HAVC 144A - Latin American Art and Visual Culture

Instructor:
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Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00AM-1:00PM, Pacific Standard Time. Please reserve a spot on my Doodle Poll to receive by email a Zoom Meeting link: https://doodle.com/poll/ykvi7773hdxw85hz. I’m also available by appointment.

Teaching Assistants:
Alexandra Macheski
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Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00AM-1:00PM, Pacific Standard Time. Please reserve a spot on my Doodle Poll to receive by email a Zoom Meeting link: https://doodle.com/poll/9frvrxfcmtv8xxm

Marion Cadora
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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12-2:00PM, Pacific Standard Time. Please reserve a spot on my Doodle Poll to receive by email a Zoom Meeting link: https://doodle.com/poll/sspnp4h6xn46ehht6
This course looks at how visual culture and art in Latin America and the Caribbean have been part of on-going decolonial efforts and resistance from the 17th century to the present. We will study the legacies of colonialism, focusing on diaspora, slave rebellions, indigenous resistance, and grand modern narratives such as *mestizaje*, and creolization. We will look at how racialized bodies were depicted during modernity in Latin America, such as in the notions of "Cosmic Race" in Mexican modern art, or in the "Anthropophagic Movement" of Brazilian modernism. We will examine outcomes of the Post-World-War period, looking at the remaking of the category of "race" during dictatorships, and its reconstructions under global capitalism. The course will highlight the importance of Latin American and Latinx artists, with focus on Afro-Latinx and Indigenous groups and their contributions to the realms of visual studies. Sub-themes discussed include decolonization, gender, sexuality, political and environmental activism, nationality and identity.

This class is not a survey course. It will not cover all the arts and visual cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean. Rather, certain aspects of selected visual practices will be examined to establish a foundation for advanced study of Latin American art and visual cultures.

**Course Objectives:**

- To study selected histories of decolonization across Latin America
- To identify moments of shift in national discourses across Latin America and how art and visual culture have been reshaped during these moments, such as modernity and autocratic regimes
- To study cases and discourses formed around "race" and "ethnicity" in Latin America via visual culture and art
- To examine relationships in the art and visual culture of Latin American and Latinx communities living in the US

**Program Learning Outcomes**

- **PLO 1: Breadth of Cultural Knowledge:** Students will be able to demonstrate an appreciation for, and foundation in, visual studies grounded in a range of historical, social, cultural, and ideological perspectives.
- **PLO 2: Critical Thinking:** Students will be able to apply critical thinking skills that will enable them to analyze and solve problems through observation, experience, reflection, interpretation, analysis, evaluation, and/or explanation of visual, material, and historical cultural forms and values. Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills through oral and/or written communication.
• **PLO 3:** Research Proficiency: Students will be able to formulate research questions that expand their knowledge of art and visual culture. Students will be able to apply research methods to answer these questions by consulting the current literature and developing independent results through archival, library, or field research.

• **PLO 4:** Written Communication: Students will be able to present clear visual and historical analysis and interpretation in writing. Students will be able to demonstrate standard writing conventions in visual studies appropriate to purpose and context.

### Requirements and Expectations

- Students are required to attend **2 weekly asynchronous lectures,** **2 weekly online discussions** on Canvas, and **2 (total) synchronous online video discussions via Zoom.** More than one unexcused absence will result in a lower grade, students will make arrangements **ahead of time** with TAs and instructor to make up for any absences.
- Students should expect to spend 30 hours per week working on coursework, in and outside of class, including: class time (7.5 hours), reading and watching assigned films (15 hours), writing assignments (7.5 hours).
- We will be discussing issues in this class that require a high level of cultural sensitivity. Students are expected to engage in these conversations practicing respectful communication.
- Online courses are fast paced and demand high discipline from students: students are responsible for completing weekly assignments on time. If you have travel plans, it is your responsibility to coordinate how you manage your workload and keep up with assignments. Unfortunately, travel plans are not an excuse for missing deadlines: **contact your TA or me ahead of time if you anticipate missing a deadline or a discussion.** If you have a family or health emergency contact your TA and your instructor as soon as possible.
- **Important:** Due to the fast turnaround for submitting assignments, **late work will not be accepted in this course.** All assignments must be submitted and participation in all discussions is required to pass this class.

### Course Requirements and Grading

1. **Writing assignments (30%)**

   During the 5 weeks, students will write 03 short reading responses, not to exceed 400 words (about a page and a half). There will be a separate prompt for each response. Successful reading responses will show that you have completed the readings, watched any
related multimedia material, have carefully thought about the issues raised in the class, and responded to the prompt. All responses must be typed, using Times New Roman 12pt and double-spaced and submitted via Canvas (please note, do not add them as attachments.)

- Response 1: 10%
- Response 2: 10%
- Response 3: 10%

2. Weekly Quizzes (10%)

Students are required to complete a weekly quiz about each module’s content.

3. Discussions and Participation (20%)

- Each week the instructor will post a prompt on 1 or 2 Discussion boards: students are required to write 1 short post (150 words) on each (1-2 weekly total) responding to these prompts that will ask you to address content of readings, films, lectures, or any additional multimedia material for that week. At the end of each post, students need to ask a question for the rest of the class and respond another classmate’s question. Your TAs and I will keep track of your participation on the Discussion boards. The questions posted can also be addressed during synchronous discussions.
- Students must attend 02 mandatory synchronous (total) discussions on Zoom during which they will have the opportunity to discuss their writing assignments. Attending all discussions scheduled throughout the course is required.

4. Midterm (10%)

5. Final Response Paper (1500-2000 words, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt Font) (30%) Your final paper will focus on any element of Latin American art and visual culture that interests you and will require external research. Prompts will be provided.

***Due July 25th by 11:59pm***
Grade Criteria

Performance translates into letter grades as follows:

A - Excellent performance. Comprehensive factual knowledge, well-organized and well-written, showing independent, critical thinking and originality of insight.

B - Above average performance. Demonstrated control of factual material in depth, clear exposition and coherent organization.

C - Average performance. Presentation of a reasonable amount of substantially correct factual information relevant to the topic.

D - Below average performance. Demonstration of minimal comprehension of the material covered in lectures and readings, and little attention to detail.

F - No demonstration of comprehension of the material covered in lectures and readings. Consistent problems with comprehension, organization, critical thinking, and supporting details.

Standards of Academic Integrity:

All students are expected to uphold UCSC standards of academic integrity. Academic misconduct, including but not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty will result in an automatic and non-negotiable F in the class and other academic sanctions may be imposed. For further information, see [www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity](http://www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity)

Disability Resource Center (DRC):

If you qualify for classroom/exam/assignment accommodations, please get an Accommodation Authorization Letter from the DRC and submit it within the first week of the Summer Session. Contact DRC at 831-459-2089 or email drc@ucsc.edu for more information on requirements and/or process.

Readings Supplemental Materials

Please see Syllabus for a schedule of lectures and reading assignments, found in the course navigation area of the Canvas page. All assigned readings for this class are available in digital form in Canvas, under Files in the course navigation area. Please complete the assigned readings before lectures and discussions. You will gain participation points by addressing reading content during online discussions.

All additional films and readings will be made available via links and Canvas.
**Drop/Add Deadlines**
- **Add** - Thursday, June 27
- **Drop** - Monday, July 1 (tuition reversed*)
- **Change Grade Option** - Friday, July 5
- **Request "W" Grade** - Friday, July 12 (no tuition reversal)
- **Grades Due** - Thursday, August 1

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**Course Schedule**

Syllabus and readings may be subject to change

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**June 24th- 30th – MODULE 1 – INTRODUCTION**

1A – Deconstructing the Category “Latin America” – What Does It Mean to Decolonize?


1B – Colonization and Otherness


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**Recommended:**

1. José Luis Falconi, “No me Token, Or How to Make Sure We Never Lose the * Completely” https://www.guggenheim.org/blogs/map/no-me-token-or-how-to-make-sure-we-never-lose-the-completely.
6. Homi K. Bhabha, “The Other Question...The Stereotype and Colonialist Discourse,” *Screen* 24, no. 6 (November 1, 1983): 18–36

***1st Short Response Due***

***1st Quiz Due***

***1st Week Discussions Due ***

July 1st—7th- MODULE 2 – MODERN AVANT GARDES

2A – Building Modern Mestiza-Nations (Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Peru)


2B – The Latin American Constructivist Impulse (Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela)

1. Tatiana Flores, Beyond Centre-Periphery Modernism in Latin America.
2. Alida Jekabson, Social Structures: Helio Oiticica’s Parangolés, Kunstlicht,

Recommended:

4. My Painting is an Act of Decolonization’an Interview with Wifredo Lam by Gerardo Mosquera(1980)

***2nd Short Response Due***

***2nd Quiz Due***

***2nd Week Discussions Due***

***Attend 1st Synchronous Discussion***
July 8th–14th - MODULE 3 – LATIN AMERICANS AND LATINO/A COMMUNITIES: STATE VIOLENCE AND SHARED STRUGGLES THROUGH ART

3A – Conceptual Art in Contexts of Authoritarianism (Argentina, Brazil, and the US)


3B – Latin American Women Artists and Feminisms (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Chile)


Recommended:


***MIDTERM***

***3rd Quiz Due***

***3rd Week Discussions Due***


4A – Sankofa Activisms: Black Brazilian Art (Brazil)

2. Fabiana Lopes, “Contemporary art in Brazil and the things that (don't) exist,” Goethe-Institut Brasilien, O Menelick 2º Ato.

4B – Art in the Caribbean Archipelago (Cuba, Dominican Republic)


Recommended:


***3RD Response Due ***

***4th Quiz Due***

***4th Week Discussions Due***

***Attend 2nd Synchronous Discussion***

July 22nd – July 26th - MODULE 5 – INDIGENOUS MOVEMENTS AND PRACTICES IN LATIN AMERICA

5A – Indigenous Activism in Latin America (Mexico, Ecuador)


5B – Indigenous Sovereignty: Art and Visual Culture and (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Guatemala)

1. Laura Cardús i Font, “Indigenous media: from transference to appropriation: Indigenous video in Latin America and processes of visual presentation of self and ethnicity.”
2. Kency Cornejo, “Indigeneity and Decolonial Seeing in Guatemala.”

Recommended:
5. Carolina Caycedo, “Hunger as a Teacher.”

***Final Response Papers Due on 11:59pm, July 25th

***5th Quiz Due***

***5th Week Discussion Due***