Introduction:

The experience of people of African descent in the Americas is not broadly understood. This class will look at the culture, history, politics and identity of "African Americans" in the Spanish and Lusophone Caribbean, South American and Central America. The countries we will look at are Cuba, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Puerto Rico. We will also explore issues of identity in the context of migration to the United States. Specifically, are Afro-Latinos thought of as simply Latino, simply Black or both. We will use films, music, articles and excerpts from books in order to follow the experience of Afro-Latinos.

Grading and Assignments:

Students will be asked to complete an in class midterm and a take home final exam in order to complete the course. The midterm will be given on April 25th in class and will be a multiple choice and matching mid-term. A study sheet of terms will be given to complete the mid-term. The final will be a take home exam of essay questions.
Textbooks:
Afro-Latin America 1800-2000 By George Reid Andrews (available at ASUCLA)
Neither Enemies Nor Friends: Latinos, Blacks, Afro-Latinos eds. Anani Dzidzienyo and Suzanne Oboler (available at ASUCLA)
Racial Politics in Post-Revolutionary Cuba By Mark Q. Sawyer (Available soon at ASUCLA)

Course Reader available at Course Reader Materials on Westwood Blvd.

Readings, Films and Lectures:

April 4: Introduction
(Film) Mirrors of the Heart: Color, Class, and Identity

April 6: Theoretical Perspectives
"Letter by W.E.B. DuBois to Edward Weeks, Atlanta Georgia, October 2, 1941", "Brazil Has No Race Problem" E. Franklin Frazier, and "Comparison of Negro-White Relations in Brazil and the United States" E. Franklin Frazier African American Reflections on Brazil’s Racial Paradise ed. David Hellwig

"Racial Democracy and Racial Identity: Comparing the United States and Brazil" Racial Politics in Contemporary Brazil Howard Winant

“Flows and Counterflows: Latinas/os, Blackness, and Racialization in Hemispheric Perspective” Neither Enemies Nor Friends: Latinos, Blacks, Afro Latinos Suzanne Oboler and Anani Dzidzienyo

April 11: Identity and Culture
“A Region in Denial: Racial Discrimination and Racism in Latin America”
Neither Enemies Nor Friends: Latinos, Blacks, Afro Latinos Ariel E. Dulitky

"The Birth of African-American Culture: An Anthropological Perspective."
Sidney W. Mintz and Richard Price.

April 13: Slavery and Independence

George Reid Andrews, “1800,” and “’An Exterminating Bolt of Lightning’: The Wars of Freedom, 1810-1890” in Afro-Latin America

Cuba


April 18: Cuban Culture


"Nicolas Guillen and Langston Hughes: Convergences and Divergences" Between Race and Empire: African Americans and Cubans before the Cuban Revolution Keith Ellis

"Not Just Black: African-Americans, Cubans and Baseball" Lisa Brock and Bijan Bayne " Between Race and Empire: African Americans and Cubans before the Cuban Revolution

"CuBop!: Afro-Cuban Music and Mid-Twentieth-Century American Culture" Between Race and Empire: African Americans and Cubans before the Cuban Revolution Geoffrey Jacques
Guillen: Poems from Man-Making Words

The Cuban Revolution
"The African-American Press Greets the Cuban Revolution" Between Race and Empire: African Americans and Cubans before the Cuban Revolution Van Gosse

April 20: Film: Roots of Rhythm
Sawyer Chapter Intro 1, 2 and 3pm

April 25: Film: Midterm Exam

April 27: The Special Period
Sawyer Chapters 3, 5 and 6

"Cuban Exceptionalism: Group Based Hierarchy and the Dynamics of Patriotism in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Cuba" Sawyer, Pena and Sidanius

“Fear of a Black Nation: Local Rappers, Transnational Crossings, and State Power in Contemporary Cuba.” Sujatha Fernandes

APRIL 29 5pts Extra Credit “Race and Democracy in the Americas Conference,” Saturday 9am-4pm Covel Commons!

May 2:
George Reid Andrews Chapters 3 “‘Our New Citizens, the Blacks’: The Politics of Freedom, 1810-1890” Afro-Latin America

Intro: Brazil

"Black Cinderella? Race and the Black Public Sphere in Brazil" Racial Politics in Contemporary Brazil Michael Hanchard

“Residential Segregation” Race in Another America Edward Telles
May 4:
Film: City of God

May 9:
"Women and Racial Inequality at Work in Brazil" **Racial Politics in Contemporary Brazil** Peggy A. Lovell

“From Racial Democracy to Affirmative Action” and “Racial Discrimination” **Race in Another America** Edward Telles

Brodwyn Fischer “Quase Pretos de Tão Pobres? Race and Social Discrimination in Rio de Janeiro’s Twentieth Century Courts.”

Mala Htun “Changing State Policy on Race in Brazil”

May 4: Colombia and Nicaragua

"Blackness and Race Mixture: The Dynamics of Racial Identity in Colombia" Chps 1,2 and 10 Peter Wade
Asale Angel-Anjani, “Out of Chaos: Afro-Colombians Peace Communities and the Realities of War.”

Joseph Jordan “Afro-Colombia: A Case for Pan-African Analysis”

"Nicaragua" **Afro-Latino Americas Today: No Longer Invisible** Jane Freeland

May 11: Mexico and Venezuela


“Recovering History Constructing Race: The Indian, Black, and White Roots of Mexican Americans.” Chapters 7, 8 & 9

‘Venezuela.” Afro-Latino Americas Today: No Longer Invisible Eduardo Bermudez and Maria Maltilde Suarez

Ny Times article “In Under 48 Hours, Venezuelans Have Enough of Coup.” Marc Lifsher

May 16: Chavismo

Film Venezuela Revolution in Progress

May 18: Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic

‘”A Transfusion of New Blood’: Whitening, 1880-1930. in Afro-Latin America

“Neither White nor Black: The Representation of Racial Identity Among Puerto Ricans on the Island and in the U.S. Mainland.” Jorge Duany ” Neither Enemies Nor Friends: Latinos, Blacks, Afro Latinos


"Only My Hairdresser Knows for Sure: Stories of Race Hair and Gender" NACLA Report on the Americas Volume XXXIV no 6 May/June 2001 Casandra Badillo

May 23: Migration Afro-Latinos in the US

"Cuba’s Refugees Manifold Migration" Sylvia Pedraza

Sawyer Chapter 7

"Dominican’s in the United States: First Generation and Second-Generation Settlement 1960-1990"

Miami Spice: The Ethnic Cauldron Simmers" Guillermo Grenier and Lisandro Perez
May 25: Popular Culture

Reggeaton (LA Times)
Pagodge (Revelação)


“Fiaca and Veron-ismo: Race and Silence in Argentine Football.” Grant Farred

May 30: Political Coalitions in the US

“Framing the Discussion of African American-Latino Relations: A Review and Analysis” John J. Bentacur

“Scripting Race, Finding Place: African Americans, Afro-Cubans and the Diasporic Imaginary in the United States” Nancy Raquel Mirabal

“Racial Politics in Multiethnic American: Black and Latina/o Identities and Coalitions.” Mark Sawyer

June 1: Film “Mad Hot Ballroom”

June 6: Conclusion

George Reid Andrews Chapters 5 & 6

“'Race’ to the Future: Racial Politics in Latin America 2015.” forthcoming Perspectives on Politics Mark Sawyer

June 8: Review for final

Final Due: June 12 2006