

**Latin American and Caribbean Studies Major Proseminar II**  
**LACS 2002**  
Fall 2007

**Professor:** Sergio Quesada

**Class time:** Tues. and Thurs. 12:30-1:45, at 264 Baldwin Hall, Department of Anthropology.

**Office hours:** Thurs 2:00-3:00 Room G-40 Baldwin Hall (Lower back parking lot, through the Laboratory of Ethnobiology door). Or at LACSI, 290 S. Hull St. by appointment.

**E-mail:** [squesada@uga.edu](mailto:squesada@uga.edu)

**Course description:**

This course is the extension of last semester's Proseminar I (LACS 2001), and continues your basic introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies. This semester you will come to have a deeper understanding of some of the more vital issues related to Latin America and the Caribbean. Again, you will be exposed to a variety of faculty members who do research in Latin America here at UGA. This semester you will explore issues related to culture, ecology, education, landscape, literature, gender and ethnicity, history, linguistics, music, religion, political science and society. Once again, the objective of this Proseminar is to give you a feel for the variety of research done within the LACS, and to expose you to faculty with whom you may want to take further classes in a given area.

The class will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:45 pm. The format will vary, but in general, on Tuesdays you will have a lecture by one of our invited faculty, and on Thursdays we will have a follow-up discussion. Readings for each lecture will be available at least a week in advance on WebCt.

**Evaluation:**

There will be four parts to your grade:

1. Attendance and participation are essential and will be counted as 20% of your grade. To effectively participate, you must be present and you must be prepared for class; in other words, you must have read, listened or watched the materials assigned for that week's session. For each lecture, you will be responsible for bringing to the following discussion at least one discussion question or topic in writing to hand in at the beginning of class.
2. Overviews: You will be responsible for writing two overviews of sessions. This means that on a certain day, you will take especially careful notes on the lecture and discussion and organize them into an overview of the class that can be distributed. These will be uploaded onto WebCt for the rest of the class to make reference to. Since there are more sessions than students, some sessions will have two people writing overviews.
3. Reaction paper: You are required to write one "reaction paper" where you will have the opportunity to respond more in-depth to the issues raised by the lecture

and discussion. Make reference to the discussion, articulate your response, document your sources, and hand it in by the next session.

4. Research paper: Finally, you will be responsible for writing an 8-10 page research paper on some topic inspired by one of the sessions. You will write it in consultation with one of the fourteen faculty members who will also grade the paper.

### **Summary of evaluation:**

Attendance and Participation	25%
Two overviews	25%
One 3-5 page reaction paper	10%
An 8-10 page research paper and oral presentation	40%

*All Academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.*

*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

### **Course schedule and readings:**

August 16	Sergio Quesada: Orientation Session.
August 21	Sergio Quesada: Cultural Issues in Latin American.
August 28	Oscar Chamosa: "Folk Music and Nationalism in Argentina and Latin America".
September 4	Jose Raul Buitrago: "Landscape Architecture in Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and beyond".
September 11	Maria Eugenia Gimenez: "International and Regional Judicial Reform programs in Latin America and the Caribbean."
September 18	Reinaldo Roman: "Religions in the Hispanic Caribbean".
September 25	Patricia Richards: "Gender & Ethnicity in Chile".
October 4	Luis Correa: Latin American Literature
October 9	Laura Shedenhelm: UGA Library on Latin America & Caribbean Studies
October 16	Susan Thomas: "Cuban Music and Transnationalism."
October 23	Chad Howe: Spanish Linguistics
October 30	Nicolas Lucero: Argentinian Literature

November 6 Bernadette M. Mussetti: "Latinos and Education in the US."  
November 13 Robert Moser: Portuguese Literature in Brazil  
November 20 Susan Quinlan: "Gender Theory and the Importance of Contemporary Brazilian and Latin American Critical Thinkers."  
November 27 Thomas McCutchen: "Mainstream music of Brazil and the Caribbean: Samba, Bossa Nova, Calypso/Soca, and Salsa."  
December 4 Maritza Soto Keen: Latinos en Georgia.

**FACULTY ROSTER**

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