Syllabus SPAN 3371
Afro-Latino Culture (Hybrid)
University of North Texas at Dallas
Deparment of World Languages and Linguistics
School of liberal Arts

Instructor Name:	Dr. Manuel Romeÿ BenZvi
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Office Hours:	Mondays 7:15pm – 8:15pm or by appointment
Classroom Location:	UNT Dallas
Class Meeting Days:	Tuesdays 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Course Catalog Description:	An introduction to the historical and cultural contributions of African descendants to the Latino world. Course will cover themes such as identity formation, race, ethnicity and politic activism in countries such as Cuba, Brazil, and the United States. Course primarily taught in Spanish.
Prerequisites:	SPAN 2050, equivalent, or intermediate to advanced oral communication skills as determined by departmental placement examination.
Text:	**Afro-Latin America, 1800-2000**, George Reid Andrews, Oxford University Press
Recommended Text:	**Negra Soy: Black Women in Contemporary Dominican Literature,** Aída Cartagena Portalatín **Blackness in Latin America and the Caribbean: Social Dynamics and Cultural Transformations**, Norman E. Whitten Jr. and Arlene Torres Readings, articles, and multimedia resources will be provided throughout the semester.
Access to Learning Resources:	**UNT Dallas Library:** phone: (972) 780-1616 web:http://www.untdallas.edu/library email: library@untdallas.edu **UNT Dallas Bookstore:** phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com

Supported Browsers:	Access Canvas via untdallas.instructure.com
Chrome 67 & 68 Firefox 60 & 61 Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video) Respondus Lockdown Browser Safari 10, 11	• **Username**: your EUID # • **Password**: your password **Getting Help with Canvas:** **Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634**
Supported Devices: iPhone Android Chromebook *(Tablet users can use the Canvas app)* **Screen Readers:** VoiceOver (Safari) JAWS (Internet Explorer) NVDA (Firefox) *Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome*	**Canvas Help Resources:** **Web:** Canvas Student Guide **For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning):** DAL 1, Rm 157 phone: (972)338-5580 email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu *If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.* *If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.*

Course Overview: This course on Afro-Latino culture is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the diverse cultures, histories, and experiences of Afro-Latinos throughout the Latin Americas. Drawing on interdisciplinary approaches from history, anthropology, sociology, and cultural studies, this course will explore the intersections of race, ethnicity, culture, and identity within the Afro-Latino community. Students will critically examine the social, political, and economic contexts that have shaped Afro-Latino identities and explore the contributions of Afro-Latinos to art, literature, music, and social activism.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. To introduce students to the concept of Afro-Latino identity and its historical development.
2. To provide an understanding of the various cultural expressions and contributions of Afro-Latinos.
3. To explore the social, political, and economic factors affecting Afro-Latino communities.
4. To examine the intersections of race, ethnicity, and gender within the Afro-Latino experience.
5. To encourage critical thinking and analysis of Afro-Latino culture and its representation in various forms of media and popular culture.
6. To foster an appreciation for the diversity and resilience of Afro-Latino communities.

Skills learned in this course.
1. Academic Discourse
2. Research Technologies
3. PowerPoint Techniques
4. Video Presentation Techniques
5. Interactive Activities Design

Course Evaluation Methods
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

20% - Class Participation: Students should actively contribute to class and group discussions both by asking and answering questions; it also means that students should willingly engage in class activities and always use the language of the course, i.e., Spanish. All students are expected to also attend any scheduled virtual meeting and arrive on time. Absence from class will affect students' grade, as will tardiness, early departures, and regularly entering and leaving the virtual room while class is in session.

Students who are absent on the day of a class participation grade **will receive a zero for participation on that day.**

Exemptions from class participation grades are only given to students who provide an excuse on university letterhead or who miss a class due to active duty military obligations.

20% - Homework: Students are responsible for preparing all reading and writing assignments before coming to class or before completing assessments.

20% - Exams: Writing assignments are an essential part of this course. Essays are designed to measure performance on the different modes of writing.

20% - Essays: The test will take place after the classroom instruction for the lesson has ended.

20% - Oral Presentations: Oral presentations are designed to measure ability to apply presented course material on the research topic assigned in the class. All students are expected to present multiples times during the semester. Due to the nature of our course, no makeups will be given.

Grading Matrix

Instrument	Percentage
Class Participation	20%
Homework	20%
Essays	20%
Exams	20%
Oral Presentations	20%
Total:	**100%**

Instrument Total Points

Grading Scale
Outstanding work receives an A; outstanding work far exceeds what is expected (superior).
A = 90–100
Excellent work receives a B; excellent work exceeds what is expected (above average).
B = 80-89
Good work receives a C; good work basically meets expectations (average).
C = 70-79
Acceptable work receives a D; acceptable work is not particularly good, but is not failing (below average).
D = 60-69
Unacceptable work receives an F; unacceptable work demonstrates poor effort and/or understanding (failing).
F = 59 and below

Grade determination based on average of all quizzes and final:
> A = 90 - 100
> B = 80 - 89
> C = 70 - 79
> D = 60 – 69
> F = 59 or less

Online/Hybrid Course Outline
This schedule is subject to change by the instructor.

Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement.

Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

This is a hybrid course, therefore our face-to-face meeting are going to be announced accordingly.

Week 1: August 22-24
Introduction to Afro-Latino Studies
- Defining Afro-Latino identity
- Historical context of Afro-Latinos in the Americas

Week 2: August 29-31
Afro-Latino Diasporas I
- Afro-Latinos in the United States
- Afro-Latinos in the Caribbean (Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Cuba)

Week 3: Sept 5-7
Afro-Latinos in South America
- Afro-Latinos in Colombia
- Afro-Latinos in Brazil

Week 4: Sept 12-14
Cultural Expressions: Music and Dance
- Afro-Latino musical genres (salsa, reggaeton, samba)
- Afro-Latino dance forms (salsa, merengue, capoeira)

Week 5: Sept 19-21
Afro-Latino Literature
- Literary works by Afro-Latino authors
- Analysis of themes and perspectives in Afro-Latino literature

Week 6: Sept 26-28
Social Activism and Afro-Latino Identity
- Afro-Latino political movements
- Intersectionality: Gender and race in Afro-Latino activism

Midterm: October 7th

Week 7: Oct 10-12
Visual Arts and Afro-Latino Identity
- Afro-Latino representation in visual arts
- Examining Afro-Latino artistic expressions

Week 8: Oct 17-19
Afro-Latino Identity and Popular Culture
- Afro-Latino representation in film, television, and media
- Stereotypes and challenges in Afro-Latino portrayal

Week 9: Oct 24-26
Gender and Afro-Latino Identity
- Afro-Latina experiences
- Intersectionality of gender and race in Afro-Latino communities

Week 10: Oct 31-Nov 2
No class on October 31st. Work will be assigned for Nov 2nd.
Afro-Latino Diasporas II: Central America and Mexico
- Afro-Latinos in Costa Rica, Panama, Belize, and Mexico
- Cultural expressions and challenges in Central America and Mexico

Week 11: Nov 7-9
Afro-Latinos and Religious Practices
- Afro-Latinos and the Yoruba religion (Santería, Candomblé)
- Afro-Latinos and Christianity

Week 12: Nov 14-16
Afro-Latino Identity and Education
- Education disparities in Afro-Latino communities
- Importance of Afro-Latino studies in academia

Week 13: Nov 21-23
Afro-Latino Resistance and Liberation Movements
- Historical and contemporary Afro-Latino resistance movements
- Black nationalism and Afro-Latino solidarity

Week 14: Nov 28-30
Afro-Latinos: Past, Present, and Future
- Reflection on the course content and key themes
- Implications for the future of Afro-Latino communities

Final Test
December 5ᵗʰ

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students:

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see Disability Services Office. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building PL, room 1104.

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable

directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. [Canvas](#) [Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.](#)

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness are a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Papers must be typed. **NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED!** Late work is only accepted only with the instructor's prior approval. *Late schoolwork will only be accepted only with proper documentation and/or the instructor's prior approval due to a special circumstance. Even if the work is accepted, **without proper documentation a late penalty will always apply**. In some circumstances, a student may be allowed to re-submit an assignment on which a low grade was achieved. However, the student **MUST obtain the instructor's approval to re-submit** an assignment. Assignments **must be re-submitted within one week of receiving feedback from the instructor.** All papers must be typed.*

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. **No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook)**. Tests will contain information from the textbook as well as information discussed in class that may not be in the textbook. Information from the textbook may be included on tests even if it is not discussed in class. The availability of make-up tests will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Make-up tests may contain a different selection of questions than was on the regular test.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to [UNT Dallas'](#) [Student Code of Academic Integrity](#) for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of

another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies

Remote Virtual Attendance and Participation Policy:
Class attendance and participation is essential because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. **The nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes**. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is necessary to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. **Students are also responsible for any work covered in class the day of the absence.** It is highly recommended that students contact another classmate to get information about the missed class assignments**.** Since attendance and participation is part of the grade book, absences will highly affect final grades, unless UNTD approved documentation has been provided by the student the day after he/she returns. Tardiness and early departure from class without the professor's authorization may be counted toward the daily grade. The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at http://www.untdallas.edu/hr/upol.

Online Attendance and Participation:
The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Canvas classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to UNT Dallas' Registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":
In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements
- Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems