugee resettlement, and local, state, and national immigration policies. The class introduces students to a variety of social science approaches to studying social groups and neighborhoods, including readings in sociology, geography, anthropology, social history, and political science. Ultimately, the class aims to help students develop: 1) a broad knowledge of immigration and its impacts on U.S. cities and regions; 2) a comparative understanding of diverse migrant and receiving communities; and 3) familiarity with policies and institutions that seek to influence immigration and immigrant communities.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Vitiello, Domenic
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: SOCI 270, URBS 270
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 274 Facing America
This course explores the visual history of race in the United States as both self-fashioning and cultural mythology by examining the ways that conceptions of Native American, Latino, and Asian identity, alongside ideas of Blackness and Whiteness, have combined to create the various cultural ideologies of class, gender, and sexuality that remain evident in historical visual and material culture. We also investigate the ways that these creations have subsequently helped to launch new visual entertainments, including museum spectacles, blackface minstrelsy, and early film, from the colonial period through the 1940s.
Taught by: Shaw, Staff
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 294, ARTH 274, ARTH 674, ASAM 294, CIMS 293
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 291 Latin American Literature
This course explores an aspect of Latina/o literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www/english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 270
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Spaces will be reserved for English Majors

LALS 314 Transitions to Democracy
Taught by: Falleti
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: PSCI 314
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 317 The Politics of Matter and the Matter of Politics
What is nature? What is culture? What kinds of practices and actors constitute what we call science? Who and what constitute the sphere we refer to as politics? A number of theoretical developments in cultural anthropology, political theory, critical geography, and feminist science studies have problematized the modernist ontological divide between Nature and Culture and a whole series of binary oppositions (such as objects/subjects, matter/form, bio/geo) that follow from it. Taking inspiration from this literature and placing it in conversation with Native and Indigenous scholarship and a series of contemporary socio-environmental struggles occurring in Latin America and beyond, this course will discuss the conceptual-methodological tools that a concern with politics of matter has generated. The epistemic and political implications of these tools go beyond their analytical usefulness as innovative devices to explore novel phenomena. They complicate well-established fields of inquiry, such as political ecology and economy, environmental studies, ethics, social justice, and modern politics; and, indeed, the singular ontology that these fields may inadvertently and explicitly sustain. We will explore how it is that things, stuff, matter, ‘nature’ came to fall outside modern politics as such, and the kinds of ethico-political repercussions that problematizing this division may produce.
Taught by: Kristina Lyons
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ANTH 317
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 328 Diplomacy in the Americas - The Penn Model OAS Program
"Diplomacy in the Americas" an academically based community service course in which students work with Philadelphia and Norristown public school students to explore solutions to critical problems facing the Americas. Entrenched political, economic, and social inequality, combined with environmental degradation, weak institutions, pervasive health epidemics, weapon proliferation, and other issues pose formidable hurdles for strengthening democratic ideals and institutions. The Organization of the American States (OAS), the world’s oldest regional organization, is uniquely poised to confront these challenges. "Diplomacy in the Americas" guides students through the process of writing policy resolutions as though the students were Organization of the American States (OAS) diplomats, basing their research and proposals on democracy, development, security, and human rights - the four pillars of the OAS. Students will also read literature about what it means to educate for a democracy and global citizenry, and they will have the opportunity to turn theory into practice by creating and executing curriculum to teach and mentor the high school students through interactive and experiential pedagogies.
Taught by Bartch
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: PSCI 328
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 359 Nutritional Anthropology
The course is an introduction to nutritional anthropology, an area of anthropology concerned with human nutrition and food systems in social, cultural and historical contexts. On the one hand, nutritional anthropologists study the significance of the food quest in terms of survival and health. On the other hand, they also know that people eat food for a variety of reasons that may have little, if anything, to do with nutrition, health, or survival. While the availability of food is dependent upon the physical environment, food production systems, and economic resources, food choice and the strategies human groups employ to gain access to and distribute food are deeply embedded in specific cultural patterns, social relationships, and political and economic systems. Thus, nutritional anthropology represents the interface between anthropology and the nutritional sciences, and as such, can provide powerful insights into the interactions of social and biological factors in the context of the nutritional health of individuals and populations. Because food and nutrition are quintessential biocultural issues, the course takes a biocultural approach drawing on perspectives from biological, socio-cultural and political-economic anthropology. Course content will include: a discussion of approaches to nutritional anthropology; basics of human nutrition; food systems, food behaviors and ideas; methods of dietary and nutritional assessment; and a series of case studies addressing causes and consequences to nutritional problems across the world.
Taught by: Hoke
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 359, URBS 359
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 385 Rel & Pol in Latin Amer
This course offers an introductory examination of the political and social role that the Catholic Church has played in Latin America from the time of the Spanish and Portuguese conquests in the 16th century to the end of the 20th century. Throughout this five-century period, the Catholic Church has not acted as a monolithic institution. Some members of the church have been associated with governments and those in power in order to exert control and domination over the population. Others have been among the few individuals or institutions that have spoken up against the injustices and oppression both of colonial governments in the 16th to 18th centuries, and of authoritarian regimes of independent republics in the 19th and 20th centuries. In this latter period, our analysis will include the church's role in defending human, civil, political, and indigenous rights and in promoting the transition from the period of military or civilian dictatorships that ruled a good part of the region starting in the 1960s to civilian democratic regimes in the 1980s and 1990s. We will analyze six countries, three of which were under national security regimes: Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, and three others that experienced internal wars between guerrillas and military-backed civilian juntas: Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.
Taught by: Lombera
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 387 Topics in Africana Studies
Topics vary: Black Feminist Approaches to History & Memory - The term black feminism emerged in public discourse amid the social, political, and cultural turbulence of the 1960s. The roots of black feminism, however, are much older, easily reaching back to the work of black women abolitionists and social critics of the nineteenth century. The concept continued to grow and evolve in the work of twentieth century black women writers, journalists, activists, and educators as they sought to document black women's lives. Collectively, their work established black feminism as a political practice dedicated to the equality of all people. More recently, black feminism has been deployed as a tool for theoretical and scholarly analysis that is characterized by an understanding that race, class, gender, and sexuality are inextricably interconnected.
Taught by: Osuji, Sanders-Johnson, Willis
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 387, GSWS 387, HIST 387
Prerequisites: AFRC 387, GSWS 387, HIST 387
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 388 Topics in Spanish and Latin American Cinema
Also Offered As: CIMS 388, SPAN 388
Prerequisite: Spanish 219 or Spanish 223
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 389 Topics in Modern and Contemporary Art
Topic varies. Spring 2019: The end of the last century saw a shift in the way contemporary artistic practice was conceived. This class will consider the work and writings of key artists and thinkers of the last 50 years who have tackled issues of race, class, consumption, marginality, nationality, and modernism.
Taught by: Shaw
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 388, ARTH 388
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 394 Spanish American Fiction
Topics vary. See the Romance Languages Department’s website at http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SPAN 394
Prerequisite: Spanish 219
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 395 Hispanic Theater
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Taught by: Regueiro
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SPAN 395
Prerequisite: Spanish 219 or Spanish 223
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 396 Introduction to Spanish American Literature
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 390, COML 390, GSWS 391, SPAN 390
Prerequisite: Spanish 219 or Spanish 223
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 397 Studies in Spanish American Culture
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 396, GSWS 396, SPAN 396
Prerequisite: Spanish 219 or Spanish 223
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 398 History of Spanish American Culture
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 397, GSWS 397, SPAN 397
Prerequisite: Span 219
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 399 Independent Study
Individual research to be taken under the direction of a faculty member. Students wishing to do an independent study should contact the Latin American and Latino Studies program.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 402 Us-Latin American Rel
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 417 Comparative Racial Politics
This course combines scholarship on race and racism in plural societies with qualitative approaches to the study of political institutions, phenomena and actors. Germany, Brazil, France and Cuba will be examined as individual country cases and in comparative perspective. Conceptual and theoretical readings on race, racism and politics provide students with the analytic tools to draw more abstract lessons and generalizable conclusions about how racial and ethno-national hierarchy involves the role of the state and political economy, culture, norms and institutions. Students will also examine the impact of civil rights movements for political equality in response to legacies of racial and ethno-national hierarchy and inequality. Finally, students will become familiar with scholarship on nationalism and social movements as they relate to racial politics.
Taught by: Hanchard
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 417, HIST 467, PSCI 412, SOCI 417
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 420 Advanced Topics in Africana Studies
Also Offered As: AFRC 420, AFRC 620, SOCI 460, SOCI 660
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 424 Latinx Communities and the Role of CBO’s in Social Change
The purpose of this course to create a Latino Studies/Service Learning ABCS course that cultivates dialogue and knowledge about the social, political, cultural and historical complexities of the Latinx experience in the United States (Philadelphia in particular) and the roles Latinx CBO’s play in meeting the needs of Latinx communities and in impacting social change.
Taught by: Irizarry
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: SOCI 424
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 425 Latin@ Cultural History
This course takes a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of the resiliency and impact of Latin@ cultural and artistic contributions, esthetics, expressions and institution building in the United States from the Civil Rights Era to the present. We will explore how Latin@s are culturally defining being "American"; how their artistic expressions fit and influence the creativity and productivity of American and global Arts & Cultural expressions; and the Latin@ interactions of race, culture, society, economy and politics in the U.S.
Taught by: Irizarry
Also Offered As: SOCI 425
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 433 Andean Archaeology
Consideration of the culture history of the native peoples of the Andean area, with emphasis on the pre-conquest archaeology of the Central-Andean region.
Taught by: Erickson
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 433
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 437 Afrc Undergrad Seminar
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: AFRC 436, GSWS 436, HIST 436
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 511 Ethics, Archaeology, and Cultural Heritage
This seminar will explore some of the most important issues that are now a central part of archaeological, anthropological and historical research throughout the world. The identification and control of cultural heritage is a central part of the framework for research within other communities. Issues for this course will also include cultural identity, human rights, repatriation, colonialism, working with communities and many other topics. Field research today must be based upon a new series of ethical standards that will be discussed and examined within this class. Major topics include: cultural heritage - definitions and constructs, cosmopolitanism and collecting, archaeology and looting, cultural heritage preservation, museums - universal and national, museum acquisition policies, cultural identity, international conventions (including underwater issues), national laws of ownership, community based development, cultural tourism, development models, and human rights.
Taught by: Leventhal
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 511
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 513 Latin American Politics
This graduate level course will be embedded in course PSCI/LALS 213, the same way that PSCI 517 (Russian Politics) is embedded in PSCI 217. In other words, graduate students taking this course will have to attend lectures twice a week, but instead of discussing materials in recitations will meet with Professor Falleti, either weekly (one hour) or biweekly (two hours), to discuss the main topics of the course and research questions and proposals related to the course.
Taught by: Falleti
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: PSCI 513
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 526 Trans Just in Latin Amer
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 527 Spring 2015: Race, Gender & Auto/Biography
SPRING 2017: Market Women, Madames, Mistresses & Mother Superior studies gender, labor, sexuality, and race in the Caribbean. In our historical examination of primary source documents alongside literature, and popular media, we will question some of the iconic representations of Caribbean and Latin American women in order to understand the meaning, purpose and usages of these women s bodies as objects of praise, possession, obsession and/or ridicule by communities, governments and religions within and outside of the region. Beginning in the late-18th century and ending with contemporary migration narratives, this course considers the relationship between slave society and colonial pasts on gender performance in the modern Caribbean, Latin America, and their diasporas.
Taught by: Sanders
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 527, GSWS 527
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 528 Latinxs and the Law
Based in concepts and principles of Constitutional law and critical race theory, this course explores the interpretation and impact of seminal court cases in U.S. history as applied to Latinxs in the United States and abroad. With a particular focus on the 20th century, students will examine how court decisions have affected civil rights, immigration policies, welfare, political incorporation, education, and other important issues affecting Latinxs. Students will also explore additional themes including the status and treatment of Latinxs in the criminal justice system, representation of Latinxs in the judiciary and how Supreme Court decisions have affected U.S. foreign policy with Latin America.
Taught by: Bartch
Course usually offered summer term only
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 557 Seminar in Archaeological Theory and Method: Archaeology of Landscapes
Advanced seminar for potential professional archaeologists. Course will examine critically main past and present theoretical issues in archaeological research and interpretation, and consider various methodologies utilized towards these interpretive ends.
Taught by: Erickson, C.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AAMW 557, ANTH 557
Prerequisites: ANTH 241 or ANTH 600 and one archaeology area course or permission from instructor
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 590 Introduction to Francophone Literature
An introduction to major literary movements and authors from five areas of Francophonie: the Maghreb, West Africa, Central Africa, the Caribbean and Quebec.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 580, COML 590, ENGL 590, GSWS 589
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 655 Democratization
This graduate class focuses on issues of democratization (and de-democratization), as studied in the comparative politics literature. The course is structured in four parts. In the first part, we scrutinize conceptualizations and measurements of democracy. In the second part, we study competing political theories about the origins of democracy. The third part of the seminar is devoted to the study of democratic transition and consolidation processes. To finish, we tackle specific issues in democratization such as social capital and civic participation, as well as the resilience of (subnational) authoritarianism.
Taught by: Falleti
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PSCI 655
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

LALS 694 Spanish & Latin Am Cine
Topics vary. See the Romance Languages Department's website at http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml/ for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 694, SPAN 694
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
LALS 697 Studies in Latin American Culture
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department's website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SPAN 697
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit