This course seeks to introduce students to some important works on Brazilian history and society, from 1500 to the present. In those works, several questions recur: What have been the long-term legacies in Brazil of Portuguese colonialism and African slavery? How have Brazilians thought, talked, and acted about their multiracial, multicultural society? How have they struggled to resolve the contradictions between formal political equality, expressed in the concepts of democracy and citizenship, and extreme social and economic inequality? We will explore these and other questions in works drawn from the fields of history, anthropology, and sociology.