

Peoples of Brazil
ANT4336/ANG5336/LAS4935
Fall 2011

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M: 8-9, W: 9 FAC 120
Office hours: Tu/Fri 1:00-2:30 or by appointment

Course Description:

This course takes a look at the peoples of Brazil by exploring the history, culture, and contemporary issues facing Latin America's most populous nation. Brazil is often characterized as a land of contrasts—between rich and poor; urban and rural; black and white, sacred and profane—a depiction that, though partly accurate, is insufficient. To speak of a country as massive as Brazil in terms of simple dichotomies is to ignore the inherent diversity that exists between, and outside of, these binary categories. In this course, we will cover the institutions, ideologies, and groups that coexist in seemingly contradictory fashion, paying close attention to the tensions generated by these contrasts.

The course is structured as follows. The first weeks will comprise a historical overview, bringing us to the late 20th Century. The remainder of the course will examine the enduring legacies of this history on contemporary Brazil through themes across four areas:

- Imaginary:
 - Popular culture
 - Brazilian ideologies
- Private
 - Families and kinship
 - Social life and customs
- Public
 - Religion and religiosity
 - Government institutions and political life
- Globalization and Migration
 - Contemporary Brazilian emigration and return migration
 - Global prominence and its tensions

Throughout the semester, we will attend to race, class, and gender as inequalities that are important dimensions for understanding social life and communities. Rather than cover these as separate from the rest of the course content, our study of these constructs will be embedded throughout the semester.

Course Format:

The course will consist of lectures and discussions. There will also be films (both documentary and fiction) with some films shown in class and others put on reserve. Finally, occasionally, we will have guest lecturers presenting on topics related to course material.

Course Objectives:

- ❖ To provide a broad introduction to Brazil, its people, and customs through an anthropological lens
- ❖ To explore and critique the role of ideologies and stereotypes about national subjects
- ❖ To further student competence in international and social studies
- ❖ To help students develop analytical writing and critical thinking skills

Texts and Readings:

All reading is to be done prior to class for the day it is listed.

❖ Required Texts:

Fausto, Boris: *A Concise History of Brazil*

Ribeiro, Darcy: *The Brazilian People*

Hess, David and Roberto da Matta: *The Brazilian Puzzle*

Graduate students must also read one ethnography chosen in consultation with instructor.

❖ Additional Readings:

There will be additional readings made available through electronic course reserves and/or Sakai

Course Evaluation:**Attendance and participation:**

Each student is expected to attend class regularly and participate actively in discussions. Students may be called on to summarize readings and/or provide questions for discussion.

Quizzes:

There will be several short quizzes throughout the semester—most will be scheduled, but some will be unannounced. Lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Undergraduates only:

Reaction Papers¹: There will be four 2-page reaction papers throughout the semester due by 3:00 p.m. on the assigned date. Guidelines for these will be posted on Sakai.

Graduate students only:

Term Paper: Graduate students must complete one 12-16 page research paper, due at the end of the semester on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor and highlighted in the selected ethnography. Guidelines will be posted on Sakai.

Presentation:**Undergraduates only:**

Undergraduate students will have to prepare an 8-10-minute presentation on a topic they have researched. Guidelines for the presentation and research requirements will be posted on Sakai.

Graduate students only:

¹ Reaction papers will be graded for content as well as writing competency as per Gordon Rule requirements.

Graduate students will have to prepare a 15- to 20-minute presentation on their research topic. Guidelines for the presentation will be posted on Sakai.

Undergraduates:

Attendance and participation:	20%
Quizzes:	30%
Reaction Papers (UGs)	30%
Presentation	20%
Total:	100%

Graduates:

Attendance and participation:	20%
Quizzes:	20%
Presentation:	20%
Term Paper:	40%
Total:	100%

PLEASE NOTE:**Gordon Rule:**

Effective Summer A/C 2009, an additional grading component has been added to successfully complete and receive word credit for courses that meet the university writing requirement (Gordon Rule). Course grades now will have two components. Professors will indicate whether or not students met the writing requirement AND will assign a course grade. Therefore, to receive writing credit students must receive a grade of C or higher AND satisfactory completion of the writing component. It is possible not to meet the writing requirement and still pass the class. Students should review their degree audits after receiving their grades to verify receipt of credit for the writing component.

COURSE POLICIES**DECORUM:**

During lectures and discussions, students are expected to behave as mature adults and treat one another (and the instructor) with respect. Every student in the class is expected to participate in a responsible and mature manner that enhances the educational process. You are encouraged to express your opinions, even if you disagree with the material or instructor; however, you must do so within reasonable bounds of accepted behavior. Any conduct that, in the judgment of the instructor, disrupts the learning process will lead to disciplinary action.

ATTENDANCE: Class participation is an important part of your grade (20%.) While attendance is not mandatory, it will be impossible for you to get an "A" if you are repeatedly absent.

TARDINESS: Tardiness is extremely distracting. If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so very quietly. If you are late on the day of your presentation, you will be deducted half credit for your presentation.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY: Cellular phones must be put away and silenced during class meeting times. Music players are not permitted in class. Laptops/tablets for note-taking are conditionally accepted provided this does not affect your (or your neighbors') ability to attend to the class. Students who are deemed to be distracted by their personal devices will be asked to put these away or leave class for the remainder of the period. Any visible cell phone during a quiz will be confiscated and will result in a loss of 10% of the quiz grade. *INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS POLICY AT ANY POINT.*

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: Reaction papers will be deducted a half-letter grade for each day they are late. Research paper (grads) and all presentations will be deducted a full letter grade for each class period. *NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED MORE THAN ONE WEEK LATE.*

MAKE-UP POLICY: There will be no make-up quizzes. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If a student misses more than one quiz and has a valid, university-approved excuse, an extra reaction paper will be assigned. No more than two quizzes may be substituted in this manner.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Academic Honesty:

Anyone caught cheating on exams, quizzes, or papers (copying or plagiarizing) will receive an “E” grade, and be referred to the dean’s office. For the University’s policy on academic honesty, please visit <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.php#3>

Students with Disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office, who will provide documentation to the student. This documentation must be presented to the Instructor as soon as possible in order to arrange for the accommodations.

Confidentiality:

Student records are confidential. Only information designated "UF directory information" may be released without your written consent. Please see University Regulation 6C1-4.007 for a list of the categories of information designated as "UF directory information." UF views each student as the primary contact for all communication. If your parents contact the instructor about your grade, attendance, or any information that is not "UF directory information," they will be asked to contact you. You may 1) provide the information your parents seek directly to them or 2) contact the University Registrar's Office for additional information. For more information: www.registrar.ufl.edu.ferpahub.html

Counseling and Wellness:

A variety of counseling, mental health and psychiatric services are available through the UF Counseling and Wellness Center, whose goal is to help students be maximally effective in their academic pursuits by reducing or eliminating emotional, psychological, and interpersonal problems that interfere with academic functioning. The Center can be found online at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc> or reached by phone at 392-1575.

NOTE: Please see the following page for the class calendar.

Course Outline

Week 1

August 22: Course overview, Brazilian Geography and Regions
 August 24: Pre-Portuguese Brazil, Encounter, Colonial society
Ribeiro, pp. 9-18
Fausto, pp. 1-34 (up to "Economic Activities")
 Film: *Digging for the Truth: Lost Cities of the Amazon*

Week 2

Colonial Brazil continued
 August 29: *Fausto, pp. 34-75*
Ribeiro, pp. 19-35

August 31:

Week 3

Independence: Imperial Brazil, Slavery
 September 5:

September 7: *Fausto, pp. 75-147*
 Reading: "Gender and the Manumission of Slaves in Colonial Brazil: The Prospects for Freedom in Sabará, Minas Gerais, 1710-1809" Higgins *Slavery and Abolition*
 Reaction Paper #1 due

Week 4

Consolidating the nation: Brazil's First Republic
 September 12: Quiz
Fausto 148-165
 September 14: MEET AT LAC *Fausto 166-197*

Week 5

Order and progress: Vargas x 2, Military rule, Redemocratization
 September 19: *Fausto pp. 198-236*
Levine and Crocitti (ARES): pp. 150-155
 Film: *Capital Sins*
 September 21: *Fausto, pp. 280-332*

Week 6

Military rule, Redemocratization
 September 26: Quiz
Fausto, pp. 280-332

Land of the future, and other myths: Brazilian ideologies
 September 28: *Ribeiro, pp. 146-170*
Hess and DaMatta, pp. 270-291
 Film: clip from *Saludos, Amigos*
Reaction Paper #2 due: Hess and DaMatta

Week 7

Brazilian Popular Culture/Geography and Regionalism

October 3: (ARES) from Da Matta's *Carnivals, Rogues, and Heroes*: pp. 116-136

Hess and DaMatta, pp. 159-175;

October 5: *Hess and DaMatta*, pp. 59-79

Ribeiro, pp. 289-315

Presentation Topic Due (All students)

Week 8

Men and women: gender and the domestic sphere, families

October 10: Rebhun reading on ARES and E-Learning: Sexuality, Color, and Stigma among Northeast Brazilian Women

October 12: Goldstein: "Interracial Sex and Racial Democracy"—ARES and E-Learning

Also, students will choose two selections from Patai's *Brazilian Women Speak* (on Reserve) for **reaction paper #3**. (Get started early—no electronic version available!)

Week 9

House and street: social life and customs

October 17: **QUIZ**

Hess and DaMatta, pp. 31-47 **AND** 114-133

October 19: *Lewis* "Sex and Violence in Brazil: Camaval, Capoeira, and the Problem of Everyday Life

Reaction **Paper #3 due**, **Patai** (TWO selections)

Week 10

God is Brazilian: religion and religiosity

October 24: **Preliminary Bibliography due**

Hess and DaMatta, pp. 134-150

October 26: Reading: *Hess and DaMatta*, pp. 180-208

Week 11

Vote for me: Politics, government, and the Law

October 31: *Hess and DaMatta* pp. 241-269

November 2 ????

Film: *Lula's Brazil*

Week 12

Public Institutions: Education, Healthcare

November 7: Reading: ARES/E-Learning: Lima and Gazetta: From Lay Teachers to University Students

Film: *Brazil in Black and White (Wide Angle)*

(Reaction Paper will be on this film)

November 9: Reaction Paper #4 due

Reading on ARES/E-Learning: Parker: AIDS in Brazil
Film clip: AIDS in Brazil

Week 13

Brazilian emigration, Immigrants in Brazil

November 14: Reading: Adriana Piscitelli: Brazilian Women Abroad

November 16: FILM: God is Brazilian, Part 1. No reading due

Week 14

November 21: Is the future now? Brazil in a world economy

Reading on ARES/E-Learning

Lima and Hirst: Brazil as an Intermediate State and Regional Power

GRAD STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

NOVEMBER 23 CANCEL CLASS:

Readings: *The Economist*, Special Issue: Brazil Takes Off

Guest speaker: Amazonia in Globalized Setting

Week 15

November 28: QUIZ;

Course Evaluations

Reading: Hess and DaMatta 293-298 and Ribeiro 316-322

November 30:

Undergraduate presentations

Week 16

December 5 Undergraduate presentations GRADUATE STUDENT PAPERS DUE

December 7 Undergraduate presentations

QUIZ and course wrap-up