History 2505

Race, Gender, and Violence in Latin American History

Instructor: Laura Gotkowtiz Regional Field: Latin America

This course explores the trajectory and meanings of struggles for equality, citizenship, and sovereignty in Central America, Mexico, Cuba, the Andes, and the Southern Cone. Paying close attention to the legacies of colonialism and slavery, we will explore such themes as the changing meanings of race; race, gender, and national identity; the politics of honor, sexuality, and race; myths of racial democracy; race and everyday life; and racism and state violence. Readings consider the experience and representation of indigenous and Africandescendent peoples as well as Europeans and their descendants. While we will commence with the colonial period, our primary focus will be the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Students will have the opportunity to link their own research interests with themes, questions, and debates addressed in class readings. The course welcomes students from diverse disciplines as well as those whose work focuses on other parts of the world.