

Afro-Latin America
Spring 2007
Class Meets in Business Administration (BSA) Room 217
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:15-3:30pm

Professor Assad Jibril Pino
Office: 305p Bowman
Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 11-12:30 and 3:30-5pm
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“Afro-Latin America” is the history women and men of African descent living in Latin America from 1492 to the present. Our purpose is to discover how Afro-Latins defined and defended themselves, in a continent where they had originally been brought as captives, through politics, culture, race-mixture, labor and religion. We shall also cover the complex relationship between Blacks, Latinos, and Afro-Latins in the United States. The class utilizes histories, autobiographies, poetry, and film to uncover a place unknown to most Americans, Afro-Latin America.

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January 16: Welcome to Afro-Latin America! Now, Who Are You? Take the Test!

Reading: Handout: “Our Next Race Question”

January 18: Student Questions on “Our Next Race Question”

January 23: How, When, Where and Why Did Africans Come to the Americas?

Reading: *Afro-Latin America*, Chapters 1 through 3.

January 25: Student Questions on *Afro-Latin America*

January 30: Abolition and Aftermath: The Condition of Afro-Latin America Today

Reading: *Afro-Latin America*, Chapters 4-6

February 1 : Student Questions on *Afro-Latin America*

February 6: Rough Drafts for *Afro-Latin America*, during my office hours

February 8: Rough Drafts for *Afro-Latin America*, during my office hours

February 9: Paper due in my Mail Box in 305 Bowman by 3pm

February 13: Do You Remember the Days of Slavery?

Reading: *The Biography of Mahommah Gardo*, pages 96-193

Handout: Mapping New World Slavery

February 15: Student Questions: Mapping New World Slavery

February 20: Student Questions on *The Biography of Mahommah Gardo*

February 22: Rough Drafts for *The Biography of Mahommah Gardo*

February 23: Paper due in my office by 3pm

February 27: Brazil: The Largest Afro-Latin Nation

Reading: *Benedita*

Handout: “Black Brazilian Women Speak”

March 1: Student Questions on “Brazilian Women Speak”

March 6: Student Questions for *Benedita*

March 8: Rough drafts for *Benedita* and “Brazilian Women Speak”

March 9: Paper due in my office by 3pm

March 13: Cuba: Black, Feminist and Socialist Revolution?

Handout: Cuba: Selections from *Afro-Cuba* by Jean Stubbs

Reading: *Reyita*

March 15: Student Questions on *Afro-Cuba*

March 20: Student Questions on *Reyita*

March 22: Rough Drafts on *Reyita* and *Afro-Cuba*. **Special Hours, 11:30am-2pm.**

March 23: Paper due in my office by 3pm

Spring Break: 26-30

April 3: Haiti: The First Black Republic in the World. Film: *Sugar Cane Alley (Part One)*. Handout: “Identity, Power, and Socioracial Hierarchies Among Haitian Immigrants in Florida.” NOTE: Instructor Will Handout questions for *Sugar Cane Alley* and “Haitian Immigrants in Florida.”

April 5: Film: *Sugar Cane Alley (Part Two)*

April 10: Rough Drafts on *Sugar Cane Alley* and “Haitian Immigrants in Florida.”

April 12: Haiti Paper due in my office by 3pm

April 17: Puerto Rico: Is It In The USA, Latin America, Both or Neither?

Reading: Handout: “The Four-Storyed House”

April 19: Student Questions on “The Four-Storyed House”

April 24: Puerto Ricans in the United States: Who and What Are We?

Handout: Reading: “Neither White nor Black: The Representation of Racial Identity Among Puerto Ricans on the Island and in the U.S. Mainland.”

April 26: Student Questions on “Neither White nor Black”

May 1: Rough Drafts on Puerto Rico paper. **Special Hours, 11:30-2pm.**

May 3: Paper due in my office by 3pm

Required Texts:

Afro-Latin America, 1800-2000 by George Reid Andrews

The Biography of Mahommah Gardo Baquaqua by Robin Law and Paul Lovejoy

Benedita da Silva by Medea Benjamin and Maisa Mendonça

Reyita by Maria de los Reyes Castillo Bueno

Assignments:

Grading:

I. Class participation. Ten percent of your grade.

1. At least two students will be responsible for writing and distributing to the class 3-4 questions dealing with the assigned reading and/or film. You will please submit to me the questions in advance of class for suggestions and comments. This may be done in person or via e-mail.

2. Rough drafts. I will hold expanded office hours the week the paper is due to go over your one-page rough drafts. We will not meet in class on that day. Our session should last 5-10 minutes.

II. Six essays. Ninety percent of your grade. You are asked to write a short essay, 4-5 typed pages, on the questions written by your fellow students and discussed in class.

That's right! You write the questions, and submit the answers! Sample Question: “How do Haitians in Haiti and the United States define their Black identity?” Once you finish revising the rough draft, with my help, please drop off the final copy in my mail box in Bowman 305.

Grading Policy: Grades are recorded on a numerical order. 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C.; 60-69=D (after that, you don't want to know).

I reward progress in this class. If, for example, should your total number of points average to an 88 at the end of the term, and I saw that you had moved up in grade points from paper to paper, you would receive an A for the final grade rather than a B.

Class Absence

Only a written excuse for medical or other emergencies permit you to postpone turning in a paper. Otherwise, you shall lose five points each day the paper is late.

Students with disabilities: please contact me as soon as possible to arrange for you to write the questions and papers over at Student Disability Services (672-3391)