



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

Center for Ethnic Studies

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Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-6478 Phone

ethnicstudies.osu.edu

November 7, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing in support of adding the course Spanish 5620: Gender and Power in the Americas to the Latinx Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization. The course meets the GIS goals of leading students to analyze the history and culture of Latinx communities in the United States and to evaluate social issues relevant to the field. This course would be added to the existing selection of elective courses for graduate students to take, alongside a required introductory course, in order to qualify for the GIS.

Sincerely,

Namiko Kunimoto
Director, Center For Ethnic Studies
Associate Professor, Department of History of Art
The Ohio State University

SPAN 5620
Gender and Power in the Americas
Autumn, 2023

Instructor: Paloma Martínez-Cruz, Ph.D.
Instruction Hours: TuTh 11:10-12:30
Instruction Location: 042 Hagerty Hall
Office Hours: Zoom by appointment AU 2023
Office Location: Hagerty 232
Email: martinez-cruz.2@osu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar taught in Spanish focuses on the interpretation of gender and power in hemispheric Latin American and U.S. Latinx cultural production. This seminar contributes to the Latin American cultural and literary studies and Latinx literatures, cultures, and languages by promoting inquiry in the areas of gender and power, performance studies, and the problems and prospects of Latin American and Latinx peoples shaped by historical and contemporary circumstances through the lens of feminist theory and practice. In each unit we will discuss the ways in which gender is established through the frameworks of colonial and patriarchal social orderings and glean an understanding of our own positionality within the continuum of gendered bodies, sexuality, and societal norms govern our experience of these categories. The weekly organization emphasizes the analysis of texts and cultural artifacts from a critical perspective that locates the examined work within embodied trajectories.

OBJECTIVES

- Recognize and apply several key concepts pertaining to gender in the Latin American context
- Understand how definitions of masculinity, femininity, and social roles have varied throughout history and across different cultures
- Apply consistent principles to the analysis of cultural artifacts
- Write critical essays on gender and power in the cultural context of the Americas
- Develop tools of respectful and active listening and speaking in a learning community

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our learning environment, including all online spaces, must be safe, considerate, and inclusive at all times. No topics are off limits, but our own views/experiences will be different from our peers. As such, we need to take care to avoid combative speech and behavior. Emotional and physical well-being are the priority, and how to ensure this is constantly under review. Let's talk openly about our needs and goals this semester. We need each other to stay healthy, productive, and inquisitive.

REQUIRED READINGS & VIEWINGS: Available on CarmenCanvas

COURSE COMPONENTS AND GRADE BREAKDOWN

ATTENDANCE, PARTICIPATION, PREPARATION (15%) Includes attendance, active class work, and preparation for each class. No more than **three** unexcused absences are permitted per semester. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices are *prohibited* in class unless otherwise indicated for classroom purposes.

2 ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENTS (10%) Focus questions will be uploaded to Carmen Canvas on the day designated by an asterisk.* These questions will be typed, numbered, double spaced, and written and revised in Spanish. Typically, 3-5 sentence answers in short paragraph form will be sufficient to thoughtfully respond to the assigned focus questions. On days that there is NO asterisk* by your readings, you are *still required* to respond to assigned questions in your personal notes in order to be prepared for class. A significant part of your preparation grade is based on your contributions to class discussions based on the assigned texts.

2 REFLECTION ASSIGNMENTS (10%) Two brief reflection assignments will help students build connections across diverse ways of knowing and approaching the ideas and information we covered in class.

DISCUSSION FACILITATOR (15%) Each student will lead one ten-minute discussion of the assigned text, which should include independent research on background information on the day's readings and/or screenings and the preparation of questions to promote class discussion. The ten-minute presentation will be followed by approximately 10-15 minutes of class discussion based on the presenter's discussion questions.

PRESENTATION - PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH (15%) PAR is an approach to research in communities that emphasizes participation and action. It seeks to understand the world by trying to change it, collaboratively and following reflection. Students will design and conduct their own PAR project after consulting with the instructor and peers and spend 5-10 hours of the semester in their chosen area of activity. Students will prepare five-minute, informal presentations at the end of the semester.

REFLECTION - PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH (15%) Students will write a 900-word critical reflection on the social reality they observed as a "historical reality susceptible of transformation." The reflection should include a summary of their PAR project, the action taken, the community involved, and the transformative aspects of their engagement.

CRITICAL ESSAY (20%) A final research paper (2500 words) will deal with a cultural artifact engaging gender and power in Latin American culture.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism includes more than just copying someone else's work. It is also the submission of material that in part or whole is not entirely one's own work, such as the use of ChatGPT, without attributing those same portions to their correct source. Citing sources accurately according to MLA guidelines on all work will ensure good standing in class and academic integrity at the university.

Students with disabilities: “Anyone who requires an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate special needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted that office, I encourage you to do so. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>”

COURSE SCHEDULE - SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION

Semana 1: Las posturas sexuales más radicales: identidad y poder

- 08/22 Introducciones; términos claves
- 08/24 Paloma Martínez-Cruz, *Women and Knowledge in Mesoamerica: From East L.A. to Anahuac*, “Women Healers of Tenochtitlan”
- 08/25 *Recommended: Taco Reparations Brigade Performance Thompson Library West Entrance 4:00-5:00

Semana 2: El sujeto femenino y la colonialidad

- 08/29 Paloma Martínez-Cruz, *Women and Knowledge in Mesoamerica: From East L.A. to Anahuac*, “Plotting Prospero’s Daughters”
- 08/31 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, “La respuesta”

Semana 3: Indigeneidad y modernidad

- 09/05 Elizabeth de Burgos, *Me Llamo Rigoberta Menchú* (21-64)
Mare Advertencia Lirika (video & artículo)
- 09/07 Elizabeth de Burgos, *Me Llamo Rigoberta Menchú* (65-83; 117-142)
- 09/08 *Entregar: Términos e identificaciones #1

Semana 4: Cuerpos ilícitos

- 09/12 Clarice Lispector, *La hora de la estrella* (9-44)
- 09/14 Clarice Lispector, *La hora de la estrella* (44-81)

Semana 5: La poesía y el performance

- 09/19 Alfonsi Storni, “Tú me quieres blanca”, “Hombre pequeñito”, “Historia sintética de un traje de tailleur”
Yosimar Reyes, “TRE (My Revolutionary)” & “Pride”
- 09/21 Gómez-Peña, *Dangerous Border Crossers* (1-17; 29-49)

Semana 6: Imágenes cinematográficas de latinidad

- 09/26 Helena Solberg, *Bananas is My Business* (Secure Media Library)
- 09/28 Paloma Martínez-Cruz & John Cruz, “Hemisexualizing the Latin Lover: Film and Live Art Interpretations and Provocations”

Semana 7: La conciencia mestiza

- 10/03 Gloria Anzaldúa *Borderlands/La Frontera* (1-39)
- 10/05 Rosario Castellanos, *El eterno femenino* (7-46)
- 10/06 *Entregar: Reflexión #1

Semana 8: Día de la Raza & descanso otoñal observados	
10/10	PAR: Preparación Rosario Castellanos, <i>El eterno femenino</i> (46-70)
10/12	Descanso otoñal (no hay clase) (70-99)
Semana 9: La feminidad y la nación	
10/17	Rosario Castellanos, <i>El eterno femenino</i> (99-137)
10/19	Rosario Castellanos, <i>El eterno femenino</i> (138-158)
Semana 10: La sexualidad trans/nacional	
10/24	Rosario Castellanos, <i>El eterno femenino</i> (158-196)
10/26	Alfredo Mirandé, "Las Intrépidas and the Great Muxe Vela" in <i>Behind the Mask</i>
10/27	*Entregar: Términos e identificaciones #2
Semana 11: Los cuerpos en exclusión	
10/31	Jonathan Xavier Inda, "Foreign Bodies: Migrants, Parasites, and the Pathological Nation" Renee Tajima-Peña, <i>No Más Bebés</i>
11/02	Paloma Martínez-Cruz, "Déjame cuidarte, déjame abrazarte: A Queer Latinx Elder in Columbus" in <i>Trust the Circle: The Resistance and Resilience of Rubén Castilla Herrera</i> (95-121) *Recommended: Día de los Muertos Trust the Circle community conversation and book launch, Wexner Center
Semana 12: Coaliciones para la acción	
11/07	Stephanie Smith "Revolutionary Women in the New Society, 1930-1954" in <i>The Power and Politics of Postrevolutionary Mexico</i> (117-148)
11/09	Lourdes Portillo, <i>The Mothers of Plaza De Mayo</i> (Kanopy)
11/10	*Entregar: Reflexión #2
Semana 13: La autoinvención en letras y arte	
11/14	José Esteban Muñoz "Performing Disidentifications" Jennie Livingston, <i>Paris is Burning</i> (Secured Media Library)
11/16	María Fernanda Ampuero, "Subasta" en <i>Pelea de gallos</i>
Semana 14: Trauma y memoria	
11/21	Griselda Gambaro, <i>Información para extranjeros</i>
11/23	Día de Acción de Gracias – No hay clase
Semana 15: Investigación de Acción Participativa	
11/28	Taller de escritura

11/30 **Presentaciones (PAR) & Entrega de reflexiones**

Semana 16: Conclusiones

12/05 Taller de escritura: tesis, bibliografía, aproximación
Conclusiones

Entrega electrónica de ensayo final, miércoles 13 de diciembre, 5:00 PM (CarmenCanvas)

Latinx Studies Program

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization

The Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Latinx Studies **requires 10 credit hours of coursework**, including the four credit hour core course CS 6425/SPAN 6705: Graduate Introduction to Latinx Studies, and two additional electives from the courses listed below. The goal of the GIS is to assist graduate students in gaining advanced knowledge of Latinx Studies and training in its interdisciplinary methods.

Per Graduate School guidelines, “The total credit hours must include at least 3 different courses, 9 credit hours of which must be taken in two different graduate programs outside of the student's home program. A grade of B or better (or S when applicable) is required in each course comprising the specialization. The graduate interdisciplinary specialization will appear on the student's transcript.”

All courses that count for the GIS must be at the 5000 - 8000 level, however, only one course at the 5000 level will count toward the GIS. All other courses must be at the 6000-8000 level. In this way, students are strongly encouraged to take courses at a level that puts them in conversation with other graduate students across disciplines.

In courses focused on *culture, literature, or the arts*, students will study multiple forms of Latinx creative expression with a focus on analysis of expressive forms themselves; theoretical frameworks for the interpretation of culture, literature, and art; the historical, social, and aesthetic contexts of Latinx cultural production; and its intertextualities. Students will also consider the reception, impact and transformative power of Latinx creative expression.

In courses focused on *history and social issues*, students will examine the histories and lived experiences of multiple Latinx groups in the U.S., gaining greater understanding of the relationship between power and difference (Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Salvadoran American, Dominican American and others). Students will learn about the experiences of communities who had been rendered invisible by canonical histories in the U.S. and Latin America as well as acquire new methodologies for historical research. Students will also consider the complexity of current issues affecting the Latinx population in the U.S. such as immigration, educational policy, language, labor, voting trends, etc.

Students interested in the GIS should consult with the [program director](#) regarding a plan of study. The links to the right provide a term-by-term list of courses offered for credit toward the program. Once the director has confirmed the plan, the student can

submit the GIS application form through the [Graduate School's web site](#). For more details regarding this application, please see the [Graduate School Instructions](#).

The Graduate School has moved to an electronic forms processing system called [GRADFORMS.OSU.EDU](#). Presently, applications to graduate and all degree examination forms are being handled by this system, as well as the minor and interdisciplinary specialization forms. After logging into GRADFORMS, click "Graduation and Examination Forms," and then scroll down to "Minors and Interdisciplinary Specializations." The GIS form is located here.

According to the new system, the student fills out the form for the GIS, and then it is sent to the program director for review. Then, the director approves the form, and it goes to the Graduate School for their review. Please let the [director](#) know if you have submitted a form because the Graduate School only informs the director "as a courtesy," which means the director might not actually get a notification. The same applies to changes in your graduate program. Also, please let the director know if you submit a request for changes so they may be approved.

After completing the required credit hours, please return to the GRADFORMS page and complete the "Transcript Designation Form" so that the GIS appears in your transcript.

General questions about Graduate School degree options and specializations may be directed to Tim Watson, director of Graduation Services, at (614) 247-7292. Questions regarding the GradForms system may be directed to Wilma Barnfather at barnfather.1@osu.edu.

Required Course (4 credits):

Comparative Studies 6425 / Spanish 6705: Graduate Introduction to LatinxStudies

This course offers an introduction to interdisciplinary research, an overview of Latinx Studies research in multiple fields, and training in teaching an undergraduate interdisciplinary course. It is likely to be offered at least once every academic year but we encourage you to take it earlier rather than later in order to make sure you will be able to complete it before graduation.

Elective Courses (6 credits):

Two additional courses at the 5000-8000 level, but only one of these may be at the 5000 level and all must be outside the student's home department.

**Courses marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that the course only counts for the GIS when the syllabus contains significant Latinx Studies readings and content. Students may confirm this by consulting with the instructor prior to enrollment or by submitting syllabus to Latinx Studies Faculty Coordinator. In general, a course must include at least 30% Latinx Studies content in order to be counted in the GIS, and this will normally be the case when the course is taught by Latinx Studies Affiliated Faculty.*

Directed Reading or Independent Study courses in any department may count for GIS credit provided that the focus of Directed Reading or Independent Study is in Latinx Studies, and that the student submits a copy of the course contract to the Latinx Studies Program Coordinator for approval.

African American and African Studies

- *African American & African Studies 7756: Theorizing Race and Ethnicity

Business Admin: Management and Human Resources

- Business Admin: Management and Human Resources (BUSMHR) 7355: Managing Diversity

Comparative Studies

- *Comparative Studies 5691: Topics in Comparative Studies
- *Comparative Studies 7320: Theorizing Race and Ethnicity
- *Comparative Studies 7380: Theorizing America
- *Comparative Studies 7888: Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities (for example, Survey of Latina/o Literature for Graduate Students)
- *Comparative Studies 8792: Seminar in Interdisciplinary Theory
- *Comparative Studies 8888: Interdepartmental Seminar in Critical Theory

City and Regional Planning

- * City and Regional Planning 6310: Law and Planning II: Environment and Society

Education: Teaching and Learning

- *Teaching and Learning 6808: Multicultural and Global Perspectives on Teaching and Learning
- Teaching and Learning 7344: Bilingualism & Biliteracy
- *Teaching and Learning 7364: Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults
- *Teaching and Learning 8890: Advanced Seminar: Bilingual and Biliterate Development in Children and Adolescents

English

- *English 6758.01 Intro to US Ethnic Literature and Culture
- *English 7858.01 U.S. Ethnic Literatures and Culture

- *English 7888.01 Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities

History

- *History 5750: Special Topics in the History of Ethnicity, Race, and the Nation
- *History 7600: Transnational History of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- *History 7630: Studies in the History of Sexuality
- *History 8010: Seminar in Modern U.S. History

Political Science

- *Political Science 7140: Race and Ethnicity
- *Political Science 7910: Identity Politics

Sociology

- Sociology 7756: Sociology of Immigration

Spanish

- Spanish 5389: US Latino Languages and Communities
- Spanish 5620: Gender and Power in the Americas
- *Spanish 5640: Globalization and Latin America: Multidisciplinary Approaches
- *Spanish 5660: Seminar in Latin American Literatures and Cultures
- *Spanish 5689S: Spanish in Ohio (service learning/language)
- *Spanish 8580: Seminar in Contemporary Spanish American Literature

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

- *Women's Studies 5620: Topics in Feminist Studies
- *Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies 7710: Theorizing Race, Sexualities, and Social Justice

Faculty Advisor for the GIS:

[Paloma Martinez-Cruz](#)

Program Director, Latinx Studies and Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

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1775 S College Rd

Columbus, OH 43210

For more information about Latinx Studies GIS, please contact [Dr. Martinez-Cruz](#).