

HIS 380
Afro-Latin America

Summer 2023: Session I

Satisfies: SBS+ [DEC: J]

Thematic Concentrations: "Empires, Violence & Global Connections,"
"Race, Religion, Gender & Sexualities"

Online, Asynchronous

Instructor: José Manuel Baeza-Zúñiga

While Afro descendent people represented a significant group of Latin American societies since the early years of the Atlantic slave trade, studies on *Afro-Latinidad* and race relations in the continent have only recently gained academic momentum. Following this new historiography, this course will explore the different ways that the African diaspora has shaped modern Latin America across the last couple of centuries. Questioning the very notion of Blackness across different societies, we will examine Afro descendants' role in building local and national identities, developing anti-racist political projects, and forging transnational networks of Black solidarity. To do so, the course will cover a wide set of cases. From spaces traditionally conceptualized by its African heritage, such as Brazil and Cuba, to less studied territories such as the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Chile, and Argentina. Students will read academic articles, listen to podcasts, watch lectures, and analyze primary sources. By completing the readings, writing weekly responses, and participating in class discussions students will develop a better understanding of the working of race at the local, regional, and global scales. In addition to short weekly responses, the course requires a final essay based on primary source analysis. No required textbook. All course materials will be uploaded on Brightspace.