

FALL 2018

AAAD 284: The African Diaspora in the Americas

Professor Joseph Jordan

This course is an interdisciplinary survey and examination of the development of African descendant communities/collectives in the Americas including U.S. based Spanish, French, Portuguese and creole language speaking communities. We focus on the development and expression of African-descended (or Black) diaspora identities in the context of nations, states and/or 'spaces' and consider the theoretical literature, the problem of competing definitions of 'diaspora', as well as ongoing controversies in the field. Emphasis will be placed on the role of socio-historical forces in the creation of the African diaspora, the re-creation of cultural connections/expressions in the U.S. and greater Americas context, and the concept of 'Blackness' in diaspora discourse. In addition to the readings and texts assigned, students will engage a range of resources including film, literature, other narrative sources, song, folklore and various other media and mediums.

ENGL 267.001: Growing Up Latina/o

Professor Laura Halperin

T/TH 3:30pm-4:45pm

Greenlaw 302

In this interdisciplinary discussion course, we will read and discuss texts about Latinx youth that explore what it means to grow up Latinx. We will situate the Latinx literature we will read in the social context from which it emanates. We will analyze the politics of language, exploring how monolingualism, bilingualism, and multilingualism affect groups differently depending on their intersectional positioning. We will also examine how migration, documentation, and legislative policies affect Latinx youth, and we will learn about ways school and society instill feelings of (un)belonging among Latinxs.

ENGL 467.001: Educating Latinas/os: Preparing SLI Mentors

Professor Laura Halperin

T/TH 2:00pm-3:15pm

Greenlaw 319

This experiential education course is designed for students who are N.C. Sli mentors, instructors, or student staff members. It is designed to help prepare students to be effective mentors or instructors to Latinx high school students and to work effectively as part of the N.C. Sli student staff team. With this in mind, students will learn about issues affecting Latinxs and will learn strategies and skills that will aid them while working with Latinx high school students. In the course, we will analyze how linguistic difference(s) affect(s) Latinxs, and we will discuss the importance of nurturing and recognizing the voices of Latinxs. We will also analyze texts that address how migration, documentation, and legislative policies affect Latinx youth and can shape their access to an education, and we will learn about ways school and society instill feelings of (un)belonging among Latinxs. Throughout the semester, students will workshop written assignments to learn how to provide constructive feedback on high school scholars' writing.

Since public speaking skills are important, students will present their final projects/papers for the course. We will have ample opportunities during the course to talk about how the N.C. Sli experiences pertain to the texts discussed in class. (Note: given that there is enough of an overlap with readings in this course and English 267, students may not take both courses.) Instructor permission is required to take the course.

MUSC 147: Introduction to Latin(o) American Music

Professor Juan Alamo

WGST 233: Introduction to Latina Literature

MWF 3:35-4:25PM

Geovani Ramírez

In this course, we will explore a variety of topics including, but not limited to, war, labor, illness, relationships, longing, isolation and love through Latina literature. Our readings draw from multiple genres and include the works of Dominican, Puerto Rican, Guatemalan, Chicana, Cuban, and Colombian-Cuban Latina writers. As such, our readings and discussions of these texts will be informed by genre conventions and the specific ethnic histories and experiences in and/or outside of the US that the texts focus on. While by no means comprehensive, the multifarious Latina literature we will read in this class will help us expand and re-shape our notions about Latinidad(es), Latinx histories, and Latinx identities and gender. Throughout the course of the semester, we will discuss among other things (im)migration, mother-daughter relationships, parenting, domestic violence, (dis)unified communities, and coming of age. We will also attempt to answer questions such as What is the relationship between histories and national, cultural, and personal identities? What does it mean to be Latinx in or outside of the US? How does gender help us re-conceptualize culture, labor, and history, and how do these, in turn, shape gender? When do collective and individual experiences overlap, and at what points do they go their separate ways? Why and what are the outcomes or possibilities? This course will offer you a foundational knowledge of Latinx literatures, cultures, and histories, and I look forward to many fruitful conversations that I am sure will help us all grow in ways we cannot yet imagine.

WGST 325: Art and Social Change

T/TH 11am-12:15pm

Professor Susan Harbage Page

SPRING 2019

AAAD 340.001: Diaspora Art and Cultural Politics

Professor Joseph Jordan

Time & Location TBD

AAAD 340 examines the socio-cultural, political and spatial dimensions of African Diaspora artistic and cultural production including U.S. communities. We examine the development of evolving notions of 'diaspora' alongside Black artistic, cultural, social, and political movements.

We also review, become familiar with key theories in diaspora studies and explore important historical developments that inform our conceptual approaches. We will use these analytical tools to investigate the evolution of expressive culture(s) and the ways they reflect the core sensibilities of specific communities in the African diaspora in the Americas. Caribbean, including Spanish, French, Portuguese, and creole language speakers, will be explored and discussed.

COMM 661.001: Race and Ethnicity: Latinx Performance

Professor China Medel

Time & Location TBD

This class will be an investigation into the history, sites, methods, issues, and questions motivating various Latinx performances in the US. Taking a site-driven approach we will chart the histories and roles of performance among Latinx communities through such site as the school, the picket line, the club, the barrio, the church, and more. We'll consider the role of performance among Latinx communities in the US in terms of political intervention and struggle, transmitting cultural memory in the context of migration and deracination, staging identity, and in troubling the very boundaries of identities of gender, race, and nation. We will examine these histories via such sites as Teatro Campesino in the United Farmworkers Movement, cultural practices like Mexican Ballet Folklórico, the Conchero dance, and Puerto Rican bomba, feminist and postmodern performance art, queer drag and clubs, insurgent direct action on the part of groups like the Dreamers and other immigrant rights activists, as well as pop culture performers such as Selena Quintanilla and Celia Cruz. Working within the context of performance studies, we will think about performances ranging from the theatrical, the activist, performance art, and the micropractices of everyday life.

In this class we will investigate how these various forms of performance work through the body to intervene in the public sphere, transmit cultural memory, and reproduce and trouble the boundaries of identity and nationhood. We'll ask how identities and their performances shift and cohere within the processes of migration, thinking through such concepts as hybridization, syncretization, and creolization. Working through the histories of Latinx peoples in the US and trouble the boundaries and borders of the nation states we will consider the role of gender and sexuality in troubling and addressing the permeability and instability of borders. Thinking strategically with Latinx performers and activists we'll posit theories as to the role of performance in struggles for social change and survival within the contexts of various forms of colonialism.

ENGL 666: Queer Latina/o Literature and Photography

Professor María DeGuzmán

Time & Location TBD

WGST 233: Introduction to Latina Literature

Professor Ariana Vigil

Time & Location TBD

