This seminar will explore the significance of contemporary race and gender relations in Latin America and the Caribbean. The main idea is to probe in a critical manner the meaning of race and gender as broad social constructs with specific social and political meanings. Students will be introduced to many of the current debates on race, gender, democracy, social movements as discussed by Afro, women, indigenous and civil society groups and other progressive sectors. Specifically, it will examine black, women and indigenous movements in Ecuador, Colombia, Cuba, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, and Brazil. This course is mainly aimed for students in the social sciences (Anthropology, African American Studies, Sociology, Political Science, International Relations, Women Studies, Latina/o Studies.).

Speakers Series:

Additionally, the course will have a speaker series and some of the leading thinkers on Latin America/Caribbean will be invited to our class to share their views on important issues of the day.

Books:
Racial Politics in Post Revolutionary Cuban Society, Mark Sawyer (Cambridge University Press, 2006)
Negras in Brazil: Revisioning Black Women Citizenship and the Politics of Identity, Kia Lilly Caldwell (Rutgers University Press, 2007)
From tribal village to Global Village: Indian Rights and International Relations in Latin America, Alison Bryck (Stanford University Press 2000)
Articles:

“Where is Sara Gomez?” / ¿Dónde está Sara Gomez?
SCOPE, October 2007 Issue 9, Kwame Dixon
“Knowledge Production in the Academy,” Patricia McFadden, Sapem August – September 1997
“Rethinking Mestizaje: Ideology and Lived Experience” Peter Wade, Journal of Latin American Perspectives, 37, pp.239-257 2005

Films (on reserve in ML King Library):

Denying Brazil/ A Negação Do Brasil, Joel Zito Araujo, (Portuguese with English subtitles), 92 minutes, 2000
Where is Sara Gomez? / ¿Dónde está Sara Gomez?, Alessandra Muller, (Spanish with English subtitles), 76 minutes, 2005
Goodbye Momo/A Dios Momo, Leonardo Ricagni, (Spanish with English subtitles), 100 minutes, 2005
Heading South(_Ver L’ Sur) Directed by Lurent Cantet 2005 (English and French) 105 minutes

Course Requirements:

Note: All assignments are due at 4:00 pm on the date assigned.

1. PLACA Lecture series 20 points
   All students are required to attend the lecture series.
After each lecture you will be required to write a two page analysis of the speakers views/ideas (4 essays, 2 pages each or 1500 words /5points each = 20 total points). Due one week after each lecture by 4:00 pm

2. Race/Gender Thematic Essay (2000 words, five page thematic 10 points) Five page theoretical essay on race, gender or race and gender. Analyze the social, political, and economic bases of these concepts within the historical context of Latin America. This essay should be written based on two articles: “New Perspectives in Latin American Women’s and Gender History,” Sarah Chambers – Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History, and Rethinking Racism: Towards a Structural Interpretation, Due September 16

a. What is race/gender?
b. What are some of the historical and political antecedents (of race and gender)?
c. What type of categories emerged from classifying people within specific racial or ethnic categories in Latin American/Caribbean?

3. Midterm 30 points (TBA)
4. Two Thematic Essays
   Article 1
   One article from Latin America: Social Movements in the 21st century, Resistance Power and Democracy
   Article 2, Film Discussion (chose one the films)
   2 essays 5 points each = 10 Points, 1500 words each, Due Nov. 25

5. Major Paper (30 Points total)

NO FINAL EXAM

Week 1 August 26
Introduction and overview

Theoretical perspectives on Race and Gender

Readings:
READING FOR THE WEEK SHOULD BE DONE AT THE START OF EACH WEEK


“Knowledge Production in the Academy,” Patricia McFadden, Sapem August – September 1997

Week 2 September 2


“Knowledge Production in the Academy,” Patricia McFadden, Sapem August – September 1997

Thursday September, 4

Social Movements in the 21st Century: Conceptual and theoretical underpinnings

Read in preparation for Vanden Lecture

@Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy, Edited by Richard Stahler-Sholk, Harry Vanden, and Glen Kuecker, introduction and Chapters 1, 2 & 3

Week 3

September 9 and 11
Harry Vanden’s class lecture and college wide lecture
Thursday, September 11
Discussion and review of Vanden Lecture

Indigenous Rights and International Relations

Week 4 September 15

Indigenous Rights and International Relations
From Tribal Village to Global Village: Indian Rights and International Relations in Latin America, introduction and chapters, 1 and 2

Week 5 September 22

From Tribal Village to Global Village: Indian Rights and International Relations in Latin America, introduction and chapters, 1 and 2

From Tribal Village to Global Village: Indian Rights and International Relations in Latin America, introduction and chapters, 3, 4, 5 and conclusion

Week 6 September 29

Tuesday September 30, no classes

Multicultural Citizenship in Nicaragua
“Introduction: African (Black) Diaspora History, Latin American History”
Ben Vinson III, The Americas, 63:1, July 2006
Beloved Enemies:” Race and Official Mestizo Nationalism in Nicaragua,”
Juliet Hooker, Latin American Research Review, vol 40, No. 3 2005

Week 7, October 7 and 9
Class lecture by Juliet Hooker

Thursday, October 9

Discussion and review of Hooker lecture
Readings:

Indigenous Inclusion/Black Exclusion: Race, Ethnicity and Multicultural Citizenship in Latin America,” Journal of Latin American Studies, 37 285-310

Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy, Chapter 12, Black Women’s Leadership in Neighborhood Movements in Brazil, Keisha-Khan Perry
Negras in Brazil: Revisioning Black Women Citizenship and the Politics of Identity

Week 8, October 14

Race, Gender and Social Movements

Class Speaker Keisha-Khan Perry


Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy, Chapter 12, by Keisha-Khan Perry
Negras in Brazil: Revisioning Black Women Citizenship and the Politics of Identity

October 16, review and discussion of Perry lecture

Week 9 Gender and Social Movements

Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy, Chapters 13 and 14

Recasting Popular Movements in: Gender and Political Learning in Neighborhood organizations in Chile, Veronica Child
Casa Amiga: Feminist Community in Cuidad Juarez as an Alternative to Structural Violence, Joanna Swanger
Week 10, October 28

Afro-Colombians and the Struggle for Human Rights


Week 11 November 4,

Black behind the Ears: From Museums to Beauty Shops (in preparation for Blas Jimenez)

Film discussion: Goodbye Momo/A Dios Momo, Leonardo Ricagni, (Spanish with English subtitles), 100 minutes, 2005

Week 12 November 11

Blas Jimenez class lecture

November 13 review and discussion Jimenez lecture

Film discussion: Heading South (Ver L’ Sur) Directed by Lurent Cantet 2005 (English and French) 105 minutes

Along with the seminar discussion students will start discussing their articles (discuss one article from Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy)

2 to 3 students per class until the end of the semester

Week 13 November 18

Racial Politics in Post Revolutionary Cuba, Sawyer
“Where is Sara Gomez?” / ¿Dónde está Sara Gomez?
SCOPE, October 2007 Issue 9, Dixon

Week 14 November 25

Article Discussions in class continued,

Last day of class is December 4

Article discussion continues,

Speaker Series

Harry Vanden (Vanden@chuma1.cas.usf.edu)
September 8, 2008

HARRY E. VANDEN is Professor of Political Science and International Studies at the University of South Florida, Tampa (Ph.D. Political Science, New School for Social Research). A former Fulbright Scholar in Peru and current Fulbright Scholar in Brazil, he has published some thirty scholarly articles, many book chapters and eight books, including Politics of Latin America: the Power Game 2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2006). Current research interests focus on new social movements, especially the Landless Movement (M.S.T.) in Brazil. His most recent work is Latin American Social Movements in the twenty – First Century: Resistance, Power and Democracy edited with Richard Staher-Sholk and Glen Kuecker (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008).

Juliet Hooker (juliethooker@mail.utexas.edu)
October 7, 2008

Juliet Hooker is Assistant Professor of Government at The University of Texas at Austin. She received her Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University in 2001. Her research interests include Political Theory, Latin American Politics, Multiculturalism, Critical Race Theory and Afro-descendant and Indigenous Politics in Latin America. Her first book, entitled Race and the Politics of Solidarity, is forthcoming from Oxford University

Kiesha-Khan Perry, PhD (Keisha-Khan_Perry@brown.edu)  
(October 14)

Keisha Khan Perry is an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Anthropology at Brown University. Her scholarly interests include activist anthropology, African Diaspora studies, critical race and feminist theory, urban geography and politics, social movements, and race relations in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has research in Mexico, Jamaica, Belize, Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, and the United States. Perry is completing a book manuscript on the emergence of black women’s leadership and participation in urban social movements in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.

Blas Jimenez (isisviajes@codetel.net.do)  
November 11, 2008

Afro/Dominican poet and essayist, Blas Jimenez’ poetry and essays have appeared in specialized journals in The Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, the United States, Costa Rica, Brazil, Colombia, and Uruguay. Professor Jimenez is the winner of the Ethel L. Payne International Award for Excellence in Journalism – Individual Journalist -The African Diaspora, 1998. In 2004 he was a Meritorious Professor of Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra where he lectured in Caribbean Literature and African Heritage. Professor Jimenez is the producer and conductor of “Página Abierta” a daily commentary TV program dedicated to covering various socio-political and economic issues that are usually ignored by the larger Dominican culture. He is also a producer and conductor of “La Mañana en Antena” a daily Radio Talk Show, both in Santo Domingo.

Professor Jimenez has dedicated his poetic work to describe the racial reality with reference to the history, ideology, economic and politics of African descendents in the Dominican Republic. Among his published books are: Aqui... Otro Español; Caribe Africano en Despertar; Exigencias de un Cimarrón; and El Nativo. Professor Jimenez is also co-editor of the book
Desde la Orilla: hacia una nacionalidad sin desalojos in collaboration with Silvio Torres-Saillant and Ramona Hernández. From the year 2000 to 2003 Professor Jiménez served as Secretary General of the Dominican Republic National commission for the United Nations Organization for Education, Culture and Communication (UNESCO). He has also been attached to The International Education Resource Center (IERC) since 1998, within various Universities and Colleges in The Dominican Republic, as developer and professor of African heritage, Caribbean culture and literature.