Instructor: Martin Ocon-Gamarra    E-mail: ocongama@usc.edu

LA - Week 1 (May 15-18)    @ USC campus
Curitiba, Paraná - Week 2 (May 20 – May 27)    @ Campus Brasil
Salvador, Bahia - Weeks 3 & 4 (May 27- June 11)    @ ACBEU

FINAL EXAM – June 11

Course Description

This course explores the cultures of Brazil in the context of their shared history as Portugal’s former colonies. In this course students will seek to understand the traditions and theories of what is culture, as a universal concept. A cross-disciplinary approach will be used to help students understand cultures’ multifaceted views, while immersing them in the cultures of European-influenced southern Brazil and African-influenced northeastern Brazil. Students will be encouraged to also consider their own culture in light of the course readings and other historical discussions.
Learning Objectives:

- Considering that culture is constituted by daily activities of a group, this course will spend 3 weeks in Brazil, where students will not just look at the theory behind culture and what constitutes Brazilian cultures, but rather experience them daily;
- To cultivate a critical appreciation and understanding of the context from which different aspects of culture emerge, such as literature/language, culinary, and the arts, among others;
- To consider the lasting ideas and values, similarities and differences between the self and others, in light of each particular culture;
- To learn to read and interpret actively and analytically, to write and speak critically and persuasively;
- To evaluate ideas from a variety of perspectives.

This course will take place over a period of four weeks (May 14-June 11), the first week at USC, second through fourth weeks in Brazil (week 2 - Curitiba, Paraná, 3 & 4 – Salvador, Bahia). During the course students will attend lectures and discussions, these will provide them with a theoretical introduction to the subject, while offering the opportunity to discuss and analyze the texts, special lectures, and sites visited during the time in Brazil. While reading will comprise a significant portion of this program curriculum, students will also regularly generate their own writings in the form of responses to readings and critical essays. A portion of the course will be dedicated to the study of the language, albeit superficial, in order to facilitate students’ understanding of Brazilian culture and society.

Student Accommodations:

Week 2- Hotel
Weeks 3 & 4 - Homestay
REQUIRED MATERIAL
Blackboard readings

Class requirements & Grade Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation, Preparation, &amp; Contribution</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quiz/Homework/Reflection</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading a Class Discussion</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Critical Essays</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 – Final Exam (30%)

The Final Exam, essay style, is comprehensive and will take place in the last day of the program in Brazil, June 11.

2 – Reading Quiz/Homework/Reflections (15%)

Reading quiz – This will take place at the beginning of class.

Reflection - Students might be asked to write a reflection, ½ to 1 page in length, considering a visit or lecture

Homework. Students will have to prepare written response to readings and documentaries, ½ to 1 page in length. Respond to the following questions:

- What does the reading/documentary discuss?
- How does this reading/documentary inform my understanding of culture/Brazilian culture/personal culture?
- In what ways can I contribute to the class discussion? (Consider examples or additional questions the group ought to discuss in light of the reading/documentary).
- Prepare at least one question to contribute to the class discussion.
3 - Class Participation, Preparation, & Contribution (15%)

* Preparation of readings and active participation, and contribution to lectures, discussions, and related excursions are mandatory. The grades will reflect each student’s commitment. Due to the intensive nature of this course, you can have one unexcused absence.

  o All reading must be completed before class meetings.
  o Students must come to class ready to discuss readings, visits, and personal observations of the city/culture.
  o Watch the videos before class

* Visits/Trips

  o The visits indicated on your syllabus are mandatory
  o Expect to always have a discussion after the visit
  o Always arrive at the meeting places at least 10 minutes before the scheduled departure time.
  o Most visits have a local guide, so take opportunity to ask questions.

4  – Leading a Class Discussion (10%)

Two students will lead the discussion of an article, as indicated on the syllabus. They will prepare questions to discuss and lead the group discussion.

5  – Critical Essays (30%)

Entries (Weeks 1 & 3)

The critical essay is a composition that should offer an analysis, interpretation, commentary, and/or evaluation of the texts, lectures, and visits of the week. Make sure that your essay considers how your cultural experiences have been affected by your previous knowledge, and how they have been changed/affected by the course readings, visits, and lectures.

  o Every entry should have at least 1000-1500 words and should consider the readings, visits, and other cultural observations you made on your own.
They are due at the beginning of class, Week 1, Thursday, May 17 / Week 3, Friday, June 1

- Week 1 Essay 1
- Week 3, Essay 2

Be conscious of the language used, these are academic essays

**Schedule of Classes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 1</th>
<th>Los Angeles @ USC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 14</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am 12:00 m</td>
<td><strong>Class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Introduction to the program &amp; course syllabus</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 15</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am 12:00 m</td>
<td><strong>Class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Glover, Jerry a., and Harris L. Friedman. (2015) <em>Transcultural Competence: Navigating Cultural Differences in the Global Community</em>. (pp. 3-27)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 16</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am 12:00 m</td>
<td><strong>Class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Williams, Mary, W. <em>The Treaty of Tordesillas and the Argentine-Brazilian Boundary Settlement</em> (pp. 3 - 7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Brazil Inconvenient History – BBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk9SvSZ2Wfs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk9SvSZ2Wfs</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1 This syllabus is a guideline for the course, but adjustments will be made during the program if necessary.
Thursday, May 17
10:00 am 12:00 m Class

Read:

• Seyferth, Giralda. *The diverse understandings of foreign migration to the South of Brazil (1818-1950)* (pp. 120-121, 155-159)

Watch:

• Could South Brazil ever become its own country? – Seeker Daily
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY

11:59 pm ESSAY 1 DUE

Friday, May 18 & Saturday, May 19

*Free Days to travel to Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil*

---

**WEEK 2**

**@ Curitiba**

Sunday, May 20

*Curitiba Airport Pick-up and transfer to hotel*

Monday, May 21

9:00 – 9:30 am *Orientation on safety and culture in Curitiba*

9:30 – 10:00 am Class

Read:

• Schwarz, Roberto. *Misplaced Ideas: Essays on Brazilian Culture.*

10:00 pm Welcome Dinner at Traditional Brazilian Restaurant
Tuesday, May 22
9:00 – 11:00 am  Class

Read:

- Glover, Jerry a., and Harris L. Friedman. *Transcultural Competence: Navigating Cultural Differences in the Global Community*. “Realizing Cultural Differences”. (pp. 77-89)
- Barbosa, Lívia Neves. *The Brazilian Jeitinho: An Exercise in National Identity*

2:30 pm – Visit to Rua das Flores & 24th Street

Wednesday, May 23
9:00 – 11:00 am  Class

Read:

- DaMatta, Roberto. “For an Anthropology of the Brazilian Tradition or “A Virtude está no Meio”.

2:30 pm – Cultural Tour in Curitiba: Panoramic Tower, Botanical Garden, Historical Downtown, Ukrainian Memorial, Garibaldi and Liberdade Plaza.
7:00 pm (Suggested: Dinner at traditional Italian neighborhood of Santa Felicidade)

Thursday, May 24
9:00 – 11:00 am  Class

Read:

- Seyferth, Giralda. *German Immigration and the Formation of German-Brazilian Ethnicity*

3:00 pm  Workshop with German Folk Group
7:00 pm (Suggested: Dinner at traditional German restaurant)

Friday, May 25
9:00 – 11:00 am  Class
Read:

- Pietraszek, Bernadine. *The Poles in Brazil 1889-1910*
- Tigner, James L. *Shindō Remmei: Japanese Nationalism in Brazil*

3:00 pm Interaction with Brazilian students on cultural influences in Curitiba

7:00 pm (Suggested: Street fair on Osorio plaza)

---

**WEEK 3**

**SALVADOR @ ACBEU**

---

Sunday, May 27

Morning/Afternoon Flight to Salvador, Bahia; Check-in at Hotel

Evening

---

Monday, May 28

9:00 am – 11:30 - *Orientation on safety and culture in Salvador*

11:45 am - *Meet Host Mothers & Check Out*

2:30 pm – 4:30 *Lecture and performance on Afro-Brazilian dance with Professor Antonio Cozido*

---

Tuesday, May 29

8:00 – 8:50 am *Survival Portuguese*

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class*

Read:

- Silverstein, Leni. *The Celebration of Our Lord of the Good End: Changing State, Church, and Afro-Brazilian Relations in Bahia*

Watch:

- Black in Latin America, Brazil: A Racial Paradise - PBS
  
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY)
2:00 - 6:45 pm - Panoramic Tour
7:00 pm - Dinner at Churrascaria Boi Preto

Wednesday, May 30
8:00 – 8:50 am Survival Portuguese
9:00 - 11:00 am Class

Read:
- Dawson, Allan C. Food and Spirits: religion gender, and identity in the ‘African’
cuisine of Northeast Brazil

2:00 – 4:00 pm Lecture on Afro-Brazilian Religion with Makota Valdina Pinto
6:30 – 8:30 pm Workshop on Capoeira with Mestre Sapoti

Thursday, May 31
Holiday
Corpus Christi

Friday, June 1
8:00 – 8:50 am Survival Portuguese
9:00 - 11:00 am Class

Read:
- Wood, Marcus. Black Milk: Imagining Slavery in the Visual Cultures of Brazil and
America. (pp. 14-28)

2:00-4:30 pm Visit Candomblé temples: Casa Branca & Nzo Onimboya
11:59 pm ESSAY 2 DUE

Saturday, June 2
Day Trip to Cachoeira
Leave at 8 pm
Visit to Sisterhood of Good Death (Irmandade da Boa Morte)

Free Market

Lecture with Professor Xavier Vatin (UFRB)

Lunch at Fazenda Santa Cruz

Return at 5 pm

Sunday, June 3

Free Day

---

**WEEK 4**

**Salvador @ ACBEU**

---

Monday, June 4

8:00 – 8:50 am *Survival Portuguese*

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class*

*Read:*

- Ickes, Scott. *African-Brazilian Culture and Regional Identity in Bahia, Brazil.* (pp. 1-16)

2:30 – 5:30 pm *Visit to Steve Biko Institute (NGO)*

---

Tuesday, June 5

8:00 – 8:50 am *Survival Portuguese*

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class*

*Read/Watch: TBD*

2:00 – 6:00 pm *Historic tour: Elevador Lacerda, Galeria Pierre Vergé, São Francisco church, Casa de Jorge Amado Foundation*

6:00 – 7:00 pm *Mass at Rosário dos Pretos’ church*
### Wednesday, June 6

8:00 – 8:50 am *Survival Portuguese*

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class*

*Read:*

- Ulhôa Carvalho, Martha. “Tupi or Not Tupi MPB.” (pp.159 – 179)

2:00 - 4:30 pm Visit Caribe & Verge’s exhibition in Barra

---

### Thursday, June 7

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class*

*Lecture on Street Art and a walking tour with local artist Eder Muniz*

2:00 - 4:30 pm *Workshop on Brazilian Music and the African Influence*

---

### Friday, June 8

9:00 - 11:00 am *Class and Final Exam Review*

12:00 pm – Farewell Lunch with the host mothers

8:00 – 9:00 pm Balé Folclórico Pelgurinho (Leave ACBEU at 7:15 pm)

---

### Saturday, June 9 & Sunday, June 10

*Free Days*

---

### Monday, June 11

10:00-12:00PM - FINAL EXAM
ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity http://equity.usc.edu/ or to the Department of Public Safety http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/ provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu/ will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.
Required Readings


Dawson, Allan C. Food and Spirits: religion gender, and identity in the ‘African’ cuisine of Northeast Brazil


Lawrence Tigner, James. Shindō Remmei: Japanese Nationalism in Brazil

Pietraszek, Bernadine. The Poles in Brazil 1889-1910


Seyferth, Giralda. German Immigration and the Formation of German-Brazilian Ethnicity

Seyferth, Giralda “The diverse understandings of foreign migration to the South of Brazil (1818-1950) (pp. 120-121, 155-159)

Silverstein, Leni. “The Celebration of Our Lord of the Good End: Changing State, Church, and Afro-Brazilian Relations in Bahia” (pp. 134- 151)


Ihôa Carvalho, Martha. “Tupi or Not Tupi MPB.” (pp.159 – 179)
Williams, Mary, W. “The Treaty of Tordesillas and the Argentine-Brazilian Boundary Settlement” (pp. 3 - 7)


Documentaries

1. Brazil Inconvenient History – BBC
   (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk9SzS2Wfs)
2. Black in Latin America - Brazil: A Racial Paradise? – PBS
   (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY)
3. Could South Brazil ever become its own country? – Seeker Daily
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY

Reference


4. Brazilian Candomblé

   (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9WOgH4gs0R8)

6. BBC: Brasil Brasil - Episódio 03 - Uma História De Quatro Cidades
   (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGf94kdPstg)