

Institut des Hautes Etudes de l'Amérique latine (IHEAL)
Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3
History of Women, Masculinities and Machismo in Latin America
HYSP013
Tuesdays, 16h – 18h
Classroom 16
Language of the Course: **English**

Professor Martha S. Santos

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Office hours: Tuesdays, 14:00 – 15:00; Wednesdays, 11:40 – 12:40, and by appointment

Office: 5 cours des Humanités - Bâtiment recherche sud - Bureau 5.051



Course Description:

This course examines changes and continuities in the lives and experiences of Latin American women and men over five hundred years of history, through the lens of gender. Rather than being a survey of the history of gender in Latin America, four major themes will guide the course: First, we will analyze some of the concepts that have structured beliefs, norms, and expectations about femininity and masculinity since the colonial period until the present and how these concepts were related to social and power structures including gender, race, and class, and to changing political contexts. In this sense, this course will explore how ideas and practices of womanhood and manhood were created historically and in relation to each other. Second, focusing on women and men as a category, as a group, and as individuals, we will explore how historical subjects approximated, challenged, and transformed gender definitions in their lives and in their societies. Third, the course will examine the meanings and uses of one common stereotype of Latin American masculinity: *machismo*. Taking Mexico as a case study, we will analyze when, how, and why *machismo* became the most common way to characterize Mexican men. We will question the usefulness of the *machismo* stereotype to understand the historical realities of masculine identity and behavior among men from different groups. Finally, we will reflect on the roles that sexuality has played in the definition of ideas and practices of femininity and masculinity and will analyze how the construction of masculinities is connected to issues of domination, power and difference in the Latin American region.

Course Objectives:

To improve reading skills and the ability to locate and learn the significant aspects of the material read;

To improve writing skills through papers and essay exams;

To improve, through class discussion and debate, skills in orally presenting information and in critical thinking;

To develop a general understanding of the history of gender and sexuality in Latin America and to think critically about notions of masculinity and femininity in the region;
To understand the role of gender in the development of Latin American history;
To compare the experiences of women and men of different races, ethnicities, and social classes.
To develop a sense of how historians of Latin America examine primary sources to understand the past and to write gendered histories of women and men;
To develop an understanding of some of the debates that scholars of gender history and the history of sexuality in Latin America engage in and of the theoretical approaches that influence their work.

Required Course Readings: The required primary sources, articles and book chapters will be available in the **icampus** platform. Students need to print their own copies of these materials and bring them to class on the day when we discuss them. Students can also bring a laptop computer to have access to the readings during class.

Additional readings might be assigned throughout the semester. In such cases, you will get plenty of advanced notice as to the due dates for such readings.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Attendance: Students are required to attend class regularly. A maximum of two (2) absences are allowed. Once a student reaches three (3) absences he or she will lose 5 points towards the final grade for each absence. Students who miss class are still responsible for all discussion and reading material.

Participation (25%): Full participation in each class session is essential to make this class a success. To participate effectively in classroom activities, students need to come prepared to class by having done the readings, taken notes, thought about questions, interpretations or other issues related to the texts or other assignments. You will also need to actively contribute to discussions and other activities in class. During the semester, you might be asked to write short answers, comments, or take unannounced pop quizzes on the assigned readings during class. These exercises also make up part of your participation grade.

Take-home mid-term exam (30%): There will be a take-home mid-term exam which will consist of an essay question in response to a pre-circulated question based on assigned readings. Instructions to prepare this essay will follow in a separate handout and will be provided to students two weeks before its due date.

Pop Culture Scavenger Hunt, Paper and Presentation (45%) Students will be required to complete an assignment that extends our consideration of the representation of Latin American women and men beyond the classroom (primary and secondary sources, films, lectures). You will be collecting data and analyzing how women and men from Latin American countries are represented in the material culture of Paris in the 21st century. I will provide specific instructions in advance of the due date for this assignment.

Technical Guidelines for Written Assignments: All written assignments should be typed, double spaced, and use a 12 size, “Times New Roman” or similar font. Use standard margins (1 inch

margins at top and bottom, 1 to 1.25 inches on the sides). All written work should be checked for grammar and spelling mistakes. All quotes and paraphrases in your papers must be attributed to their author(s).

Late Policy: All written assignments are to be turned in on the due dates and times established by the instructor in the syllabus. The standard penalization for unexcused late assignments is 5 points (1/2 a grade) per day that a paper is late. I will allow for an extension on a deadline only when students can document illnesses or other crisis and when they contact the instructor regarding their particular situations before the time to turn in the assignment.

Plagiarism and academic dishonesty: Plagiarism consists of using (copying or paraphrasing) words, ideas or materials from another person, or from the internet, without giving proper credit to the source, thus, representing them as your own. Plagiarism in written assignments or blog entries will result in a grade of an F (0/100) for that assignment. In severe cases of plagiarism or academic dishonesty, a student may receive a grade of an F for the course.

Instructor Email Contact and Reply Policy: Please email me at martha.santos@sorbonne-nouvelle.fr with any questions or concerns regarding the course, course materials, assignments, etc, and for any questions that are not already explained in the syllabus. I would be happy to answer any of your questions. Typically, I will reply to your email within 24 hours on a weekday or 48 hours on a weekend or holiday.

Activities, Readings, and Assignments Schedule

Please note that, on occasions, there might be changes to the schedule of readings. Such changes will be announced with plenty of time in advance.

Tuesday, September 21. Introduction to the Course: What is Latin America?

Tuesday, September 28. Theories of Gender and Sexuality

* William French and Katharine Bliss, "Introduction: Gender, Sexuality, and Power in Latin America since Independence," in William E. French and Katharine Elaine Bliss, eds. *Gender, Sexuality, and Power in Latin America since Independence* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield Inc., 2007), pp. 1-30.

Tuesday, October 5. Gender before and after Conquest: The Mexica Case

* Malintzin, Primary Source Packet, pp. 1-17.

* Frances Karttunen, "Rethinking Malinche," in Susan Schroeder, Stephanie Wood and Robert Haskett, eds. *Indian Women of Early Mexico*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999), pp. 291-312.

Tuesday, October 12. Gender and Colonization

* Catalina de Erauso, *Lieutenant Nun: Memoir of a Basque Transvestite in the New World*, trans. Michele Stepto and Gabriel Stepto, (Boston: Beacon Press, 1996), pp. 3-80.

* Catalina de Erauso, "Petition"

Tuesday, October 19. Honor, Sexuality and the Colonial Church

* Jacqueline Holler, "The Spiritual and Physical Ecstasies of a Sixteenth-Century Beata: Marina de San Miguel Confesses Before the Mexican Inquisition" in R. Boyer and G. Spurling, eds., *Colonial Lives: Documents on Latin American History, 1550-1850* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 77-98.

* Geoffrey Spurling, "Under Investigation for the Abominable Sin: Damián de Morales Stands Accused of Attempting to Seduce Antón de Tierra de Congo," in *Colonial Lives*, pp. 112-125

Tuesday, October 26. Religious Women

* "Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's letter to Sor Filotea," in William Taylor and Kenneth Mills, eds., *Colonial Spanish America: A Documentary History* (Lanham: MD, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 1998), pp. 203-210.

* Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, *Poems, Protest and a Dream*, trans. Margaret Sayers Peden (New York: Penguin Books, 1997), pp. 137-143, 145, 149-151, 169, 171, 179, and 181.

* Asunción Lavrin, "Unlike Sor Juana? The Model Nun in the Religious Literature of Colonial Mexico," in Stephanie Merrim, ed., *Feminist Perspectives on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*, (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1999), pp. 61-80.

Tuesday, November 2. No Class

Take-home mid-term paper due online on Friday, November 5, by 17:00.

Tuesday, November 9. Slavery and Gender

* "Slavery, Race, and Citizenship in the Empire of Brazil: Debates in the Constituent Assembly," in E. O'Connor and L. Garofalo, eds. *Documenting Latin America: Gender, Race, and Empire*, vol. 1 (Boston: Prentice Hall, 2011), pp. 249-257.

* Sandra Lauderdale Graham, "Honor among Slaves," in Lyman Johnson and Sonya Lipsett-Rivera, eds., *The Faces of Honor: Sex, Shame and Violence in Colonial Latin America* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1998), pp. 201-228.

Tuesday, November 16. National Identity and Masculinity: Argentina

* Eduardo Archetti, "Masculinity, Primitivism and Power: Gaucho, Tango, and the Shaping of Argentine National Identity," in *Gender, Sexuality and Power in Latin America*, pp. 212-229.

* Jorge Salessi, "Medics, Crooks, and Tango Queens: The National Appropriation of a Gay Tango," in Celeste Fraser Delgado and José Esteban Muñoz, eds., *Everynight Life: Culture and Dance in Latin/o America* (Duke University Press, 1997), pp. 141-174.

Tuesday, November 23. National Identity and Masculinity: Mexico

* Américo Paredes, "The United States, Mexico and *Machismo*," in M. Gutmann, F. Rodríguez, L. Stephen and P. Zavella, eds., *Perspectives on Las Américas: A Reader in Culture, History, and Representation*, (Blackwell Publishers Ltd., 2003), pp. 329-341.

* Olga Najera Ramirez, "Engendering Nationalism: Identity, Discourse, and the Mexican Charro," *Anthropological Quarterly*, 67, 1 (Jan, 1994), pp. 1-14

* Matthew Gutmann, "Machismo," in *The Meanings of Macho: Being a Man in Mexico City* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996), pp. 221-242.

Tuesday, November 30. Stereotypes of Latin American Women Abroad

* Judith Ortiz Cofer, "The Myth of the Latin Woman," in Jennifer Browdy de Hernandez, ed., *Women Writing Resistance: Essays on Latin America and the Caribbean* (Cambridge: South End Press, 2003), pp. 109-115

* Rosa Soto, "Made to be Maid: An Examination of the Latina as Maid in Mainstream Film and Television," in Marian Meyers, ed., *Women in Popular Culture: Representation and Meaning* (New York: Hampton Press, 2008), pp. 253-267.

Tuesday, December 7. Presentations, Pop Culture Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, December 14. Presentations, Pop Culture Scavenger Hunt

Pop Culture Scavenger Hunt Paper due on Wednesday, December 14, in class

Selected Bibliography:

Bueno, María de los Reyes Castillo. *Reyita: The Life of a Black Woman in the Twentieth Century*. Translated by Anne McLean. Durham: Duke University Press, 2000.

Browdy de Hernandez, Jennifer, ed. *Women Writing Resistance: Essays on Latin America and the Caribbean*. Cambridge: South End Press, 2003.

Burns, Kathryn. *Colonial Habits: Convents and the Spiritual Economy of Cuzco, Peru*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1999.

Chambers, Sarah. "Republican Friendship: Manuela Saenz Writes Women Into the Nation, 1835-1856," *Hispanic American Historical Review*, vol. 81, no. 2 (May, 2001): pp. 225-257.

Cowling, Camillia. *Conceiving Freedom: Women of Color, Gender, and the Abolition of Slavery in Havana and Rio de Janeiro*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.

De la Cruz, Sor Juana Inés. *Poems, Protest and a Dream: Selected Writings*. Trans. Margaret Sayers Peden. New York: Penguin Books, 1997

Diaz, Arlene. *Female Citizens, Patriarchs and the Law in Venezuela, 1786-1904*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004.

Dore, Elizabeth and Maxine Molyneaux, eds. *Hidden Histories of Gender and the State in Latin America*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2000.

Erauso, Catalina de. *Lieutenant Nun: Memoir of a Basque Transvestite in the New World*. Translated by Michele Stepto and Gabriel Stepto. Boston: Beacon Press, 1996

Few, Martha. *Women Who Live Evil Lives: Gender, Religion, and the Politics of Power in Colonial Guatemala*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002.

French, William E. and Katharine Elaine Bliss, eds. *Gender, Sexuality, and Power in Latin America since Independence*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield Inc., 2007.

- Graham, Sandra Lauderdale. *Caetana Says No: Women's Stories From a Brazilian Slave Society*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Gutmann, Matthew, ed. *Changing Men and Masculinities in Latin America*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003.
- _____. *The Meanings of Macho: Being a Man in Mexico City*. Berkeley: University of California, 2006.
- Johnson, Lyman and Sonya Lipsett-Rivera, eds. *The Faces of Honor: Sex, Shame and Violence in Colonial Latin America*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1998.
- Kellogg, Susan. *Weaving the Past: A History of Latin America's Indigenous Women from the Pre-Hispanic Period to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Lancaster, Roger. *Life is Hard: Machismo, Danger and the Intimacy of Power in Nicaragua*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992.
- Lipsett-Ribera Sonya/ *The Origins of Macho: Men and Masculinity in Colonial Mexico*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2019.
- Macías-González, Victor and Anne Rubenstein, eds. *Masculinity and Sexuality in Modern Mexico*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2012.
- Mangan, Jane. *Trading Roles: Gender, Ethnicity, and the Urban Economy in Colonial Potosi*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1991.
- Merrim, Stephanie, ed. *Feminist Perspectives on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1999.
- Meyers, Marian ed., *Women in Popular Culture: Representation and Meaning*. New York: Hampton Press, 2008.
- Montoya, Rosario, Lessie Jo Frazier and Janice Hurtig, eds. *Gender's Place: Feminist Anthropologies of Latin America*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2002.
- Murray, Pamela, ed. *Women and Gender in Modern Latin America: Historical Sources and Interpretations*. New York: Routledge, 2014
- Najera Ramirez, Olga. "Engendering Nationalism: Identity, Discourse, and the Mexican Charro," *Anthropological Quarterly*, 67, 1 (Jan, 1994), pp. 1-14
- Pescatello, Ann, ed. *Female and Male in Latin America: Essays*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburg Press, 1973

- Santos, Martha. *Cleansing Honor with Blood: Masculinity, Violence, and Power in the Backlands of Northeast Brazil, 1845-1889*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012.
- _____. "Mothering Slaves, Labor, and the Persistence of Slavery in Northeast Brazil: A Non-Plantation View from the Hinterlands of Ceará, 1813-1884," *Women's History Review*, online (June 2017): 1-18
- Scully, Pamela and Paton, Diana, eds. *Gender and Slave Emancipation in the Atlantic World*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005.
- Silverblatt, Irene. *Moon, Sun, and Witches: Gender Ideologies and Class in Inca and Colonial Peru*. Princeton: University of Princeton Press, 1987.
- Socolow, Susan. *The Women of Colonial Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- Sigal, Peter. *Infamous Desire: Male Homosexuality in Colonial Latin America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
- Stern, Steve J. *The Secret History of Gender: Women, Men, and Power in Colonial Mexico*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1995.
- Townsend, Camila. *Malitzin's Choices: An Indian Woman in the Conquest of Mexico*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006.
- Wood, Stephanie and Robert Haskett, eds. *Indian Women of Early Mexico*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999.