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Program offering course	AFRODESCENDANT CULTURES IN THE SOUTHERN CONE
Course name	AFRODESCENDANT CULTURES IN THE SOUTHERN CONE
Course code	AFRO301/SUM
Areas of interest	Sociology, Political Science, Communication, Philosophy, Anthropology, Literature, History, Gender Studies, Intercultural Studies, Social Communication, Social Service, International Relations

Language of instruction	English
U.S. Semester Credits	4
Contact Hours	45
Term	Summer 2020
Course meeting times	TBD
Course meeting place	FLACSO Argentina
Professor	Eva Lamborghini, Gisele Kleidermacher and María Cecilia Martino
Contact Information	adelastudyabroad@flacso.org.ar
Office address	Tucumán 1966 CABA
Office hours	TBD



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Course Description

This course aims at introducing students to several axes to reflect on several socio-cultural dynamics related to Afro-descendant and African populations in Latin America related to racialized relations in the context of the construction of nation-states. Starting from a historically situated broad Afro-Latin American approach, the course focuses on the forms that these relationships and processes acquire in Argentina. From anthropological and sociological perspectives, it proposes a chronological and thematic route in which social processes, identities, cultural configurations, and ethnic-political collective actions of African and Afro-descendant people are approached. Among these issues, emphasis is placed on the invisibility of Afro-Argentines, a process that goes hand in hand with the hegemonic construction of a "white-European" country and the forms of subalternization of "internal others" in / of the nation. The course also covers the movement and insertion of historical and contemporary African and Afro-Latin American diasporas and migrations according to processes of denial and re-visibility.

Students Learning Outcomes

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Gain knowledge about the main themes of Afro-descendant studies in Latin America.
- Acquire critical analytical tools about the construction of the Argentine nation, the ideal of homogeneous "whiteness" and Afro-Argentine invisibility
- Address the historical and contemporary African and Afro-Latin American migratory processes and currents in Argentina
- Contextualize and characterize the formation of an Afro cultural and political field in times of Multiculturalism, of questioning the dominant narrative of the "white-European" Argentine nation and of transnational ethnic-political movements
- Identify similarities and differences in the construction of racialized relations and constructions of "race" and "nation" between the United States and Argentina

Course Prerequisites

NONE



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Course Structure

Class Dynamics

This course will be taught through lectures, seminars, presentations, and viewing of video clips about the past and present presence of people of African descent in the country. We will encourage the active and critical participation of students in the discussion of the bibliography and its link with the various audiovisual supports. Likewise, activists and referents of the Afro-descendant and local African field, documentary filmmakers, and researchers specialized on the topic will be invited in order to convey the diversity of perspectives on the subject.

Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will be carried out, such as a visit to the Capeverdean Society in Dock Sud, one of the oldest Afro-local institutions; visits to museums (National Historical Museum or Afro-themed museum exhibitions); participation in afro cultural and political activities; *llamadas* and rehearsals of candombe, festivals and conferences; plays, either starring Afro-Argentines, or Senegalese migrants; Public religious events of the Senegalese community. Also, experiential activities will be included, such as participation in percussion classes of Candombe and Afro-Brazilian dances. Students will be expected to carry out ethnographic field observation and note taking in Buenos Aires

Assessment and Final Grade

Midterm Exam	20%
Written Assignment	20%
Group Presentation	15%
Final Paper	25%
Attendance and Class Participation	20%
TOTAL	100%

Course Requirements

Attendance and Class Participation



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Students are required to attend classes with all the readings done. They are expected to ask questions and participate in group discussions.

Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will be take-home. Student answer four questions in essay form; the expected length of the exam is 1500 words total. Students will be graded based on the quality of the analysis and the capacity to summarize the main conceptual frameworks of the bibliographic material. The essays should be in APA citation style.

Written Assignments

In the first Written Assignment, students will prepare a written 750-word report on the visit to the National Historical Museum or to an Afro-Argentine exhibition -if there is one on display at the moment-. The paper will focus on the forms of museum representation of Afro-Argentines. Students are expected to make a critical reflection on the museum exhibits and the Afro representations in the country.

In the second Written Assignment, students will prepare a 750-word ethnographic record based on the field notes taken during their visit to the Dock Sud Cape Verdean Society. The evaluation of this assignment will assess the student's ability to link empirical data with the theoretical concepts seen in class. Students are required to use APA citation style when referencing their sources.

Group Presentation

In groups of 3-4, students will must conduct a 10-12 slide PowerPoint or Prezi based on the topic "From Afro invisibility to afro re-visibility in Argentina". Each group will analyze Afro activities that have been attended (according to agenda), both political and cultural, basing the presentation on the notes and pictures taken in the interaction with public, instructors, activists, etc. and as a result of the discussion and group work.

Final Exam

Students will write a 2500-word essay based on guidelines provided by the professor. Students will be graded on the capacity to integrate and link different theoretical concepts with observations made in the previous assignments. APA citation style will be required.





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Weekly Schedule

WEEK 1 CONSTRUCTIONS OF "RACE" AND "NATION" IN LATIN AMERICA. THE "WHITE" ARGENTINA AND THE INVISIBILIZATION OF AFRO-ARGENTINES

Class 1.1

Introduction to the Program

Class 1.2

This class will present interdisciplinary perspectives on the processes of national construction and racialization in modern times and in the global era. The professors will address the main similarities and differences between racialized categories and the logic of racism in Latin America and the United States. Following this line, a critical approach to the historically subalternized place but also to the struggles and resistance of African descent people in Latin America will be made.

Readings:



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Dixon, Kwame and Burdick, John (2012)

Geler, Lea and Rodríguez, Mariela Eva (2016)

Class 1.3

After this general overview of the previous classes, this class will focus on the particularities of “Afro-Argentina”, analyzing the history of invisibility and the current situation of the Afro-Argentines, Afro-descendant and African presence in a nation considered “white” in the wider Latin American context.

Various activities will be carried out, including; brainstorming and group work to deconstruct common and proper sense about notions of race and nationality; visualization of documentary films, videos, spots and images on the Afro-Latin American issue in general and on Afroargentina in particular.

Readings:

Geler, Lea (2016)

Class 1.4

Visit to the Museo Histórico Nacional (Museum of National History) to problematize the “Afro” presence - or non-presence – in the museum’s national narrative. This activity will be replaced by the attendance to an Afro-Argentine museum exhibition, if there is one open at that time.

Extracurricular activities

Students will attend some of the numerous public cultural activities, festivals, theater plays, if they are exhibited, conferences, to be determined according to the current agenda at that time.

WEEK 2. CAPE VERDEAN MIGRATIONS TO ARGENTINA

Class 2.1



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The first part of the class will focus on the general context of the phenomenon of mass migrations in the African archipelago of Cape Verde. It will be briefly reviewed by different perspectives (focus on diasporas, transnationalisms, and emigration / immigration) that drew the different migratory destinations chosen by the Cape Verdeans. This second part of the class will focus on the Argentine case. First, we will underline a brief history of the turn of the century associationist period in the country (late XIX, early XXth century) and the context of the beginnings of the twentieth century, with a special emphasis on the decades of 1940-1950 and 1970, that were especially important in the history of the Cape Verdeans and their descendants in Argentina.

Drotbohm, Heinke (2009)

Class 2.2

The second part will focus on the first political claims raised by activists of African origin in the country (1980-1990 and 2001-2010), underlining the role played by some young people linked to the Cape Verdean associations. This period will be approached in relation to the documentary "Afro-Argentines" (2002, by J. Fortes and DH Ceballos - selection), observing, at first, the character of that first claim about the visibility of the argentinian racism and, secondly, observing the role that the film played among the families of the Cape Verdean community. Finally, other periods of political activism around the first Población National Census (2010) will be addressed, which retrieve the category of African descent in the country.

Readings:

Maffia, Marta (2020 in press)

Class 2.3

As a co-curricular site visit, the attendance to an event organized by the Sociedad de Socorros Mutuos, Unión caboverdeana of Dock Sud (TBD).

Midterm Exam due

WEEK 3. AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN MIGRATIONS. AFRO CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AFRO POLITICAL FIELD IN ARGENTINA



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Class 3.1

The professor will introduce Afro-Latin American migrations to Argentina in the last decades of the 20th century. It will focus on the impetus given by Afro-descendant migrants from different countries of the region to the formation of an "Afro cultural field" in the city of Buenos Aires. The class will focus on the insertion of Afro-descendant "workers and cultural activists" from Uruguay and Brazil. In this context, their role in the practice and / or teaching of cultural manifestations widely practiced in the city: Afro-Uruguayan (Candombe of this origin) and Afro-Brazilian (Dances of Orixás) will be examined. The most outstanding ventures will be reviewed, as well the diffusion and resignification of African-American cultural expressions in different social sectors.

Frigerio, Alejandro (2000)

Class 3.2

This week's classes will also articulate this content with the re-visibility of "afro" blackness and the development of a local Afro-descendant political movement since the mid-1990s and the emergence of multiculturalist narratives in the nation. The relationship between Afro-Argentine, Afro-descendant and African political organizations, state institutions and multilateral organizations will be addressed.

Oral exhibitions based on images, videos and films (different selected fragments) will be held.

Lamborghini, Eva (2020 in press)

Class 3.3

A leader from an Afro organization will be invited to share experiences about the group's activism. In particular, the actions around the census policies will be reviewed, taking into account that in 2020 a new National Population Census will be carried out, and there will be a question about afrodescendancy for the second time (after the 2010 Census).

Class 3.4

Students will take a percussion class of candombe and another of "afro dances", both classes taught by instructors with extensive experience.

Extra-curricular activity



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Students will attend one of the candombe “llamadas” (parades) that take place in San Telmo neighborhood.

WEEK 4 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN MIGRATIONS: THE SENEGALESE SOCIAL COLLECTIVE

Class 4.1

An overview of Senegal and its population emigration will be introduced as a complex but usual phenomenon in the region. Subsequently, the main destinations of Senegalese migration in the world will be presented, and the increase in security policies in the European Union and the United States that have led to the search for new destinations such as Latin America, and especially Argentina.

The lectures and presentations will be complemented with PowerPoint presentations and videos on the subject.

On the second part, we will introduce the Senegalese’s main issues in Argentina, such as access to documentation, language learning and their labor insertion as street vendors. Also, the community relevance and especially, the importance of their religious networks for their insertion in a new destination like Argentina.

Readings:

Tonnelat, Stéphane (2007)

Class 4.2

The president of the Association of Senegalese in Argentina, will be invited and the filmmaker of the documentary "Mangui Fi" (I'm Here), based on the life story of two Senegalese migrants in Argentina.

Readings

Zubrzycki, B. (2012)





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Class 4.3

As part of the activities, a visit will be made to Once neighborhood, to see the interaction between Senegalese vendors, passers-by and the police. In it, students will take notes of the situations observed.

Extracurricular activity

A holiday celebration of the religious community of the Mouride brotherhood and / or a play starring two Senegalese migrants will be visited (within the possibilities of the Muslim calendar).

Class 4.4

Final Exam

Course Materials

Readings

Dixon, Kwame and Burdick, John (2012). Introduction of *Comparative perspectives on Afro-Latin America*, Kwame Dixon and John Burdick (eds.); foreword by Howard Winant, University Press of Florida.

Drotbohm, Heinke (2009). Horizons of long-distance intimacies. Reciprocity, contribution and disjuncture in Cape Verde , *Science Direct*, 14, pp. 132-149.

Frigerio, Alejandro (2000). "Blacks in Argentina: Contested Representations of Culture and Ethnicity", Paper presented at the Annual Meeting de la Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Miami

Geler, Lea (2016). African descent and whiteness in Buenos Aires: Impossible *mestizajes* in the white capital city. In: Alberto, P y Elena (Eds.) *Rethinking race in modern Argentina*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Geler, Lea and Rodríguez, Mariela Eva (2016). "Argentina", In :*The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*, Edited by John Stone, Rutledge M. Dennis, Polly S. Rizova, Anthony D. Smith, and Xiaoshuo Hou, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. Published. DOI: 10.1002/9781118663202.wberen512 (pp. 1-4).

Lamborghini, Eva (2020 in press). Afro-Latin American migrations in Buenos Aires: The conformation of an "afro cultural field" in the last trends of the 20th century. *Chapter in press 2020* In: Cottrol, Robert J. and Geler, Lea (Editors). *Scenes from the shadows:*





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Afro-argentine life in the twentieth century (Volume), Research International Studies, Latin America Series: Ohio University Press.

Maffia, Marta (2020 in press) Chapter about historical processes and struggles of Cape Verdean migration in Argentina. *Chapter in press 2020* In: Cottrol, Robert J. and Geler, Lea (Editors). *Scenes from the shadows: Afro-argentine life in the twentieth century* (Volume), Research International Studies, Latin America Series: Ohio University Press.

Tonnelat, Stéphane (2007). "Keeping space public: Times Square (New York) and the Senegalese peddlers ", Cybergeog: European Journal of Geography [En ligne], Dossiers, document 367, mis en ligne le 09 mars 2007, consulté le 14 mars 2019. URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/cybergeog/4792> ; DOI : 10.4000/cybergeog.4792

Zubrzycki, B. (2012). Recent African Migration to South America. The Case of Senegalese in Argentina. <https://ri.conicet.gov.ar/handle/11336/76023>

Media Resources

Films

Week 1:

"Los Argentinos También Descendemos de Esos Barcos".

Cortometraje Documental. Buenos Aires 2013.

Idea, Guión y Dirección: Milena Anecchiarico

Producción Integral: Lúdico Films / Milena Anecchiarico

Duración: 20'

Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4POrdVHfUfc>

"DEFENSA 1464". Documental. Buenos Aires, 2010.

Dirección: David Rubio

Duración: 1 hora

Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTvNziPaNSE>

Week 2:

"Afroargentinos"

Short Clip del Documental. Buenos Aires 2002.

Idea, Guión y Dirección: Jorge Fortes y Diego H. Ceballos.

Duración: 4 Min., 11 Seg.

Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1Szi3by5Fs>

Week 3:

"Soy Tambor". Largometraje Documental. Buenos Aires, 2015

Dirección: Mónica Simoncini-Cecilia Ruiz-Santiago Masip





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“Quilombo! en Buenos Aires”, 2008. Realizado por Ramiro Sáenz en colaboración con Dinah Schonhaut. Duración: 18’

Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OxqlxuRCiM>

Others

Week 1:

Video/Spot: 25 de Julio Día de la Mujer Afrodescendiente. Ministerio de Cultura de la Nación, 2016. Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TniI5UfWDQw>

Video: Candombe argentino. María Elena Lamarid. LaNación.com, 2009. Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlxVh8umiis&t=47s>

Video: Candombe Porteño: Raíces de la historia argentina Eter. Carrera de Periodismo: Realizado por: Manuel Luquet, Verónica Lamberti, Agustín Guillen, Adriana Krieg. Octubre de 2014. Duración: 7’. Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvLIFkjXso0>

Week 2:

Video/Spot: Censo Afrodescendiente 2010, “Soy afroargentino/a” INADI, 2010. Disponible en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RD6bjXALw-g>

Week 3:

“Candomberos de Dos Orillas”, 2018.
Dirección: Ernesto Gut. Trailer disponible en: <https://gpsaudiovisual.com/2019/03/26/candomberos-de-dos-orillas-estreno-28-de-marzo/>

Videos sobre candombe y expresiones culturales afro en la Marcha por la Memoria del 24 de Marzo. Buenos Aires, 2017.

Fragmentos de: “Piedra Libre. Danza contra el olvido”, 2015. Dirección: Pía Sicardi y Alejandra Vasallo. <http://piedralibrepelicula.com.ar/>

Week 4

Fragmentos “Mangui Fi”, 2017.





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Directores: Juan Manuel Bramuglia y Esteban Tabacznik

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R90Px_15URU

Capítulo de la serie Migrantes. "Una casa africana, Senegal". Canal Encuentro.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zjfakr18whk>

Big Dealer in the house. Videos de "magales" (festividades de la cofradía mouride).

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1a4rOqmGSaoFPiIPN54VA/videos?disable_polymer=1

Lecturers' Bios

Gisele Kleidermacher has a degree in Sociology and a PhD in Social Sciences from the University of Buenos Aires. She is an Assistant Researcher for the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), at the Instituto Gino Germani Research Institute of the Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires. She has published articles in journals of international prestige and presented papers at national and international scientific events. She is a member of integrates research groups based at the UBA and FLACSO. Her research interests are international migrations, Senegalese migrations to Argentina, the formation of transnational and religious networks and the construction of social representations of various migratory groups.

Eva Lamborghini is a Ph.D in Anthropology from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA). She is a member of the Grupo de Estudios Afrolatinoamericanos Afro-Latin American Studies Group (GEALA) based at the Instituto de Historia Argentina y Americana "Dr. Emilio Ravignani" (UBA). She was a doctoral and postdoctoral fellow of the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET).

Her lines of research problematize intersections between Afrodescendance and Afro culture, youth cultures and new social movements in Buenos Aires. She participates in research projects on historical and contemporary Afro-descendants in Argentina as well as on ethnicities and interculturality. She is the author and co-author of articles in Argentine and international journal. She has taught at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, at FLACSO and she teaches at the Universidad Metropolitana para la Educación y el Trabajo (UMET).

María Cecilia Martino has a Ph.D in Social Anthropology from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. She is a member of the Instituto de Ciencias Antropológicas (ICA) and





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of the Grupo de Estudios Afrolatinoamericanos (GEALA) at the Instituto Histórico Ravignani, both at the Universidad de Buenos Aires. Martino does research on transnational migrations and on political and generational identities. She is a member of different research projects that address issues related to Afro-descendants, ethnicities and migrations. She teaches at the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad de Buenos Aires.

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