

## LAIS 683 HISPANIC CULTURAL STUDIES

Joy Logan  
Moore Hall 488  
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TR 11:00-12:00, R 2:00-3:00  
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Fall 2010  
Moore  
R 3:00-5:30

### Course Description

This course will take a hemispheric approach to consider representations of Latin American, as well as US Latino, identities. The course takes as a point of departure the notion of travel in the broadest sense, as the movement of ideas, images, goods, and peoples. The first module of the course will initially deal with the theories and practices of cultural studies with respect to Latin America. It will look at how Latin America has been represented across disciplines and through a variety of genres including chronicles, travel writing, ethnographies, and other visual and textual narratives. The second module is based on theoretical essays and case studies that address varying interpretations of colonial, postcolonial, and postmodern constructions of Latin/o America, especially with respect to issues of nationality, gender, ethnicity, race, and sexuality. The third module focuses on contemporary visual media and border theories and includes a study of Hollywood's treatment of Latinos.

*Class discussion and all readings are in English*

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- define cultural studies and characterize it in relation to other disciplines in the humanities and social sciences
- define and apply contemporary theories of cultural critique
- describe postcoloniality and postcolonial discourses with respect to Latin America
- analyze the dynamics of national identity construction within a Latin or Latino American context

### Course Requirements

I. Article summary and discussion outline	25
II. Two take-home essays @ 50 pts. each	100
III. Exam	100
IV. Final Research Project	125
V. Informe	25
Discussion/Participation	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	400

400-388 A+	359-348 B+	319-308 C+	279-268 D+
387-372 A	347-332 B	307-292 C	267-252 D
371-360 A-	331-320 B-	291-280 C-	251-240 D-

- I. Each student will be required to present points for discussion, in class, on one of the readings, noted by underlining in the syllabus. **A written summary of the article is to be turned in on the day of the presentation.**

- II. Two take-home essays dealing with themes from the readings, class topics and discussions will be assigned. Each essay should be 4-5 pages typed. Topics will be given one week in advance of due date.  
**Due dates: Essay #1 Sept.30; Essay #2 Nov. 4**
- III. The exam will be based on theoretical essays, primary readings, films, videos, and class discussions and presentations. **Nov.20**
- IV. The final research project will be presented in class during the last weeks of the semester. Topics and format for the research project will be chosen in consultation with the instructor. There is room for creativity and flexibility here. The final project may vary in form depending on the interest and background of students. Poster projects, visual or written ethnographies, as well as critical research essays or studies, may be used. Students may consider interviewing, researching, or working in collaboration with the Latino community of Hawai'i for this project. Students with knowledge of Spanish are encouraged to use Spanish-language sources. However, all in-class presentations must be in English.
- V. Throughout the semester each student will make a 5-10 minute presentation in class on a Latin/o historical or cultural icon or event. Possible informe topics will be distributed on the first day of class, other possibilities will be determined by the Latin American diagnostic quiz. **Written version of the informe is due the date of presentation.**
- VI. Discussion/Participation is a principal component of this course. There will be group, pair, and individual tasks/themes for work in class, both in oral and written form. Students may also make use of email to continue these discussions.

### **Required Texts**

Fuentes, Carlos.	<i>The Crystal Frontier</i>
Fuguet, Alberto.	<i>The Movies of my Life</i>
Guevara, Ernesto (Che).	<i>Motorcycle Diaries</i>
Hart, S. & Young, R.	<i>Contemporary Latin American Cultural Studies</i>

### **Course Packet** (*Professional Image 2633 S. King*)

Anzaldúa, Gloria	Rivera, Raquel
Aparicio, Frances	Rodó, José Enrique
Chávez-Silverman, S.	Seed, Patricia
Clifford, James	Simmel, Georg
Fanon, Fritz	Stephens, John L.
Fernández Retamar, R.	Swain, Marjorie B.
Franco, Jean	Torres, Gerald
Gabilondo, Joseba	Valenzuela, Luisa
Gómez-Peña, Guillermo	Velasco, Juan
Jones, Gareth	
Klor de Alva, JJ	
Montaigne, Michel de	
Muratorio, Blanca	
Pilcher, Jeffrey M.	
Pratt, Mary Louise	
Ramírez Berg, Charles	

## LAIS 683 SYLLABUS

CP=Course Packet

CLCS=Contemporary Latin American Culture Studies

### ***Travel Writing, Ethnography, and Narratives of the Other***

- August 24 Introduction; Latin American Diagnostic Quiz ; García Canclini, "Cultural Studies and Revolving Doors" (CLCS-1), Stuart Hall video
- Sept. 02 Rodó, "Ariel" (CP)  
Fernández Retamar, "Calibán-Notes towards a Discussion of Culture in our America" (CP)
- Sept.09 Jones, "Latin American Geographies" (CP)  
Montaigne, "On Cannibals" (CP)  
"Two Woodcuts...(CP)  
"Lords and Holy Men of Tenochtitlán"(CP)  
Klor de Alva, "Sahagún and the Birth of Modern Ethnography: Representing, Confessing, and Inscribing the Native Other" (CP)  
Pratt, "Arts of the Contact Zone" (CP)
- Sept. 16 Gould, "Church, Humboldt, and Darwin: The Tension and Harmony of Art and Science" (CP)  
Miller, "Contrasting the cleric: the intellectual as icon in modern Spanish America" (CLCS-5)  
Pratt, "Reinventing America/Reinventing Europe" (CP)  
Guevara, *Motorcycle Diaries*
- Sept. 23 Simmel, "The Adventurer" (CP)  
Guevara, *Motorcycle Diaries*  
Santos, "Eva Perón: One Woman, Several Masks" (CLCS-8)  
Culture Clash "Bowl of Beings" (CP)  
Video *Machu Picchu*  
Video *King of the Maya*
- Sept. 30 **Essay 1 Due**  
Swain "Gender Roles in Indigenous Tourism" (CP)  
Stephens: *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan* (in class)  
Graburn, "Tourism: The Sacred Journey" (CP)  
Nash "Tourism as a Form of Imperialism" (CP)  
Video *Incidents of Travel in Chichén Itzá*

### ***Traversing the Local, the National, the Global***

- Oct. 07 Sarlo, "Cultural studies and literary criticism at the crossroads of value" (CLCS-2)  
Rowe, "The place of literature in cultural studies" (CLCS-3)

- Knights, "Modernity, modernization and melodrama: The bolero in Mexico in the 1930's and 1940's" (CLCS-10)  
 Fanon, "National Culture" (CP)  
 Fuguet, *The Movies of my Life*
- Oct. 14                      Clifford, "Traveling Cultures" (CP)  
 Seed "Subaltern Studies in the Post-Colonial Americas" (CP)  
 Foster, "Queering Latin American Cultural Studies" (CLCS-20)  
 Fuguet, *The Movies of my Life*
- Oct. 21                      Franco, "High-Tech Primitivism: The Representation of Tribal Society in Feature Films" (CP)  
 Muratorio, "Images of Indians in the Construction of Ecuadorian Identity at the End of the Nineteenth Century" (CP)  
 Chanady, "Identity, politics, and mestizaje" (CLCS-15)  
 Fuguet, *The Movies of my Life*
- Oct. 28                      Pilcher, "Many Chefs in the National Kitchen: Cookbooks and Identity at the End of the Nineteenth Century" (CP)  
 González, "Food in Latin America" (CLCS-21)  
 Archetti, "The spectacle of identities: football in Latin America" (CLCS-9)  
 Merrell, "Capoeira culture: an impertinent non-Western art form" (CLCS-22)

## **Border Crossings**

- Nov. 04                      Ramírez Berg, "A Crash Course on Hollywood's Latino Imagery" (CP)  
 Anzaldúa, "Towards a New Consciousness" (CP)  
 Pons, "Cultural Myths and Chicana literature: a field in dispute" (CLCS-6)  
 Fuentes, *The Crystal Frontier* **Essay 2 Due**
- Nov. 11                      VETERANS DAY
- Nov.18                      **EXAM**  
 Gómez-Peña, "Colonial Dreams/Post-Colonial Nightmares" (CP)  
 Fuentes, *The Crystal Frontier*
- Nov. 25                      THANKSGIVING
- Dec. 02                      Aparicio/Chávez-Silverman, "Introduction: Tropicalizations" (CP)  
 Velasco, Juan "Performing Multiple Identities" (CP)  
 Podalsky "Los globalizados también lloran: Mexican telenovelas and the geographical imagination (CLCS-12)  
 Ruétalo, "Local(izing) images: Montevideo's television praxis (CLCS-13)
- Dec. 9                      **Presentations**