

**LATINO  
STUDIES**  
UT AUSTIN

# **MALS COURSES FALL 2026**





# MAS 301

## **INTRO TO MEXICAN AMERICAN & LATINA/O STUDIES**

**MWF 11am-12pm #42435 WAG 101 Julie Minich**

This course offers an introduction to Mexican American and Latina/o/x Studies as an interdisciplinary arena of academic inquiry. We examine the historical, political, socioeconomic, and cultural aspects of Mexican American, Chicana/o/x, and Latina/o/x experiences in the United States, with an emphasis on their range and diversity. By the end of the semester, you will: 1) demonstrate knowledge of diverse Latinx communities in the United States, including their histories and cultural expressions, 2) improve your critical thinking and reading skills by responding to course material in small group discussions, in-class journals, and creative/critical projects, and 3) locate resources for further study in the field of Latinx studies at UT and beyond (including the Benson Latin American Collection and Blanton Art Museum).




# MAS 308E

## POLICE/PRISONS/INEQUALITY

**TTH 12:30-2pm #42440 UTC 3.120 Mike Hames García**

**This course is organized around existing problems in the U.S. criminal legal system and asks students to imagine solutions. 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: 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 mass incarceration, the war on drugs, judicial discretion, mandatory sentencing, defendant rights, police profiling, sexual assault, gender-based violence, victims' rights, felon disenfranchisement, the criminalization of immigration, prisoner reentry, school discipline, restorative justice, prison abolition, solitary confinement, and the death penalty. The class centers the experiences of the poor, people of color, women, and LGBTQ people.**





# MAS 311

## **ETHNICITY & GENDER: LA CHICANA**

**TTH 3:30pm-5pm #42445 GEA 127 Lilia Rosas**

**This course privileges the stories, struggles, contestations, imaginations, writings, and accomplishments of Chicanas in the United States in the mid-twentieth and early twentieth-first centuries. Through a close examination of literature, and attention to historical and theoretical materials, we will create a growing understanding of the significance of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, language, spirituality, and citizenship in affecting the daily lives and social worlds of Chicanas. By end of the semester, we will also gain a complex insight into the importance of how Chicana feminism, Xicanisma, intersectionality, migration, borders, and community are formative in the Chicana experience(s).**





# **LATINA PERFORMANCE: CELIA TO SELENA**

**MWF 9am-10am #42455 BUR 212 Laura Gutierrez**

**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.**



**VP**



# MAS 318D

## INTRODUCTION TO LATINX BODY ART

MWF 10 -11am #42475 PMA 6.112 González-Martin

The body is a mobile canvas. This course explores how individuals and communities express themselves through clothing and bodily adornment. From Tik-Tok make up trends to punk-piercings, we examine how the Latinx body is a vehicle for self-expression, identity, and personal empowerment.



# MAS 318J

## LATINX MATERIAL CULTURE

**MWF 12pm-1pm #42480 GEA 127 Wanda Hernandez**

**An altar to La Virgen de Guadalupe, a gold nameplate necklace, a griddle for pupusas, and an all-black Puerto Rican flag are all objects that can be used to interrogate the history and culture of U.S. Latinxs. What do these objects, and others like them, reveal about Latinidad? In this course, students will learn how to use material culture as a method of analysis that can highlight Latinx histories of oppression, struggles towards liberation, and the politics of everyday life.**




# MAS 319

## LATINX PRINT CULTURE

TTH 2pm-3:30pm #42485 GEA 114 Lilia Rosas

Through this course, we will explore the print cultures and its significance to Latinx communities across U.S., and along the U.S.-Mexican borderlands and Caribbean diaspora. We will furthermore consider why this medium encompasses different forms of expressions from literary, artistic, political, cultural to transcending boundaries from form to content. Finally, this class will culminate with students producing their own physical paper zines illuminating a facet of the Latina/o/e/x experience.





# MAS 337C

## CHICANA FEMINISMS

MWF 12pm-1pm #42500 MEZ 1.202 Maria Cotera

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



# LATINX SEXUALITIES

TTH 9:30am-11am #42510 SZB 2.814 Lilia Rosas

In this course, students will chart and examine Latinx Sexualities from a historical perspective to comprehend the social, cultural, political, and economic factors, which have shaped these experiences. We also will challenge the simplistic and monolithic notions of sexualities that have plagued dominant discourses about Latinx sexuality. Finally, we will evaluate and reflect upon how Latin@/x/e communities (across sexualities, queerness, and heteronormativity) have defined themselves, resisted repression(s), and participated in their own emancipation of identities, expressions, and desires from their perspectives as Indigenous, Afrolatin@/x/e, and (me)Xican@/x/e peoples.





# MAS 340S

## LATINA/O SPIRITUALITY

**MWF 2pm-3pm #42515 MEZ 1.212 Castillo-Espinoza**

**From buying a lucky lotto candle to hosting lavish First Holy Communion parties, this course discusses how spiritual and supernatural beliefs manifest in U.S.-Latina/o communities. Drawing on ethnographic and folkloric case studies, we will examine the social elements of shared belief systems. We will study examples from personal memoir, material culture, ethnography, and popular culture to understand how communities customize spiritual practices and express belief in everyday life.**





# MAS 364E

## POLICING LATINIDAD

TTH 11am-12:30pm #42530 RLP 0.212 Mike Hames García

How does the criminal justice system make itself felt in the everyday lives of people of Latin American and Caribbean descent in the United States? From border enforcement to police stops, many Latines find themselves and their communities enmeshed within a dense web of surveillance and detention. This interdisciplinary course will examine historical, political, economic, and social factors that have criminalized Latinidad (Latine identity and culture) or rendered Latines illegal. We will examine how race, class, education, gender, sexuality, and citizenship shape the U.S. legal system and impact how Latines navigate that system.



# MAS 364U

## US IMMIGRATION POLICY & STORIES OF MIGRATION

TTH 9:30am-12pm #42545 PAR 201 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.






# MAS 364V

## **RHETORIC OF ETHNIC STUDIES**

**MW 2-3:30pm #42550 MEZ 1.208 Lena Mose-Vargas**

**In this course students will examine the histories of ethnic (and gender) studies in both higher education and K-12 institutions, and the rhetoric of attacks on, and defenses of, ethnic and gender studies through an examination of primary and secondary source materials.**



# MAS 374

## COLONIAL SPANISH BORDERLANDS

TTH 12:30pm-2pm #42555 GWB 1.138 C. J. Alvarez

From the early-sixteenth century to the 1810s, Spain claimed the majority of territory in this hemisphere (though the Spanish did not effectively control much of it). They formed one of the largest colonial empires in human history and the implications of that still reverberate across North and South America in language, religion, and culture. This course explores one small part of the empire, a remote northern fringe that had a little intrinsic value to Spanish authorities but that ultimately took on a new meaning when it was incorporated into the United States. We will focus primarily on New Mexico since that was the most important stronghold of Spanish occupation in the north, though we will also consider the colonial histories of California, Texas, Louisiana, and Florida. We will pay special attention to interactions between the Spanish and their descendants and diverse Indigenous peoples.




# MAS 374

## NATIVE BORDERLANDS

TTH 11am-12:30pm #42558 PAR 203 C. J. Alvarez

If you have ever wanted to know more about the historical context of the first peoples in what is today in the United States, this class will help you understand that. If, on the other hand, you have received only passing glimpses of Native America filtered through distortions in popular culture and have not thought very far beyond that, then this class might open fascinating new points of view and ways of looking at the world and people around you. Discussion topics include terminology, archaeology, colonialism, Native intellectual history, and the future.





# MAS 392

## REMIXING AFRO-LATINIDAD

W 10am-1pm #42585 GWB 1.138 Nicole Ramsey

Remixing Latinidad: Culture, Politics, and Performance examines how Latinidad is continually reshaped through cultural production, political struggle, and performance in the United States. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the seminar centers Afro-Latinx, Indigenous, and Caribbean communities whose cultural practices challenge narrow understandings of Latinidad as a fixed or monolithic identity. Through engagement with texts that focus on music, film, digital media, literature, and politics, students will analyze how race, gender, sexuality, class, and migration shape cultural expression and political belonging. The course emphasizes critical reading, discussion, and analytical skills, encouraging students to engage scholarship while developing their own research questions. Students will practice close cultural analysis, lead seminar discussions, and develop research-driven projects that connect cultural production to broader debates about identity, power, and representation. By approaching Latinidad as something constantly “remixed,” the seminar invites students from across disciplines to think critically about culture, politics, and belonging in everyday life.



# MAS 392

## LATINX ETHNOGRAPHY

M 2pm-5pm #42583 MEZ 1.104 Gonzáles-Martin

This course explores research relationships built through practices of ethnographic observation. Students will think and practice different facets of ethnographic documentary practices to consider the social, political, and ethical implications of transforming inter-personal observations into diverse textual forms. We will interrogate the disciplinary positions of such research and writing, and the impact of narratives on BIPOC communities in the public sphere. This course is most supportive to students doing fieldwork in the areas of US and/or transnationally oriented Folklore, Anthropology, Latino Studies, Indigenous Studies, Queer Cultural Studies, and Performance Studies.

# MAS 392

## **RHETORIC OF ETHNIC STUDIES**

**T 2pm-5pm    #42589    MEZ 1.104    Karma Chavez**

**How did President Jim Davis and Provost Will Inboden justify closing UT's MALS, AADS, AMS, and WGSS departments? What's the history of those departments on campus? What is "Social and Cultural Analysis" and what does it have to do with Black or Latino Studies? Let's learn about the historic struggles for ethnic and gender studies in schools and universities and how their opponents are trying to erase them from existence now.**

# MAS 395M

## INTERPRETIVE METHODS

**TH 2pm-5pm #42590 MEZ 1.104 A. Gutierrez/D. Clealand**

**In this course, we will cover both qualitative and quantitative research methods used in social science to study race and ethnicity. We will discuss how to design a survey, targeting populations of interest, and how to employ public opinion data in your research. We will also cover how to use other quantitative research, such as Census data and geographic markers, to answer research questions. Qualitative methods such as interviewing, ethnography, and focus groups will also be discussed in the course. Students will be exposed to quantitative and qualitative software such as statistical and coding software. Finally, we will analyze how to employ these methods in racial and ethnic communities while understanding our own positionalities and how they affect research.**



# MAS 398T

## **SUPERVISED TEACHING IN MEX AMERICAN/LATINA/O STUDIES**

**T 2pm-5pm    #42625    MEZ BO.302    Maria Cotera**

**Methods of interdisciplinary teaching and professional work in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies.**