

Artwork by Julio Salgado. "I am UndocuQueer!" 2013 Digital Mural at Galería de la Raza, San Francisco, CA

LAS 6938/Queer Trans Expressions in the Américas

Fall 2023 / WED 11:45 AM – 2:45 PM, Grinter (GRI) 376

Instructor: Professor Rafael Solórzano

Email: r.solorzano@ufl.edu

Office Hours: 360 Grinter Hall, Wednesday 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Book Me Here: <https://proferafa.youcanbook.me>

This course explores the dynamic and rapidly growing field of Jotería studies, an interdisciplinary field whose goal is the study of Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x sexuality and gender as a complex cultural, political, and intersectional formation in the United States and Latin America. Students will examine the origins of our modern conception of gender and sexuality, and how they were constituted through process of colonialism, racialization and the introduction of new gender systems. Additionally, we will highlight the "bottom-up stories" of every day experiences in which, queer and trans communities negotiate, contest, and struggle against structural injustice, heteropatriarchy, and transphobia.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and explore major themes and ideas that will provide the introductory knowledge and intellectual foundation for students interested in Jotería, gender and sexuality studies.
- Gain a broader understanding of the ways in which this conception of sexuality and gender was constituted by institutions, economics and social structures, specifically through processes of settler colonialism, colonialism, and racialization.
- Critically examine mainstream LGBTQ constructions, institutions, and social movements from the perspective of Jotería expressions and queer studies as well as strategies and knowledges used by Chicanx and Latinx queer trans communities to challenge existing inequities.
- Connect and address the social relevance of sexual and gender diversity within Chicanx and Latinx communities for diverse groups within U.S. and across Latin America.

Student Evaluation

10 Points Group Facilitation Activity: To facilitate student engagement with the readings students will take turns facilitating class discussion.

40 Points Sentipensantes (Reflections): Students will be responsible to submit 8 weekly reflections of readings and films. I call these "*Sentipensante*" posts (2-3 pages/double spaced). These reflections go beyond summarizing and critiquing the readings but aim to engage us in examining our values and beliefs and the emotions associated with them. Sentipensante reflections allow us to recognize what is happening inside of us as we engage in readings and films.

Or

20 points Sentipensantes (5) and 20 Points Academic Book Review: Think about what kind of book would be most useful to you in writing your thesis, finalizing a paper for publication or conference, or passing your exams. It is best to choose a book that will work for you twice, as a publication and as research. Choose a book that (1) is in your field, (2) is on a topic for which you have sound background knowledge, (3) has been published in the past two or three years, and (4) has been published by a reputable publisher (i.e., any press affiliated with a university or large commercial presses).

40 Points Research Paper Final: The goal of this final is to provide you an opportunity to build upon the work of the authors covered in class and be related to Latinx Genders and Sexualities. For your final, you can further engage and dive deeper into a topic covered in the course or one that we have not discussed. This paper can be a work of original research or an empirical research proposal or a conference presentation. Students must present a one-page research proposal during Week 10. Papers should be between 15 – 20 pages. Research paper details will be outlined in Week 9.

10 Points Research Presentation: Presentation details will be outlined closer to the due date.

Grade Points

A 93-100
A- 90-92
B+ 87-89
B 83-86

B- 80-82
C+ 77-79
C 73-76
C- 70-72

D+ 67-69
D 63-66
D- 60-62
F 59 or below

How to view current grades in a current course on Canvas?

<https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-view-my-grades-in-a-current-course/ta-p/493>

Grading/Late Assignments/ Grade Disputes: I truly believe that grades serve the purpose of evaluating student work (your own learning) and also, as a source of motivation. To ensure that I'm grading with accuracy and fairness, students should expect grades and feedback on journal reflections, facilitation activities, and papers within two weeks. Assignments are due on specific due dates. Late assignments will be accepted with a legitimate excuse and with advance notice.

If you wish to dispute a grade, you have *two weeks* to discuss your grade. You may submit to me via email (1) the graded assignment and (2) *a paragraph* (no more than a page)

describing the reasons for which you are requesting a change of grade on an assignment. Bear in mind that I have the right to raise or lower the assignment's grades.

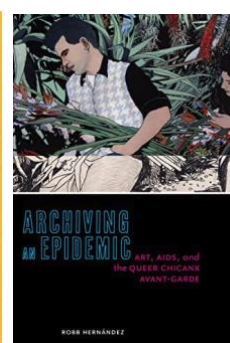
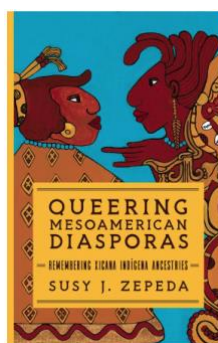
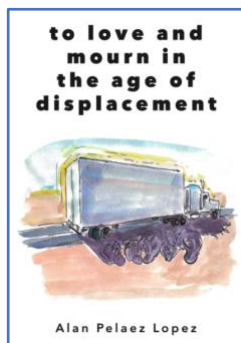
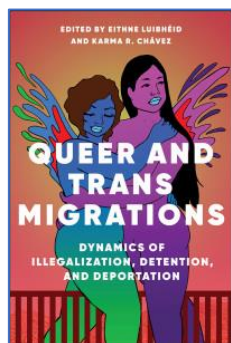
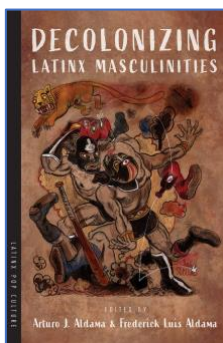
General Assignment Guidelines: All work must be double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1" margins, page numbers inserted, and your name clearly printed on the first page of your paper. Page limits do not include images or the bibliography.

Assignment Assistance: I am happy to offer feedback on assignments during office hours, on Wednesdays or by appointment. Need more assistance? Such as with breaking down your reading assignments, dealing with writer's block or understanding the rules for using commas, check out the amazing resources, tools and handouts for students.

Required Texts

The following books are required and other readings will be on Canvas.

Majority of books will be available on ebooks through Cal State LA University Library. Books are, also, available for purchase at the Cal State LA Bookstore.



COURSE CALENDAR

Section I: Contextualizing

WEEK 1 – Introduction to Jotería Studies: The Political is Personal

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Syllabus Overview and Introduction

Required Readings:

1. Dossier: Jotería Studies, *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. Volume 39, Number 1. 2014.
- Michael Hames-Garcia. "Jotería Studies, or the Political is Personal." *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 39, no.1 (2014): 135-142
- Xamuel Bañales. (2014) "Jotería: A Decolonizing Political Project." *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 39, no.1: 155-165
- Anita Tijerina Revilla and Jose Manuel Santillana (2014) "Jotería Identity and Consciousness," *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 39, no.1 (2014): 167-179.

- Daniel Enriquez Pérez. "Jotería Epistemologies." *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 39, no.1 (2014): 143-154.
- Hames-García, Michael. "Queer Theory Revisited." In *Gay Latino Studies: A Critical Reader*, edited by Michael Hames-García and Ernesto Javier Martínez, 19–45. Duke University Press, 2011. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv111jj6c.5>.
- Lugones, María. "It's All in Having a History: A Response to Michael Hames-García's 'Queer Theory Revisited.'" In *Gay Latino Studies: A Critical Reader*, edited by Michael Hames-García and Ernesto Javier Martínez, 46–54. Duke University Press, 2011. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv111jj6c.6>

WEEK 2 – Colonization, Racialization, and the History of La Chingada and Sexuality (in the Americas)



*Vogue cover spotlights Mexico's Muxe Women

Wednesday, August 30th, 2023

Required Readings:

1. Quijano, A., & Ennis, M. (2000). Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism, and Latin America. *Nepantla: Views from South* 1(3), 533-580.
2. Maria Lugones. "Heterosexualism and the Colonial /Modern Gender System." *Hypatia* 22, no.1 (2007): 186-209
3. Pete Sigal. Ed. *Infamous Desire: Male Homosexuality in Colonial Latin America*. Chapter 3, "Gendered Power, the Hybrid Self, and Homosexual Desire in Late Colonial Yucatan."

Recommended Readings::

1. Foucault Michel and Robert J Hurley. 1990. *The History of Sexuality. Volume 1 an Introduction* Vintage Books ed. New York: Vintage.
2. Wekker, Gloria., and Gloria. Wekker. 2006. *The Politics of Passion : Women's Sexual Culture in the Afro-Surinamese Diaspora / Gloria Wekker*. New York: Columbia University Press.

WEEK 3 – Colonization, Racialization, and Sexuality (in the US)

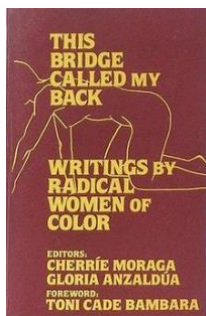


Wednesday, September 6th, 2023

Required Readings:

1. Alicia Gaspar de Alba. 2014. *[Un]Framing The "Bad Woman:" Sor Juana, Malinche, Coyolxauhqui, and Other Rebels with a Cause*. Chapter 2, "Malinche's Revenge."
2. Gayle Rubin. 2011. *Deviations: a Gayle Rubin reader*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. 137-181. Chapter 5, "Thinking Sex."

WEEK 4 – Making Bodies and Theories of the Flesh in the 20th Century



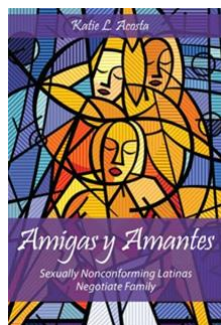
Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Cherrie Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa. [1983] *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color*. 2nd ed. New York: Kitchen Table, Women of Color Press: xiii – xix, and 23 – 34, 195 – 233, Refugees of a World On Fire, Foreword, Foreword to the Second Edition
2. Moraga, Cherrie., and Celia Herrera. Rodriguez. 2011. *A Xicana Codex of Changing Consciousness : Writings, 2000-2010* / Cherrie Moraga ; Drawings by Celia Herrera Rodríguez. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. **SELECTED Chapters**

Activities: Student Presentations #1

WEEK 5 – Sexual Conformity and the Tacit Subject



Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

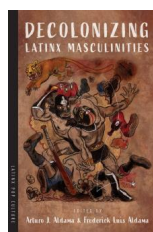
Required Reading:

1. Carlos Ulises Decena. [2011] *Tacit Subjects: Belonging and Same-Sex Desire among Dominican Immigrant Men*. Durham N.C.: Duke University Press: *Selected Chapters. Introduction to Chapter 5*
2. Katie L. Acosta. [2013] *Amigas y Amantes: Sexually Nonconforming Latinas negotiate family*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press: *Introduction to Chapter 2*

Activities: Student Presentations #2

Section 2: Deconstructing the Chicanx Latinx Genders and Sexualities

WEEK 6 – Detoxifying Latinx Masculinities



September 27th, 2023

Required Reading:

Arturo J. Aldama and Frederick Luis Aldama. [2020]. *Decolonizing Latinx Masculinities*. Tucson: The University of Arizona Press. Introduction, Chapter 4, 5, 8, 10, 17

WEEK 7 – Tracing the Art and Politics of Black and Latina Excess



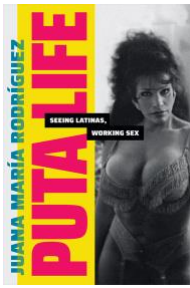
Wednesday, October 4th 2023

Required Reading:

Jillian Hernandez. 2020. *Aesthetic of Excess: The Art and Politics of Black and Latina Embodiment*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Guest Speaker

WEEK 8 – Latina Sexuality and Sexual Labor



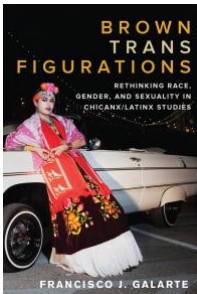
Wednesday, October 11th, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Juana María Rodríguez, [202 "Put a Life: Seeing Latinas, Working Sex," Durham: Duke

Activities: Student Presentations #4

WEEK 9 – Thinking Brown and Trans together Part I Detoxing and Unsettling Latino/x Masculinities



Wednesday, October 18th, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Francisco J. Galarte. (2023) *Brown Trans Figurations: Rethinking Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Chicana/x/Latina Studies*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Activities: Student Presentations #5

WEEK 10 Central American Unicorns and Afro Indigenous futures



Wednesday, October 25th, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Chinchilla Maya. 2014. *The Cha Cha Files : A Chapina Poética*. San Francisco CA: Kórima Press.
2. Pelaez Lopez, Alan. 2020. *Intergalactic Travels: Poems from a Fugitive Alien*. The Operating System
3. Pelaez Lopez Alan. 2020. *To Love and Mourn in the Age of Displacement*. Oakland CA: Nomadic Press.

Activities: Student Presentations #6

Section 3: Chicana/o/x Latina/o/x LGBTQ Transformative Storytelling

WEEK 11 – Entre Jotos/as/xs: Recovering Chicana/o/x Latina/o/x LGBTQ Transformative Place Storytelling



Wednesday, November 1st, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Horacio N. Roque Ramiirez. (2007) "Mira, yo soy Boricua y estoy aqui: Rafa Negron's Pan Dulce and the queer sonic Latinaje of San Francisco," *Centro Journal* 19, no. 1: 275 – 313
2. Horacio N. Roque Ramírez. (2005) "A Living Archive of Desire: Teresita La Campesina and the Embodiment of Queer Latino Community Stories," In *Archive Stories: Facts, Fictions, and The Writing of History*, Edited by Antoinette Burton. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
3. Eddy Francisco Alvarez Jr. (2016) "Finding Sequins in the Rubble: Stitching Together an Archive of Trans Latina Los Angeles." *Transgender Studies Quarterly* 3, no. 3–4: 618-627
4. Eddy Francisco Alvarez Jr. (2020) "Finding Sequins in the Rubble: The Journeys of two Latina migrant lesbians in Los Angeles." *Journal of Lesbian Studies* 24:2, 77-93.

Activities: Student Presentations #7

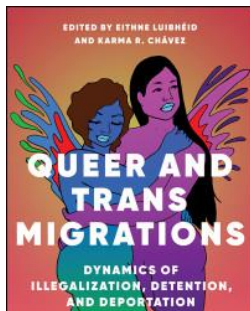
WEEK 12 - Thinking Brown and Trans Latinas/xs Together Part II

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Required Reading:

1. Alexandra Rodríguez De Ruíz, "Otro Encuentro Transfobia en Hollywood," Forthcoming book.
2. Alexandra Rodríguez De Ruíz and Marcia Ochoa, "Translatina is about the journey; A dialogue on Social Justice for Transgender Latinas in San Francisco," In *Trans Studies: The Challenge to Hetero/Homo Normatives*, Edited by Yolanda Martinez and Sarah Tobias. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. 2016
3. Jennicet Gutiérrez & Suyapa Portillo (2018) Trans[formation] of a Movement, NACLA Report on the Americas, 50:4: 392-394.
4. PJ Di Pietro (2016) "Decolonizing *travesti* space in Buenos Aires: race, sexuality, and sideways relationality." *Gender, Place & Culture*, 23:5, 677-693.
5. PJ Di Pietro (2020). "Hallucinating Knowing: (Extra)Ordinary Consciousness, more-than-human Perception, and other Decolonizing *Remedios* within Latina and Xicana Feminist and Queer Theories." In Pitts, A., Mariana Ortega, and José Medina. (eds). *Theories of the Flesh: Latinx and Latin American Feminisms, Transformation, and Resistance*. 220-238. New York: Oxford University Press.

WEEK 13 - Shining Bright Like a Queer Trans Migrant



Wednesday, November 15th, 2023

Required Reading:

Eithne Luibhéid and Karma R. Chávez, *Queer and Trans Migrations: Dynamics of Illegalization, Detention, and Deportation*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2020. Introduction, Chapter 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 12 - 17

Activities: Student Presentations #8

Fall Break – No Class
Monday, November 20th to Friday, November 24th, 2023

WEEK 14 – Selected Readings from Peers

Wednesday, November 29th, 2023

TBA

WEEK 15 – Workshopping Final papers

Wednesday, December 6th, 2023

Workshopping Final Papers

WEEK 16 NO CLASS - Good Luck on Finals!
Research Papers Due December 12th by 11:59 PM