

**LATINO
STUDIES**
UT AUSTIN

MALS COURSES SPRING 2026

**REGISTRATION BEGINS
NOVEMBER 3, 2025**

**REGISTRATION ENDS
NOVEMBER 14, 2025**



MAS 301

INTRO TO MEXICAN AMERICAN & LATINA/O STUDIES

MWF 9am-10am #40910 PAR 103 Jereny Mendoza

Introduction to the theoretical and substantive issues covered under the interdisciplinary rubric of ethnic studies. Explore the Mexican American and Latina/o experience through the methodological approaches of historical analysis, cultural critique, and social production.





MAS 301

INTRO TO MEXICAN AMERICAN & LATINA/O STUDIES

MWF 1pm-2pm #40915 RLP 0.106 Annaliese Martinez

Introduction to the theoretical and substantive issues covered under the interdisciplinary rubric of ethnic studies. Explore the Mexican American and Latina/o experience through the methodological approaches of historical analysis, cultural critique, and social production.

Image: from the film Harvest of Empire:
The Untold Story of Latinos in America, 2012





MAS 301

INTRO TO MEXICAN AMERICAN & LATINA/O STUDIES

TTH 2pm-3:30pm #40920 GEA 127 Paul Del Bosque

Introduction to the theoretical and substantive issues covered under the interdisciplinary rubric of ethnic studies. Explore the Mexican American and Latina/o experience through the methodological approaches of historical analysis, cultural critique, and social production.

Art: Raúl Valdez, "Los Elementos"



MAS 314

MEXICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE & CULTURE

MWF 12pm-1pm #40930 PAR 302 Lilia Raquel Rosas

The first Festival de Flor y Canto in the University of Southern California in 1973 marks an overt shift in the literary production of Chican@/xs. A celebration of the expressions and creations, which inform Mexican American, Chican@/x literature and culture, this gathering, was one of numerous key outlets to showcase this profound vastness and diversity. In this class, we will consider the range of stories, narratives, and texts critical to understanding the daily lives, resistance, exploitation, and rebellions within Mexican Americans and Chican@/xs in the United States. Through a careful reading of the novel, short story, and poetry, memoir, and film we will uncover the relevant themes, which are central to (me)Xican@/x, Xicanindi@/x, mestiz@/x, Indigenous, and Brown communities across Greater Mexico. By the end of the course, students will achieve a growing comprehension into subjects such as curanderismo, rasquachismo, segregation, incarceration, migrations, familia, feminism, womanhood, queerness, and la frontera, to name but a few.

Art: Zeke Peña, Fronterizes



MAS 315

LATINAS IN POPULAR PERFORMANCE: FROM CELIA TO SELENA

TTH 11am-12:30pm #40935 BUR 212 Laura Gutiérrez

This course explores the cultural, social, and political impact of Latina popular performance in the U.S. Using iconic figures like Celia Cruz and Selena, students examine how Latinas have shaped music and film since the early 20th century while facing exoticization and marginalization. Through analysis of popular performances and key theoretical concepts, the course fosters critical thinking about representations of gender, race, and ethnicity, and introduces methods from Latinx and Performance Studies. Students will study influential Latinas such as Carmen Miranda, Rita Moreno, Jennifer López, Shakira, and Cardi B, learning skills in performance description, research, collective work, and public speaking. The goal is to understand how Latina performers negotiate admiration and societal devaluation, and to become conversant in the conventions and theories that inform their representation in American popular culture.

Cardi B at The Met Gala, 2019



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They Not Like Us

MAS 318D

INTRO TO LATINX BODY ART

TTH 9am-12:30pm #40950 CMA 5.190 Rachel González-Martin

You are a work of everyday art. This course examines how individuals use their bodies as a mobile art canvas. From aretes (earrings) to affect, tattoos to takuaches, Chicanx goths to #LatinaNerds we will explore how people move through the world communicating with the art of their bodies. We will use the ideas of “hypervisibility” and “self-portraiture” to explore concepts of self-expression, community histories, and social representations connected to different generations of U.S. Latinx/e communities across the United States.

Art: Colton Valentine, “Edgar” 2024



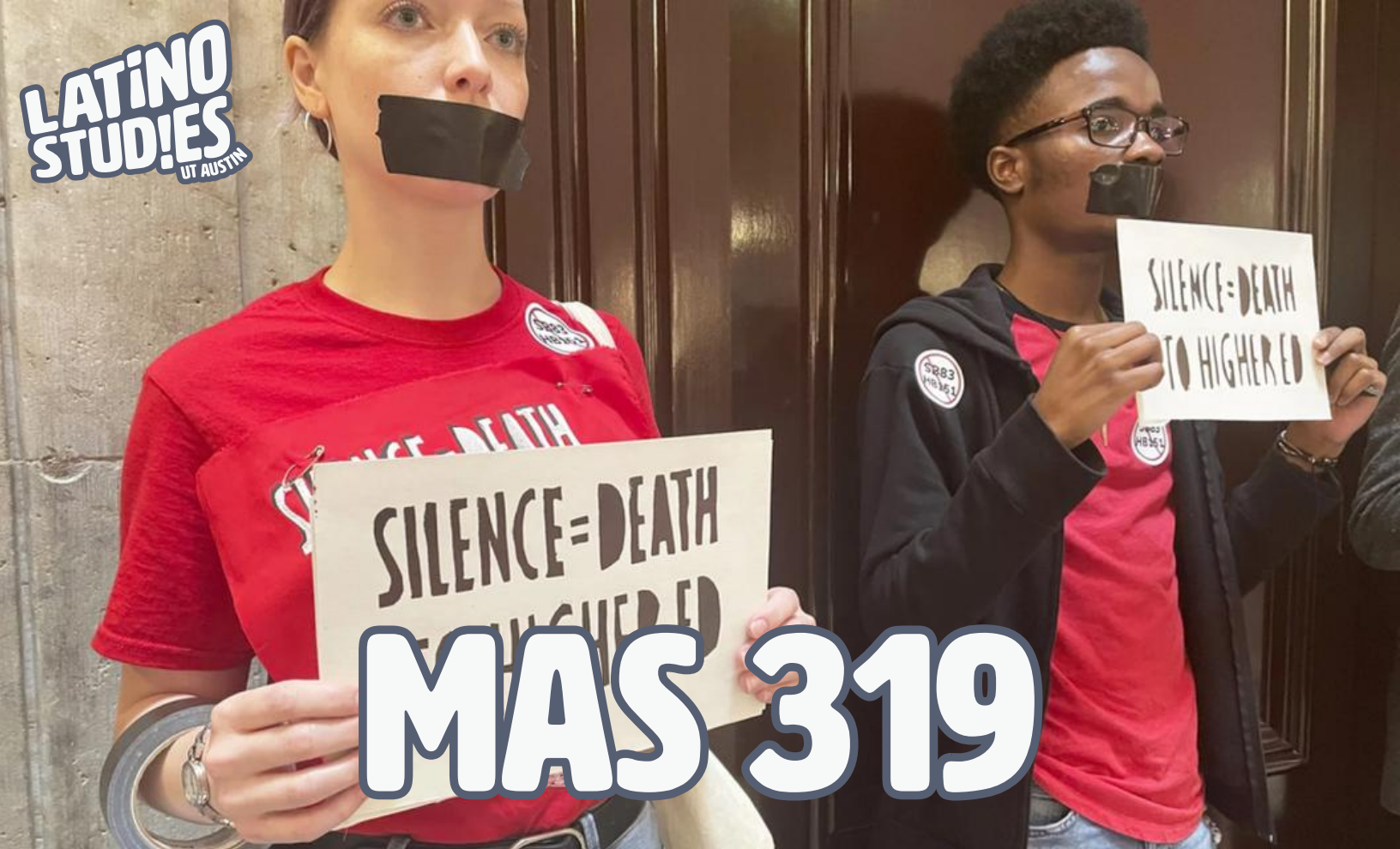


POLICE/PRISONS/INEQUALITY

MWF 10am-11am #40965 GEA 114 Mike Hames-García

This course introduces ethical issues related to inequality and the U.S. criminal legal system. There are no "right answers" to the questions this course raises. There are many possible answers and the goal is to understand the tradeoffs involved with each and their ethical implications: what are the new challenges brought about by the solutions we offer for problems as complex as those facing policing, criminal courts, and correctional policy in the United States? We will consider sentencing, profiling, gender-based violence, school policing, immigration, restorative justice, solitary confinement, and parole.





DIVISIVE CONCEPTS

TTH 12:30pm-2pm #40955 GEA 127 Karma Chávez

Learn why subjects such as diversity, race, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality are considered “divisive concepts.” We’ll explore the political controversies surrounding the teaching of these subjects and learn the art of argumentation along the way.





MAS 337C

CHICANA FEMINISM

TTH 12:30pm-2pm #40980 GEA 127 Maria Coteria

This course tracks the rise & development of Chicana feminist consciousness in the 1960s & 1970s. Drawing on both contemporary scholarship and primary source material from the Chicana por mi Raza Digital Memory Collective, students will learn about the individuals, organizations, theories, & aesthetic practices that shaped Chicana feminism in its early years and contributed to the development of an intersectional analytic that was later elaborated & expanded on by writers like Gloria Anzaldúa & Cherrie Moraga. A central theme of this course is how Chicanas shared their ideas & built a community through alternative newspapers, journals, film, & the arts. We will look at some of these materials in the archive, and even create our own examples of print culture & art! Students will emerge from this course with a strong foundation in the history of Chicana feminist thought in the 1970s, & an understanding of how Chicana feminism has contributed to contemporary theories of intersectionality.



MAS 345J

21ST CENTURY LATINX LITERATURE

MWF 12pm-1pm #40985 PAR 301 Julie Minich

This course will explore Latinx literature from the past two decades, with a simultaneous emphasis on both the aesthetic and political engagements of Latinx writers. In other words, we will read contemporary Latinx literature for both its content and its form. We will also investigate how the methods of literary study (close reading, formal analysis, political critique) can be useful for further work in the interdisciplinary field of Latinx Studies. Our readings will reflect a broad range of Latinx identities/experiences as well as multiple literary genres (poetry, essays, novels, short stories, memoir, literary journalism, film). We will read literary texts to consider their role in constructing “Latinidad” and consider their role in addressing social issues that confront Latinx communities, as well as scholarly texts exploring “Latinidad” and its social construction.



MAS 362

MEXICAN AMERICAN POLICY STUDIES SEMINAR

TTH 12:30pm-2pm #40995 BIO 301 Angela Ocampo

This course is an advanced public policy and politics seminar that builds upon the tools & frameworks developed in the introductory policy seminar. Students will investigate the policy priorities of Latina/o/x communities in the areas of immigration, labor, education, health and healthcare, democracy and voting rights, criminal justice, among others. We will cover advanced concepts in public policy & politics and explore policies in various domains that have had a widespread impact on the Latinx community. The course also investigates how it is that Latinxs have shaped social policy in the U.S. A large component of this course is student research on policy area(s) of their interest. To this aim, students will learn and enhance their writing & research skills as they evaluate policies impacting the Latinx community, and also as they produce policy memos and a policy brief.



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a blue pen, pointing at a bar chart on a piece of paper. The chart has several bars with different colors (blue, red, yellow, green). A line graph with a red line is also visible on the paper. The background is a wooden desk.

MAS 350C

SOCIAL SCIENCE METHODS & LATINA/O/X COMMUNITIES

TTH 9:30am-11am #40990 GEA 127 Angela Ocampo

This course delves into the conceptual foundations of quantitative social science research with real-world applications on the Latina/o/x community. The goal of the course is to equip students with an understanding of the methods & tools that social scientists use to make sense of the world around us, specifically as it pertains to understanding the Latina/o/x experience in the US. Students will learn about descriptive statistics, measures of central tendency & variability, probability, statistical inference & hypothesis testing, & multivariate techniques including partial correlation & regression. Through in-class exercises and take-home methods (labs and problem sets) students will learn how to craft research questions, identify appropriate methods to answer questions, develop & test hypotheses, analyze data & present results on a relevant social science research question pertaining to the Latina/o/x community. Students will also develop their own research project investigating their chosen question & apply the techniques learned. The course will introduce students to the R programming language, but does not require any formal math or statistics background.





MAS 364N

POLITICS OF LATINO IDENTITY

MWF 1pm-2pm #41005 Angie Gutierrez

Latinos come from many countries spanning North, South, & Central America. In this class, we will focus on understanding who counts as Latino & what a U.S. Latino identity means. We will explore the creation of a pan-ethnic group identity, differences between national origin groups, & how Latino group and national origin identities influence political participation. By the end of this course, you should be able to understand the differences & similarities between national origin groups, & explain how these differences impact political participation. You will better understand what it means to belong to a pan-ethnic group & be able to discuss the benefits and costs of pan-ethnicity. In addition to identifying current trends in political participation, we will learn about the history behind these trends in order to contextualize & fully understand why these patterns exist.



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MAS 3640

CENTRAL AMERICANS IN THE U.S.

TTH 3:30pm-5pm #41010 RLP 1.108 Nicole Ramsey

Central Americans in the United States form a significant and rapidly growing part of the nation's immigrant and ethnic communities. Yet their histories and everyday lives are often overlooked. This course examines the forces that have shaped U.S. Central American identities, exploring how they connect to larger conversations about Latinx, Caribbean, and diasporic belonging. We will trace migration patterns past and present, analyze how communities navigate race, citizenship, and nation-building, and consider the role of Black and Indigenous politics within Central America and its diaspora. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, we'll explore transnational politics, identity, and performance, with special attention to how popular culture and digital spaces have become key sites for activism, memory, and connection. By the end of the course, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the Central American experience in the U.S. and develop the tools to critically engage its histories and futures.





MAS 364U

US IMMIGRATION POLICY & STORIES OF MIGRATION

MWF 11am-12pm #41014 Angie Gutierrez

The story of racial & ethnic politics in the United States is one of struggle, resistance, & change. While many sought to migrate to the U.S., its doors have not always been open to everyone. Who can enter the U.S. & become American? This political & social question has had different answers throughout history. In this course, we'll cover the role of immigration policy in defining the face of American politics & society. What are the ethical implications of U.S. immigration law? Can immigration law be written ethically? We'll discuss how enacted U.S. policies have impacted migration into this country and their impact on defining who can become American. We'll combine the history of immigration policy with memoirs of migration, immigration policy, & incorporation, providing a fuller picture of how immigrants affected by these policies are treated in the U.S. We'll also discuss the ethics of migration & the reasoning behind why people choose to immigrate, both with & without documentation.



The background of the top half of the poster is a painting of a three-wheeled cart or small truck. The cart is covered in vibrant, abstract graffiti and patterns in various colors including red, yellow, blue, and black. It is parked on a sidewalk next to a light-colored wall. The text "MAS 374" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters with a thick blue outline.

MAS 374

LATINX FAMILY AND LABOR

MWF 2pm-3pm #41025 WAG 208 Krissia Martinez

This course explores how Latinx families work together to survive and thrive in the United States. Students will examine what "work" or labor means and how it is measured, assigned, valued, and compensated within the home, family, and broader society. Through this examination, students will learn about labor movements, worker rights, and labor laws that disproportionately impact Latinx populations. Drawing on Latino Studies perspectives alongside interdisciplinary research from gender and sexuality studies, psychology, sociology, economics, and education, the course provides a multifaceted understanding of labor in Latinx communities. Special topics include children's contributions to the family across developmental stages from early childhood to adulthood, agricultural labor, informal labor market, exploitation, and immigrant labor.

Art: Lalo Alcaraz, "Summer of ICE" 2025



MAS 374

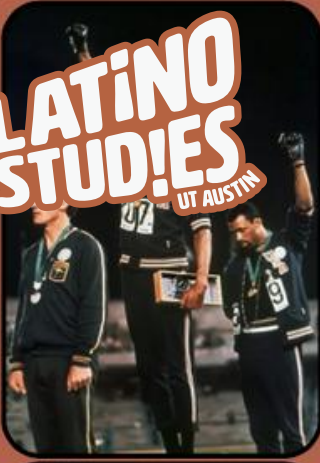
LATINOS & THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

TTH 12:30pm-2pm #41024 GEA 127 Nancy Rodriguez

This course is an overview of the sentencing, imprisonment, and reentry of Latinos in the U.S. Students will examine the various reasons for sentencing individuals—rehabilitation, deterrence, and incapacitation—and the effects of different sanctions on public safety, rehabilitation, and the justice system. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to sentencing policies and their impact on Latino communities. Students will learn the latest science on the consequences of imprisonment, as it applies to individuals, families, communities, and the justice system workforce. Attention will be given to the interplay between pre-incarceration factors, the incarceration experience, and reentry challenges.



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LATINX SPORTING SPACES

TTH 2pm-3:30pm #41030 BIO 301 Paulina Serrano

Using sport as a lens, this course provides a historical overview of major events in U.S. Latinx/e History from the mid 19th through 20th century. Whether through international competition, or the playing fields of the Southwestern Borderlands, members of Latinx/e communities have found ways to forge sporting networks. The course will contend with the ways in which sports has shaped discourses surrounding race & focus on how Latinx/e athletes have disrupted, & at times reified, the racial color line, & the varied methodological approaches required to locate these histories. We explore in this historical context the ways in which sporting spaces reveal questions about race, gender, transnationalism, empire, fandom, & migration. We will further consider the importance of sporting spaces as generative sites of resistance—their limits & possibilities. Lastly, we trace this history to understand contemporary geo-political issues as they intersect with sports.



MAS 374

MEXICAN & AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY

MWF 10am-11am #41034 GEA 127 Lilia Raquel Rosas

This course will examine the place, role, and significance of Mexicanas/Chicanas and African American women together in the history of the Turtle Island, Greater Mexico, Caribbean Archipelago, and United States. Since Black and Brown women have not always shared the same chronologies or geographies in their histories, we approach this story from a thematic perspective. Topics will include cultural and transborder/transAtlantic encounters, slavery, conquest, settler colonialism, intercommunal autonomy, social movements, and political rebellions. Furthermore, this class will consider these histories broadly by beginning with pre-1491 and ending in the twenty-first century.

Photo: Modesta Avila, convicted felon, 1889



**STOP
SHRINKING
YOURSELF
TO FIT
PLACES
YOU HAVE
GROWN UP IN**

MAS 375

Melanie Cervantes 2020

INTERNSHIP

M 2pm-5pm #41040 BEN 1.102 Lilia Raquel Rosas

This course is an opportunity for students to gain practical & hands-on experience in the workplace through the lens of Mexican American & Latina/o/x Studies. You will participate in a nonpartisan, direct-service capacity internship where you will work with a Mexican American, Chicana/o/x, Latina/o/x, Indigenous-centered community, civic, or government organization/program/entity that is frontline-led and addresses questions of economic, political, social, and/or cultural inequalities, justice, and/or empowerment. You are required to successfully complete a 10-12 hour per week internship by the end of the semester. The purpose of the internship is to apply theories and understanding obtained from courses in your area of specialization in a professional setting and to provide you with supplementary training in professional development and workplace expectations. You will use the internship as an opportunity to determine the type of goal-setting you will engage in for the semester.

Image: Melanie Cervantes, "Keep Growing" 2020



A person with long hair, wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants, is sitting cross-legged on the ground in a forest. They are holding a pen and writing in a notebook. The background is a blurred forest scene with trees and sunlight filtering through the leaves.

MAS 378

CAPSTONE SEMINAR: THE PERSONAL ESSAY

W 2pm-5pm #41050 CBA 4.346 C. J. Alvarez

This writing intensive seminar focuses on developing the skills of personal essay, memoir, and autobiographical narrative composition. Students will explore who they are and where they come from through a regular habit of writing and reading their work out loud to the class. Constructive criticism is crucial to development as a writer, so we will also practice the skills of listening, revision, and rewriting.

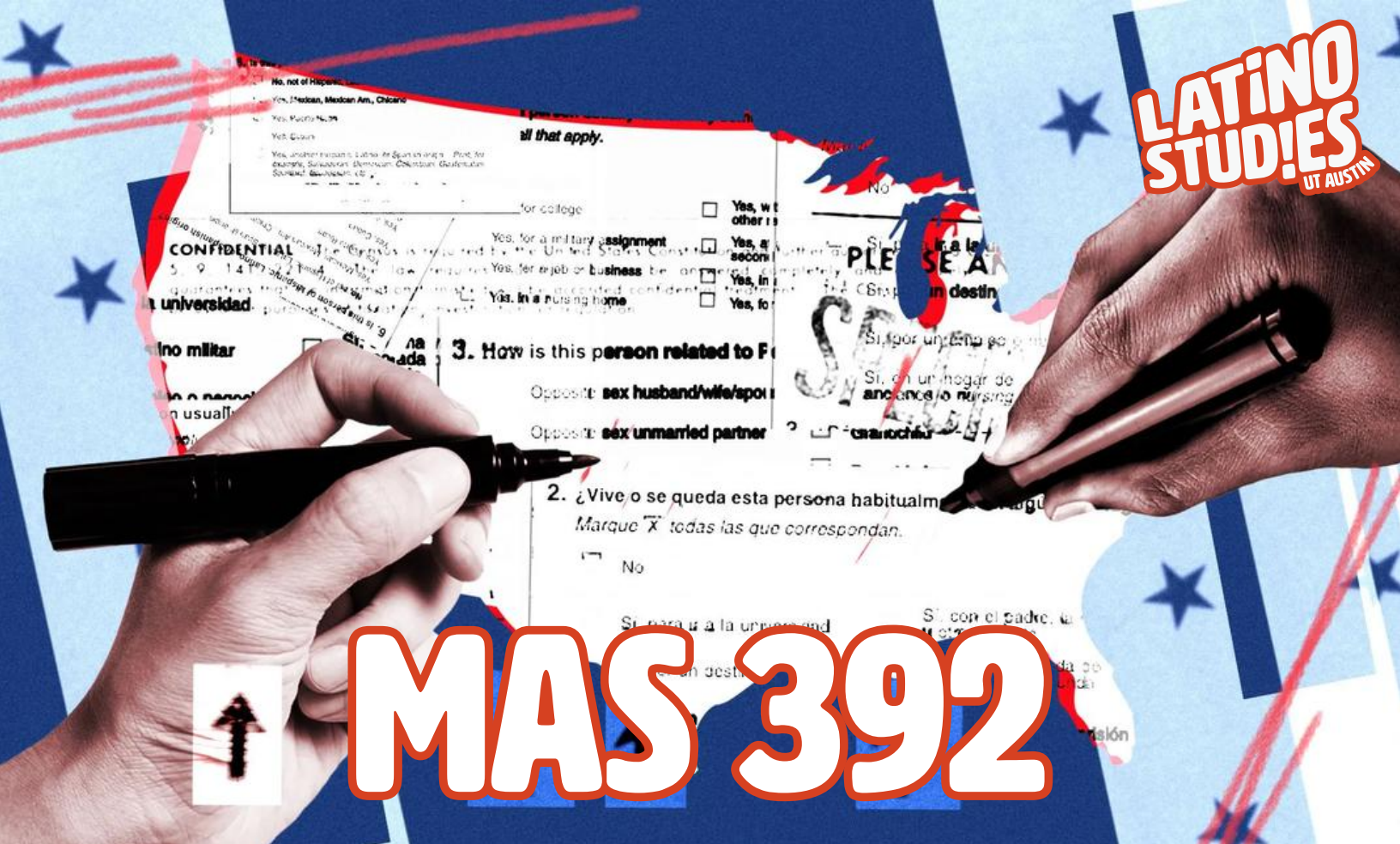


MAS 392

LATINE/X ARCHIVES

TH 2pm-5pm #41060 GWB 1.138 Maria Coteria

In this course we will engage a broad range of literary, historical and theoretical writings on archives as a way to think through the implications, methodologies and problems posed by archival research. What counts as an archive and how are archives constituted, imaginatively, materially, and politically? What is their relation to institutions, corporations, states, communities? What makes archives accessible or inaccessible and how does this shape their historical meaning-making? We will focus in particular on how Latina/o/x/e scholars, writers, and community practitioners engage with both institutional archives and “undocumented” memory, and ask the question: Is there a Latinx archival epistemology, a way of seeing, that disrupts the bounded domain of the institutional archive? Final projects will be grounded in original archival research and can take the form of a conventional seminar paper, creative work, or a digital archive, built individually or collaboratively.



RACIALIZING LATINIDADES

T 11am-2pm #41080 GWB 1.138 Wanda Hernández

The United States Census proposed combining the question on race and ethnicity, sparking debates on the relationship between race and Latinidad. While Latinx is not a racial category, it is racialized, meaning that social structures and dominant representations have given Latinidad racial meaning. This course explores how Latinidad is racialized and the effects it has on Black and Indigenous Latinxs. Students will engage with multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary texts to illuminate a significant debate within Latinx studies that has political and cultural implications. Ultimately, students will be equipped to critically examine race, which is constantly being re-constructed over time.

MAS 392

POLITICS OF AFRO-LATINOS

M 2pm-5pm #41065 GWB 1.130 Danielle Clealand

This course connects ethnic and racial identities to examine Black Latino communities, politics and identities. We will discuss identity formation among Black and Afro-descendant populations in Latin America and the Caribbean to understand the role of migration on U.S. identity politics among Afro-Latinos. The course will cover scholarship and methods in both the humanities and the social sciences with an emphasis on history, transnationalism, migration, anti-Blackness, social movements and resistance, and racial politics.

MAS 395C

THEORIES IN MEXICAN AMERICAN & LATINA/O STUDIES

W 1pm-4pm #41085 GWB 1.138 Mike Hames-García

This course examines some major theoretical foundations in Latina/e/o/x studies and traces their development since the mid-twentieth century. We will begin with influential texts by José Martí, Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, Albert Memmi, C.L.R. James, Américo Paredes, Raymond Williams, and Stuart Hall. From there we will delve into texts by scholars who have defined the present course of the field, including Suzanne Oboler, Arlene Dávila, Frances Aparicio, José Esteban Muñoz, Ginetta E. B. Candelario, Angie Chabram-Dernersesian, and María Lugones. Since this is a theory course, the approach will be emphatically transdisciplinary—ranging from literature and psychiatry to philosophy and government to performance and geography. No previous exposure to theory is necessary, but an open mind and willing attitude are recommended.

A high-angle, close-up photograph of a vast field of orange marigold flowers. The flowers are densely packed, filling the entire frame. They have a spherical, pom-pom-like shape with many small, ruffled petals. The color is a vibrant orange, and the background is a deep, dark brown or black, which makes the flowers stand out. In the top center, there is a white logo.

LATINO STUDIES

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