

AML 4685 – Afro Latinx Studies

Professor Tace Hedrick, Ph.D

Class Hours: Tues (1:55 PM - 2:45 PM); Thurs (1:55 PM - 3:50 PM)

Room: MAT0113

Office Hours: Tues 12:30-1:30 PM; Thurs 12:30-1:30 PM

Office: 4326 Turlington

Email: Through Canvas

Attention! Important Notes:

- I will be holding class both in synchronous remote mode (Zoom) as well as face-to-face. I cannot move students to online access, so you as the student must choose to do so. Those of you who choose face-to-face, please remember to bring your laptops to class.
- As well, I often notify the class about a change in the syllabus or an assignment through Canvas Announcements. For you as students to get notifications right away from Canvas, go to Canvas-Account-Notifications-Announcements and set it to “Notify Immediately.”

Another Important Note: In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.
 - You are **expected** to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
 - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you're sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

- If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

Course Description:

Although U.S. Latinx Studies is beginning to find a more secure foothold in universities, U.S. Afro-Latinx Studies is still relatively new. In this course, we will examine how *Afro-Latinas/os born and/or raised in the United States* negotiate a complex race, class, and gender identity through representations in both United States literature and United States (popular) culture. We will be looking as well to the roles African-heritage peoples play in countries like Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, and how such roles affect the histories of their negotiations with racialized identities in the United States.

Course Requirements: Three in-class essay exams (75% of final grade) and 6 reading quizzes (25% of final grade).

Required Texts:

Juan Flores, ed. *The Afro-Latin@ Reader*
 Juan González, *Harvest of Empire*, 2nd Edition
 Evilio Grillo, *Black Cuban, Black American*
 Cristina García, *The Agüero Sisters*
 Nancy Morejón, *With Eyes and Soul*
 Junot Díaz, *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*
 Piri Thomas, *Down these Mean Streets*
 Black Artemis, *Picture Me Rollin'*

August

T 24 Introduction to Course and Syllabus
 YouTube to watch at home: "Black Beyond America"

Afro-Latinidad Today

Th 26 Ryan Mann-Hamilton, "Retracing Migration" *The Afro-Latin@ Reader*
 Carlos Pozzi, "Race, Ethnicity, and Color Among Latinos in the United States."
Course Reserves

T 31 Discussion

September

Th 2 Wayne Marshall, "The Rise and Fall of Reggaetón" *Afro-Latin@ Reader*

T 7 Discussion

Afro-Latinx History: Afro-Cuban Americans

Th 9 Jesse Hoffnung-Garskoff, "The World of Arturo Schomburg" *Afro-Latin@ Reader*
 Susan Greenbaum, "Afro-Cubans in Tampa" *Afro-Latin@*

Reader

- T 14 Tace Hedrick, “Evelio Grillo” **Course Reserves**
- Th 16 *Black Cuban, Black American* Introduction-p. 61
- T 21 *Black Cuban, Black American* pp. 62- end **Reading Quiz**
- Th 23 **Exam #1**
- T 28 Discussion
- Puerto/Nuyoricans and Race**
- Th 30 “Puerto Ricans: Citizens, Yet Foreigners”; “Puerto Rico, U.S.A.” *Harvest of Empire*
Afro-Puerto Rican Testimonies: “Against the Myth of Racial Harmony in Puerto Rico” *Afro-Latin@ Reader*
- October**
- T 5 Discussion
- Th 7 *Down These Mean Streets* pp. 3-154
- T 12 *Down These Mean Streets* pp. 157-end **Reading Quiz**
- The Cuban Revolution and Afro-Cubans**
- Th 14 “Banana Republics and Bonds” (read first section and Cuba section) *Harvest of Empire*
Luis William, “Race, Poetry, and Revolution in the Works of Nancy Morejón”
Course Reserves
- T 19 *With Eyes and Soul* pp. 11-59, 111-114
- Th 21 *With Eyes and Soul* pp. 60-109 **Reading Quiz**
- T 26 “Cubans: Special Refugees” *Harvest of Empire*
- Th 28 **Exam #2**
- November**
- T 2 *The Agüero Sisters* pp. 3-148
- Th 4 *The Agüero Sisters* pp.149-end **Reading Quiz**
- Afro-Dominican Americans**
- T 9 “Dominicans: From the Duarte to the George Washington Bridge” *Harvest of Empire*
- Th 11 **Veteran’s Day**
- T 16 *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* pp. 1-165 and epigraph, “Christ have mercy on all sleeping things! “
- Th 18 *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* pp.167-335 **Reading Quiz**
- T 23 Raquel Rivera, “Ghettocentricity, Blackness, and Pan-Latinidad”
Afro-Latin@ Reader
- Th 25 **Thanksgiving** *Picture Me Rollin’* pp.1-154

T 30 *Picture Me Rollin'* pp. 155-end **Reading Quiz**
December
 Th 2 **Exam #3**

 T 7 **Last Day Wrap Up**

GRADING:

Grading is done on a point scale. Each assignment will be worth a possible 12 points (an A). Always make sure that you check the grading scale below; a 7 or 8, for example, does NOT mean a failing grade.

A= excellent; unusually outstanding; good writing (**one or less writing errors per page**) and original thinking; that is, **thinking critically** beyond what you have read and discussed in class. You use reading and class discussion, as well as other sources if needed, to back up your ideas so that you are not just giving an opinion but an informed argument. You think of yourself as a writer interested in her ideas and interested in sharing them.

B= above average; only a few (**on average, two or so per page**) writing errors, a standard (not original) argument for the subject, though you should work harder on contributing your own ideas about the subject.

C= average based on general class performance; several writing errors (**on average, 3-4 per page**); you understand the subject, but you tend to repeat and/or merely summarize what has already been said in the readings or in class discussion.

D= below average; you have not paid attention to the subject and/or you have enough writing errors that your argument cannot be followed.

F= incomplete or failing to meet the requirements of the assignment.

Three exams @ 12 points each=36 points: 6 quizzes @ five points each.

3 EXAMS			6 QUIZZES			FINAL GRADE	
Points		Grade	Points		Grade	Weighted	Grade
Total	Weighted	(Letter)	Total	Weighted	(Letter)	Points	(Letter)
36	27.00	A	30	7.50	A	34.5	A
33	24.75	A-	27	6.75	A-	31.5	A-
30	22.50	B+	24	6.00	B+	28.5	B+
27	20.25	B	21	5.25	B	25.5	B
24	18.00	B-	18	4.50	B-	22.5	B-
21	15.75	C+	15	3.75	C+	19.5	C+
18	13.50	C	12	3.00	C	16.5	C
15	11.25	C-	9	2.25	C-	13.5	C-
12	9.00	D	6	1.50	D	10.5	D

9	6.75	D-	3	0.75	D-	7.5	D-
6	4.50	E	0	0.00	E	6.0	E

Final grade = (Total exam points x 75%) + (Total quizz points x 25%)

Example:

Total exam points = 35

Total quizz points = 28

Then:

7

Final
points = (35x75%)+(28x25%)
= (26.25)+(7.00)
= 33.25
Final grade = A

Exams: Each exam will be in-class (on Thursdays, our long day), open book, open notes. I will give you 5-8 long exam questions, on **one** of which you will choose to write. You will have the entire class time to write the exam.

These exams should constitute **at least** five **well-written** paragraphs: an introduction, three or more paragraphs of analysis, and a conclusion.

I will have a space on Canvas for you to upload your typewritten exam. If you don't wish to write your exam on your laptop, you can bring 2-3 Blue Books to class in which to write. However, if you choose this option you need to be careful that your handwriting is legible.

Reading Quizzes: Each quiz will be 5 true/false questions.

CLASS POLICIES

Students with disabilities: Please consult with me as soon as possible so that I can make appropriate accommodations for you.

Class Department: You are now adults and must be expected to behave as such. However, to remind everyone:

- If you are more than 15 minutes late, do not come to class. Coming in this late is disruptive.
- If you are too tired or sick to pay attention in class, please do not come.
- Please do not read other material in class—such as anything on your phone or anything else on your laptop.
- If you cannot come prepared for class discussion, please do not come.

Absences: I allow three unexcused absences. **Each unexcused absence** after the first three will result in the **loss of one point** from your total end-of-semester score. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and require appropriate documentation.

Special Needs Accommodations: If you need academic accommodations for special needs, you must first contact the Disability Resource Center at 392-8565 (accessuf@dso.ufl.edu; 0001 Building 0020 [Reid Hall]) to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. You should schedule an appointment with me within the first two weeks of the semester to make appropriate arrangements.

Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

In-Class Recording:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited.

Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040.

CAMPUS RESOURCES:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students' Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>