SYLLABUS
AML 4685 Section 1823 Afro-Latino/a Cultural Studies
Wednesdays, 4:05-7:05
TUR 2328
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-3:30
Office: 302 Ustler Hall
Phone: (352) 273-0390
Instructor: Dr. Tace Hedrick (thedrick@wst.ufl.edu)

Required Texts: Available at Goerings Bookstore
Juan González, Harvest of Empire
Evilio Grillo, Black Cuban. Black American
Cristina García, The Agüero Sisters
Nancy Morejón, With Eyes and Soul
Junot Díaz, The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
Piri Thomas, Down these Mean Streets
Erika Lopez, Flaming Iguanas
Black Artemis, Picture Me Rollin’ (you will probably have to buy this title online)

Course Reserves:
Flores, Juan. “‘Cha-Cha With a Backbeat’: Songs and Stories of Latin Boogaloo.” From Bomba
to Hip Hop: Puerto Rican Culture and Latino Identity. New York, NY: Columbia
Rivera, Raquel. “Butta Pecan Mamis.” New York Ricans From the Hip Hop Zone. New York,
Dzidzienyo, Anani and Suzanne Oboler. “Flows and Counterflows.” Neither Enemies nor
Duany, Jorge. “Neither White Nor Black.” The Puerto Rican Nation on the Move: Identities on
the Island and in the United States. Chapel Hill, NC : University of North Carolina Press,
2002. (ebook online)
Pozzi, Carlos. “Race, Ethnicity, and Color Among Latinos in the United States.” This Side of
Heaven: Race, Ethnicity, and Christian Faith. Edited by Robert J. Priest and Alvaro L.
Genre.” Callaloo, 29.3 (Summer 2006): 939-955 ▪PDF Version (270k)
Hall, Stuart. "Stereotyping as a Signifying Practice." Representation : Cultural Representations
University, 1997.
Sagás, Ernesto. “Introduction: Race and Politics.” Race and Politics in the Dominican Republic,
Online Resources:
 Vaughn, Bobby. The Black Mexico Homepage: Afro-Mexicans of the Costa Chica
 http://www.afromexico.com/
 Sailor, Steve. “Race Now Part #3: Where did Mexico’s Blacks Go?”
 AfroChicano Press http://www.afrochicanopress.com/

Class Schedule:
 August
 WEEK ONE
 W 26 Introduction to the Course
 Afro Mexicans, Mexican Americans, African Americans

 September
 WEEK TWO
 W 2 Discussion: Racial Differences in the African/Hispanophone diaspora
 Pozzi, Carlos. “Race, Ethnicity, and Color Among Latinos in the United States.”
 Olson, Steve “The Genetic Archeology of Race”

 WEEK THREE:
 W 9 Hall, Stuart. "Stereotyping as a Signifying Practice." Representation : Cultural
 the Open University, 1997.

 WEEK FOUR: Afro-Cubans, Afro-Cuban Americans
 W16 Harvest of Empire : “Cuba”
 Obelor, Suzanne “Flows and Counterflows”

 WEEK FIVE:
 W 23 Black Cuban, Black American
 Greenbaum, Susan “Introduction,” “Pathways”
 Assignment: Paper #1

 WEEK SIX:
 W 30 Discussion: Writing Papers
 Writing Quiz

 October
 WEEK SEVEN: Afro-Puerto Ricans and the U.S
 W 7 Flores, Juan. “Cha-Cha With a Backbeat’: Songs and Stories of Latin Boogaloo.”
 Harvest of Empire “Puerto Ricans”; “Puerto Rico, U.S.A.”
 Duany, Jorge. “Neither White Nor Black.”
 Due: Paper #1
WEEK EIGHT:
W 14 Discussion

WEEK NINE: Afro-Nuyorican
W 21 Down These Mean Streets

WEEK TEN: Afro-Cubans, Cuba, and the U.S.
W 28 On Elearning: Cuban Santería: Readings on Orishanet.org
Suggested Reading on Elearning: “Survivor: Cuba: The Cuban Revolution at 50”
The Agüero Sisters

November
WEEK ELEVEN: Afro-Cubans and the Cuban Revolution
W 4 With Eyes and Soul
Assignment: Paper #2

REVISED SCHEDULE:
WEEK TWELVE:
W 11 From Harvest: “Dominicans”
Course Reserves: Sagá, Ernesto “Introduction: Race and Politics”

WEEK THIRTEEN: Afro-Dominican Americans
W 18 The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
Due: Paper #2

WEEK FOURTEEN:
W 25 Holiday
Available on Elearning: Paper #3 Topics

December
WEEK FIFTEEN
W 2 Film: From Mambo to Hip-Hop
Course Reserves: Rivera, Raquel “Butta Pecan Mamis.”

WEEK SIXTEEN
W 9 Picture Me Rollin’
Due: Paper #3

Course Requirements:
Occasional study questions: there may be occasional study questions; these will not be graded,
but they are required: you will lose two points off your end of semester score for every study
question sheet you miss. These must be typewritten and handed in.
Reading Quiz: I will from time to time give reading quizzes, which are graded on a pass-fail basis. Each failing grade will subtract one point from your end-of-semester score.

Reading assignments: You are responsible for reading and understanding all assignments, whether we discuss them in class or not. This is non-negotiable. If you have a question about something we have not discussed in class, you need to ask me.

Assignments: Three 5-page papers; occasional reading quizzes; occasional study questions.

Paper assignments: These will not be research papers; they will be based on our readings (both fiction as well as our scholarly articles) and discussions in class. For each assignment, I will give you several choices for topics. The papers should be typed, double-spaced, and a full 5 pages long, not including bibliography.

Class Policies:
Students with disabilities: Please consult with me as soon as possible so that I can make appropriate accommodation for you.

Classroom deportment: Please turn off all computers, Bluetooth and handheld devices, and cell phones. I do not allow the use of computers in the classroom unless the student has a medical reason to take notes via computer.

Class Attendance Policy: If you are more than 15 minutes late, do not come to class. In addition, if you are too tired to pay attention in class, or too sick, please do not come to class.

Attendance: Since we meet only once a week, I allow one unexcused absence. If you email me beforehand, or if you have a good explanation for your absence afterwards, the absence will be excused. Each unexcused absence after the first two will result in two points off your final score.

DO NOT email me after an absence and ask to know what went on in class. Please find someone in class who you can ask to take notes etc. for you in the event of an absence.

Swine Flu: Since we may experience an outbreak of swine flu this fall, I am prepared if necessary to be a bit more lenient than usual with absences, provided you can show a doctor’s excuse.

Grading:
Papers: 3 @ 12 points each

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