

FYOS 1001_Latinx in US Mainstream Film and Media

Fall 2022- Tuesdays, 9:35-10:50a.m. Room: GILBERT HALL 309



(Illustration by Evan Solano / For The LA Times; photographs from Warner Bros. Television/Netflix/ABC/Netflix)

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Sharina Maíllo-Pozo

Email: sharina.maillupoza@uga.edu

Office Location: Gilbert Hall, Room 360C

Office hours: I will be available in my office and virtually for this timeframe. Please visit the following link to sign-up for office hours and note whether you will prefer to meet in person or remotely:

[Horas de consulta Otoño 2022](#)

General Information

FYOS Seminar Description

The First Year Odyssey Seminar is designed to introduce freshmen to the academic culture at the University of Georgia as well as the university's instruction, research, public service, and international missions. The FYOS

Seminar serves as a platform to enhance positive and sustained student-faculty interactions through meaningful dialogues.

Course Specific Description

In this seminar we will watch and analyze a series of TV shows and movies as vessels to discuss the ways in which Latinx have been represented in US media and entertainment. In particular, this course focuses on Latinx identity constructions on television, film, and magazines. This seminar will provide a general survey of Latinx in U.S. media production, representation, and popular culture from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will examine various representations of *Latinidad*, with a special focus on the ways in which sitcoms, TV family dramas, and film disrupt or perpetuate stereotypes of Latinx in US media and entertainment.

Written materials and discussions will be in English. Some TV shows may be in Spanish with subtitles.

Course Objectives

- Have a broad understanding of Latinx representation in mainstream US film and media
- Identify the sociological and historical events that have shaped the production of Latinx identity in US film and media
- Be familiarized with current perspectives of Latinx representations in US film and media
- Generate critical arguments on current debates regarding Latinx identity through the study of US TV shows, film industry, and magazines

Required Materials

- **All** readings and **some** videos will be available on (eLC) E-Learning Commons (www.elc.uga.edu).
- Students should be able to access the Kanopy streaming services: <https://uga.kanopy.com/>
- Students should have access to a Netflix account in order to watch episodes of some of the TV shows we will discuss in class. Please let me (Dr. Sharina Maillo-Pozo) know if you do not have access to Netflix.

Recommended: Most visual materials will be available on course reserve. However, since the amount available is limited to one (1), it is recommended to have access to AmazonPrime to avoid delays watching some visual materials.

Additional Requirements

Students must complete all assignments (reading, watching videos, and discussion boards) before class on Tuesdays.

Evaluation Criteria

Class Discussions	40%
Written Discussion Boards via eLC (2)	30%
Group Presentation (1)	30%

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor at the end of the first class, during regular office hours or by appointment.

Description of Course Assignments

Class Discussions: Participation is required and students will be graded on their level of oral and written participation during class discussions and writing in-class assignments. Students must participate actively and regularly in class discussions, collaborative, and written activities. Since the aim of the course is to offer students a forum for discussion, where all will share ideas and inferences regarding the materials covered in class, students must have all the assigned materials completed before each class meeting.

Attendance is required and will be calculated into final grades. After the second absence, one point will be subtracted from the final grade for every additional absence. For example: a final grade of 90 + 3 (after the two allowed) absences = final grade of 87.

Written Discussion Boards: Students will be expected to answer a prompt in the discussion platform on eLC. The length for each prompt will be 500 words (single-spaced) or 250 words (double-spaced). These will be posted two times throughout the semester. All responses should follow MLA style guidelines.

Group Presentation: Students will present in groups (number of participants will depend on class size) about a TV show not covered in class that represent US Latinx characters and/or situations pertaining to US Latinx communities. Presentations should answer the following questions:

- What aspects of Latinx identities are these shows presenting?
- Why does this particular show matter?
- Is it still running or was it canceled? Why? What are your thoughts on the reasons it is still on or not?

University Community Events

FYO Students are responsible for attending **three** University community events. A list of them appears in: <https://fyo.uga.edu/BrowseEvents.aspx>

The University will ask you to report on the events you attend by the end of the semester.

Additional Information and Resources

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This class follows the guidelines set by ADA. Please inform me if you need any kind of arrangements due to disability. You will also need to obtain the proper documentation from the Disability Resource Center: <https://drc.uga.edu>

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any act of plagiarism will incur serious penalties, ranging from receiving a 0 on the assignment to expulsion from the university. For information regarding what constitutes an act of plagiarism, consult the university's website: <https://honesty.uga.edu>

Graded Assignments will be returned to students within 7 days.

Cell Phone. The use of cell phones during class time is **not permitted** unless otherwise indicated by Dr. S. Maillio-Pozo. Please turn off cell phones, and all other electronic devices before class begins. The use of **laptop computers and other devices will only be**

allowed for class purposes and with approval of professor.

Exiting the classroom during class. *Exiting and entering the classroom during class time is discouraged as it interrupts class flow. Please refrain from leaving the classroom while the class is in session.*

Email response. *Allow 24 hours for email response during weekdays. I will answer emails from 10:00 -11:00 a.m. and 5:00-6:00p.m.*

Students must take all quizzes and complete all assignments to receive a passing grade for this course. If you disagree with a grade you receive, you may request a review within seven days after you received your graded assignment or quiz.

I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus over the course of the semester. That is, the course reading and lecture schedule is subject to revisions, however, exam and assignment due dates are unlikely to change. Announcements, assignments, course handouts, and other information will be posted on eLC.

Late work will be accepted with prior notice; however, please note that unless you have a documented excuse, 2 points will be automatically deducted daily. For instance, if the due date is September 13 and you submit your assignment on September 15, there will be an automatic deduction of 6 points.

All assignments must follow MLA style guidelines, be double-spaced with 12pt font, Times New Roman, and 1-inch margins.

Course Schedule

This syllabus is a guide but it is not a fixed document. Changes in the schedule, readings or assignments may occur along the way given the specific needs of this semester's class and students. These changes may be inevitable, but you will be properly notified in advance in case any changes are necessary.

August 23:

Introductions: the course and its participants

General impressions of Latinx in US Media and Entertainment

August 30:

Foundations: Defining *Latinidad* and talking about stereotypes

- Introduction to *Latinidad* (Dra. Maillo-Pozo)

Read at home before class:

- Frederick Luis Aldama and Christopher González. "Reel Markers of Latinidad" pp. 29-56 (eLC)

September 6:

Foundations: Why "Latinx"?

Read at home before class:

- Scharrón del Río, María and Alan Aja. "The Case for 'Latinx': Why Intersectionality Is Not a Choice." (eLC)
<https://www.latinorebels.com/2015/12/05/the-case-for-latinx-why-intersectionality-is-not-a-choice/>

Watch at home before class:

- "To Latinx or Not to Latinx: Why Do So Many People Dislike the Term?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=up_v3j0DD88 (eLC)

Watch in class:

- Clips of *One Day at a Time* and *Mr. Iglesias*

September 13:

Representations in Classical Hollywood Cinema

Read at home before class:

Visit of Dr. Rielle Navitski

- Charles Ramírez-Berg. "A Crash Course in Hollywood's Latino Imagery" in *Latino Images in Film. Stereotypes, Subversion, and Resistance*. University of Texas Press, 2002, pp.66-86 (eLC)

Watch at home before class:

- *The Bronze Screen*, 2002 (On reserve in the Media Library (basement of Main Library). Also available to watch on AmazonPrime free with membership)

September 20:

Latinx Representations in New Hollywood Cinema

Watch at home before class:

- *Latinos Beyond Reel. Challenging a Media Stereotype* (Video 1. Available at UGA Kanopy)

Read at home before class:

- Charles Ramírez-Berg. "The End of Stereotypes" in *Latino Images in Film. Stereotypes, Subversion, and Resistance*. University of Texas Press, 2002, pp.262-272 (eLC)

September 27:

Visit to the library with Dr. Laura Shedenhelm

Location: Main Library Instruction Lab (first floor next to the elevators)

October 4:

Latinx Representations in New Hollywood Cinema

Read at home before class:

- "Latinos in Hollywood: Few Roles, Frequent Stereotypes, New Study Finds"

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/latinos-hollywood-few-roles-frequent-stereotypes-new-study-finds-n523511>

Watch video clips of various films with Dr. Maillo-Pozo in class

Discussion Board 1 Due by October Friday, October 7 at 11:59 p.m.

October 11:

Representations in Latinx Film

Read at home before class:

- Frances Aparicio, “Jennifer as Selena. Rethinking Latinidad in Media and Popular Culture.” (eLC)

Watch at home before class:

- *Selena*, 1997. On reserve in the Media Library (Basement of Main Library). Also available for rental at AmazonPrime. (\$3.99)

Recommended for discussion:

- *Spanglish*, 2005. On reserve in the Media Library (Basement of Main Library)

October 18:

Representations in Latinx Film

Read at home before class:

- Jillian Báez. “Towards a Latinidad Feminista: The Multiplicities of Latinidad and Feminism in Contemporary Cinema.” (eLC)

Watch at home before class:

- *Real Women Have Curves*, 2003. On reserve in the Media Library (Basement of Main Library). Also available for rental at AmazonPrime. (\$2.99)

Recommended for discussion:

- *Girlfight*, 2001. On reserve in the Media Library (Basement of Main Library)

October 25:

Film and Media Representations of the U.S.-Mexico Border

Watch at home before class:

(Students will choose one of the two films below to watch at home)

- *Who is Dayani Cristal?* 2013 (Available in Kanopy)
- *Which Way Home?* 2010 On reserve in the Media Library (Basement of Main Library). Also available to watch on AmazonPrime free with membership

Read at home before class:

- Nanci Buiza. “Crossing Mexico on La Bestia: The Central American Migrant Experience in the Documentary Films Which Way Home and Who Is Dayani Cristal?”

November 1:

Latinx in Mainstream US Television

Read/listen at home before class:

- [Camargo, Crystal. Television-Latinx Media: An Open Textbook](#)
- “From Ricky Ricardo To Dora: Latinos On Television”

- November 8:** Latinx in Mainstream US Television
Read/listen at home before class:
- “Jane the Virgin. The Pursuit of New Latina/o Representations” (eLC)
- Watch in class with Dr. Maillo-Pozo**
- Short Clips from *Jane the Virgin*, *Modern Family*, *Vida*, *Ugly Betty*, and *Gordita Chronicles*.
- Discussion Board 2 Due by Friday, November 11 at 11:59 p.m.*
- November 15:** Latinx in Mainstream US Television
Read/listen at home before class:
- [Allen, Craig. Spanish-Language Television and Pan-Latinidad](#)
- Watch in class with Dr. Maillo-Pozo:**
- Short Clips Telemundo and Univisión Programming
- November 22:** Latinx in Mainstream US Television
- Students will read Trevor Boffone and Cristina Herrera's “**I want you to know me. Who I really am’: Latinx Teens on the Small Screen**” (eLC) and will do a 10 minute presentation on one or two of the shows mentioned in the article. The discussion should be framed around the following prompts:
 - What aspects of Latinx identities are these shows presenting?
 - Why does this particular show matter?
 - Is it still running or was it canceled? Why? What are your thoughts on the reasons it is still on or not?
- November 29:** **Final Reflections (Last day of classes)**
- Latinx Podcasting Project Due*
- December 6:** Friday Schedule in Effect