SPAN 405D        Topics in Latin-American Culture  
Spring 2015  

Wanderer Latin America: globalization, displacement, melancholy  

América Latina Errante: globalización, desplazamiento, melancolía  

Professor Alessandra Santos        2014W  Term 2  Mon Wed Fri  14:00 – 15:00  

Wanderer Latin America: globalization, displacement, melancholy  

SPAN 405D is an interdisciplinary course to investigate contemporary Latin American cultural production (1990 to present). We will study the geographical, cultural and subjective shifts that occur due to economic globalization, cultural hybridity and distances, approaches and conflicts arising from these processes. Some issues to be examined: wandering (literal and metaphorical), consumption of North American and European cultures, the ubiquitous media presence, the impact of technological developments, violence, dissolution and construction of borders, new subjectivities, sexuality and the body, melancholy and humor. We will discuss a variety of materials (literary texts and theory, cinema, visual arts) in their social, economic and political contexts and complexities.  

Cinema: films by Carlos Sorín (Argentina), Lucrecia Martel (Argentina), Alex Rivera (Mexico), Cary Fukunaga (USA), Esmir Filho (Brazil), Carlos Gaviria (Colombia), Juan Andrés Arango García (Colombia). Texts by Caio Fernando Abreu (Brazil), Junot Díaz (Dominican Republic/USA), Roberto Bolaño (Chile/Mexico).  

Language of instruction: Spanish  
SPAN 405D may be taken twice for credit, with different content, to a maximum of 6 credits