This course will examine canonical texts of Brazilian literature from the nineteenth century to the present. We will discuss the ways some important issues in the history of the country have been represented in literature. These will include: urban and political violence, slavery, social crisis, forms of marginalization, and representations of gender and sexuality. We will read examples of novels, short stories, poetry, chronicles, and manifestos. We will discuss formal and thematic experimentation, fantastic literature, the use of humor and irony, and the representation of rural and urban spaces. Authors analyzed will include Manuel Antônio de Almeida, Alfonse d’Escragnolle Taunay, João do Rio, Lima Barreto, Machado de Assis, Mário de Andrade, Oswald de Andrade, Graciliano Ramos, João Guimarães Rosa, Clarice Lispector, Rubem Fonseca, Ana Cristina César. We will work in class with Spanish translations (although the Portuguese texts will be available), and knowledge of Portuguese, while welcome, is not required.