

## Graduate Courses - Fall 2025

### SPAN 6220 – CHRONICLES AND EPICS OF THE SPANISH CONQUEST (in Spanish)

John Charles [jcharles@tulane.edu](mailto:jcharles@tulane.edu)

Tuesdays / 3.30-6.00

This course examines the ways in which the discovery and conquest of America were narrated, with special focus on the relationship between early modern historiography, legal traditions, and rhetorical standards and practices. Additional topics may include Renaissance, Spanish colonial language policy, the status of the Americas and Native Americans in natural and moral history.

### MUSC 6270 – INDIGENOUS MEDIA AND SOUND IN LATIN AMERICA (in English)

Ana María Ochoa [aochoa1@tulane.edu](mailto:aochoa1@tulane.edu)

Tuesdays / 2.00-5.00

This course explores how indigenous musics and sounds have been inscribed into ethnographic media. We explore how the notion of indigenous musics arose in the late nineteenth century based on how it was collected and inscribed on specific sound and audiovisual formats, creating a racialized and colonial notion of indigenous musics. Then we explore how indigenous peoples themselves, often in collaborative processes, are decolonizing and appropriating such histories by rethinking the early archives or documenting their own musics and sounds in new ways. In so doing, they challenge Western notions of musicality, of media inscription, of racialized histories of music, and how human and nonhuman sounds are understood. In English, with some readings in Spanish.

### PORT 6290 – BRAZILIAN MODERNITIES 1922-1968

(in Portuguese)

Christopher Dunn [cjdunn@tulane.edu](mailto:cjdunn@tulane.edu)

Tuesdays & Thursdays / 12.30-1.45

This seminar is dedicated to key literary texts of Brazilian *modernismo*, from its inaugural gestures of the Week of Modern Art in 1922 to the crisis of modernity under authoritarian rule, which entered its most repressive phase in 1968. We will focus on vanguardist experimentation of the 1920s, the rise of social realism in the 1930s, Afro-Brazilian modernists, the eruption of a mid-century constructivist avant-garde in the 1950s, and the 'tropicalist moment' of the late 1960s. In addition to core readings, we will engage works of poetry, visual art, architecture, and music.

### SPAN 6330 – CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN SPAIN 1500-1700

(in Spanish)

Dale Shuger [dshuger@tulane.edu](mailto:dshuger@tulane.edu)

Thursdays / 3.30-6.00

This course will explore the relationship between law and literature--or more specifically, crime and narrative-- in the context of early modern Spain. We will mix historical and literary texts that deal with crime, sin, punishment, justice, revenge, and confessions, with attention to the ways that the newly forming "modern" state reconfigured legal institutions and by extension, the stories (testimonies, confessions, fictions) told about breaking, resisting, and escaping the

law. Regardless of whether graduate students choose to work on the early modern period for their dissertation, this course will provide critical frameworks that can be applied across regions and periods.

### **SPAN 6460 – LATIN AMERICAN POETS AND GENRE B(L)ENDING**

(in Spanish)

Marilyn Miller [mgmiller@tulane.edu](mailto:mgmiller@tulane.edu)

Wednesdays / 3.30-6.00

In this course, we will study works by some of Latin America's best-known poets (Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Rubén Darío, José Martí, Nicolás Guillén, Alfonsina Storni, Pablo Neruda, etc.) alongside texts in other genres by these same authors. We will also study texts in verse by Latin American authors better known to contemporary audiences for their contributions to the novel, essay, short stories, and autobiography (Juan Francisco Manzano, Jorge Luis Borges, Julio Cortázar). Together with this focus on genre b(l)ending, we will study musicalization, spoken word, protest poetry, and other forms of performance that seek to transform poetry beyond "mere" text (Pablo Milanés, Ernesto Cardenal, Nuyorican Poets Café, etc.). Students will be introduced to the tools of formal poetic analysis but also encouraged to consider poets and poetry as interdisciplinary phenomena.

### **SPAN 7920 –**

(in Spanish)

### **POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND THE OBJECTIFICATION OF BODIES IN SPANISH AMERICA**

Fernando Rivera Díaz [friverad@tulane.edu](mailto:friverad@tulane.edu)

Mondays / 3.30-6.00

From the moment we are born and throughout our lives, human beings objectify and are objectified. We turn others into objects for our use, and we are used by others as objects. Everyday life (e.g., sports, sexual relations), social life (e.g., fashion, commercial advertising), and forms of domination (e.g., compulsory servitude, slavery) or other forms of complex negotiation (e.g., prostitution, surrogacy) involve the use of bodies to such an extent that objectification has become an intersubjective phenomenon shaping the human social landscape today more than ever, generating diverse ways of being and living. This seminar studies the discursive mechanisms of objectification. It starts from the analysis of historical forms of human servitude and sexual violation in the Andes and then examines a general theory of objectification. The seminar also discusses the relationships of objectification with the theory of recognition, reification, objectivation, and objectification of American feminism. Students will read essays and excerpts from major thinkers from Europe, the United States, and Latin America. Additionally, the course will include readings and films by Arguedas, Bellatín, Bolaño, Castellanos Moya, Columbus, Gálvez, Llosa, León, and others.

### **SPAN 7960 – PHD PREPARATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

(in English)

Antonio Gómez [agomez@tulane.edu](mailto:agomez@tulane.edu)

Thursdays / 3.30-6.00

This course is designed to prepare students for the profession. It will cover topics such as choosing a dissertation subject, designing course syllabi, developing professional writing skills, understanding the job market and preparing personal materials for a job search. Throughout the semester, students will write, submit, and discuss their PhD exam lists. Final submission of the lists by the end of the course is a key component of the grade.

*N.B. – this course is mandatory for S&P students taking PhD exams in spring 2025, but open to all graduate students in the humanities at Tulane.*

(updated March 2025)