

Latin American Philosophy Graduate Seminar



Dr. Gregory Fernando Pappas

Course Description:

Latin American philosophers have presented and defended philosophically plausible and unique answers to (1) some of the fundamental problems of philosophy, and to (2) philosophical problems that have arisen out of their unique historical circumstances. These philosophers constitute a philosophical tradition with its own development.

The course will read and examine the philosophical writings of some of the most important Hispanic thinkers on the nature of life, reality, philosophy, values, identity, injustice, democracy; and other issues that have faced them from the colonial period to the present day. However, the emphasis will be on 20th century and very recent thought. We will combine a historical and thematic approach. The focus will be of evaluating philosophically the positions considered and determining their contemporary relevance.

Outline of the Course (this is a tentative outline you are responsible to find out where we are). Items in [] are supplementary readings.

Aug 30

Overview (panoramic views) about the history of Latin American Philosophy:

<http://www.iep.utm.edu/latin-am/> (Alex Stehn)

<https://www.rep.routledge.com/articles/latin-america-philosophy-in> (Amy Oliver)

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/latin-american-philosophy/> (Gracia, Vargas)

Latin American philosophy chapter 25 p. 410 in *American Philosophy From Wounded Knee to 9-11*, (Pratt, McKenna) (pdf)

Indigenous Philosophies:

*James Maffie “Pre-Colombian Philosophies” p.9-22 in *A Companion to Latin American Philosophy* (Blackwell) (pdf) and last chapter (conclusion) of *Aztec Philosophy* (pdf)
<https://www.filepicker.io/api/file/0sEx3h16Sse0FGZaq4M>

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uaIeY-FGpI>, Introduction to Chapter 1 (NS) and Florentine Codex (NS) Miguel León-Portilla, “The Birth of Philosophy among the Nahuas” (NS), "History of Latin America" History World Website
<http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/plaintexthistories.asp?historyid=aa87>,
“When Worlds Collide” (film) <http://www.pbs.org/kcet/when-worlds-collide/timeline/>
<http://vimeo.com/14861182> (37 min) <http://www.pbs.org/kcet/when-worlds-collide/story/story-chapter-5.html>]

Sept 6

Scholasticism (colonial period), Political Independence, Positivism and its Critique (19th Century-20th Century)

Latin American Philosophy and the Spanish Conquest

Juan Ginés de Sepúlveda “Prologue to the members of the congregation” pp.34-42 (NS)

*Bartolomé de las Casas “In defense of the Indians” pp. 25-49 (GM)
[<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0007/000748/074840eo.pdf>]

*Luis Villoro “The Unacceptable Otherness” “Sahagun or the Limits of the Discovery of the Other” <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/039219219204015906>

*Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz pp.51-60 (GM)

[Edmundo O’ Gordman “The Idea of Discovery of America” pp.80-85
Beginning of “The Other Conquest” movie, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Encomienda>.
I, Worst of All (Film) <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkrOD8EphbcQdNPm-XPX5-fudyS-3rTQh>,
In Womens’ Hands: The Changing Roles of Women
<http://video.csupomona.edu/AnnenbergCPB/Americas-035.asx>]

Problems of Political Philosophy in the New Latin American Nations Introduction pp. 99-104 (NS).

*Simón Bolívar pp. 61-74 (GM) [Sergio Gallegos “The Racial Legacy of the Enlightenment in Simon Bolívar’s Political Thought, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, V. 6-2, 2018]

The Influence of Positivists Thought in Latin America (reasons for its acceptance and rejection) Introduction pp. 143-149 (NS) “General Introduction” pp. 14-21. (GM)

*Leopoldo Zea “Positivism and Porfirism in Mexico” pp.198-218 (NS)

*Jose Enrique Rodo “Ariel” pp. 219-227 (NS)

*Guillermo Hurtado “The Anti-Positivist Movement in Mexico” (pdf)

[The Storm that Swept Mexico (film) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVWcgOcvgV0>]

Sept 13

Socio-Political problems (19th-20th century)

“Wealth and Poverty in Modern Hispanic America” (NS) pp.227-231.

*Jose Marti pp. 245-256 (GM)

[José Medina (especially last section on Marti), "[Pragmatic Pluralism, Multiculturalism, and the New Hispanic](#)" (pdf)]

*Jose Carlos Mariategui pp. 257-266 (GM)

*José Vasconcelos The Cosmic Race pp. 257-266 (GM)

*Amos Nascimento “Syncretism as a form of multicultural politics: The interlocation of African-Latin-American identities in Brazil” in *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies*. Vol. 7, No. 2, July 2012, pp. 115–136. (pdf)

[<http://mlktaskforcemi.org/pathways/slavery-in-west-africa-and-in-the-new-afro-latin-america-1800-200>

George Reid Andrews, Oxford University Press (2004), Andrea Pitts “Toward an Aesthetics of Race: bridging the writings of Gloria Anzaldúa and Jose Vasconcelos” *IJP*, “Does Race Matter in Latin America?” Deborah Yashar *Foreign Affairs* Mar 2015 Vol. 94-2

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/south-america/2015-02-16/does-race-matter-latin-america>,

“Mexico and Peru: The Black Gandma in the Closet” (Film)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlzHIRCBtdE>, Vargas “Lessons from the Philosophy of Race in Mexico”

<http://groups.apu.edu/theophil/Merrick/vargas%20Lessons%20from%20the%20philosophy%20of%20race.pdf>, A Place Called Chiapas <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=4513202692382805096>,

Subcomandante Marcos, “A Storm and a Prophecy” (1994)

http://flag.blackened.net/revolt/mexico/ezln/marcos_se_2_wind.html, Harvest of Empire (film)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8I2wsu7ovx0> (92 min)

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/07/24/4253441/the-real-failure-in-central-america.html>

Sept 20

Ortega’s philosophy of Life (“Yo soy yo y mis circunstancias”) and its influence in Latin America

*Manuel Garrido “Ortega y Gasset’s Heritage in Latin America”

in *A Companion to Latin American Philosophy* (Blackwell) (pdf),

Gregory Fernando Pappas “Introduction to *Pragmatism in the Americas*” (pdf)]

[Patrick Romanell “Ortega in Mexico: A Tribute to Samuel Ramos”, *Journal of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 21, No. 4]

*Jose Ortega Y Gasset, *Some Lessons in Metaphysics*
“Ortega and Dewey on the starting point” Douglas Browning (pdf)

The “Ateneo” and “Hiperon” groups

Guillermo Hurtado “Philosophy in Mexico”
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/philosophy-mexico/>

Mexican Philosophy in the 20th Century: Essential Readings
Introduction, Chapters 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 (Antonio Caso, Jose Gaos, Leopoldo Zea)

Sept 27

The Hiperon group: Emilio Uranga (1921-1988), Jorge Portilla (1918-1963), Leopoldo Zea (1912-2004) Luis Villoro (1922-2014)

Mexican Philosophy in the 20th Century: Essential Readings
Chapters 11, 12, 14, 15, 19

Oct 4

Mexican Philosophy in the 20th Century: Essential Readings, chapter 13
Carlos Alberto Sanchez: *Mexican Existentialism and the Place of Philosophy*

Oct 11

Contemporary Decolonial Theories

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dependency_theory
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immanuel_Wallerstein

*Enrique Dussel “Philosophy of Liberation” pp. 415-428 (GM)
[Alexander Stehn, "[Toward an Inter-American Philosophy: Pragmatism and the Philosophy of Liberation](#)", in *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy*, 2 (2), 2011, 14-36.]

*Aníbal Quijano “Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism and Latin America”
<http://www.unc.edu/~aescobar/wan/wanquijano.pdf>

*Walter D. Mignolo “The Geopolitics of Knowledge and the Coloniality of Difference”
http://www.unice.fr/crookall-cours/iup_geopoli/docs/Geopolitics.pdf

[Walter Mignolo “Yes, we can: Non-European thinkers and philosophers”
<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/02/20132672747320891.html>
“Epistemic Disobedience and the Decolonial option: a manifesto”
<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/62j3w283#page-1>
Linda Alcoff “Mignolo’s Epistemology of Coloniality” (pdf)]

*Nelson Maldonado-Torres, "On the Coloniality of Being: Contributions to the Development of the Concept" (pdf).

*Santiago Castro-Gomez "The Challenge of Postmodernity to Latin American Philosophy" (pdf), "Post-coloniality for Dummies" (pdf)

*Ramon Grosfoguel "The Epistemological Decolonial Turn" (pdf)

Oct 18

Criticisms of Decolonial Theories

*Gregory Fernando Pappas "The Limitations and Dangers of Decolonial Philosophies: Lessons from Zapatista Luis Villoro"

https://www.pdcnet.org/radphilrev/content/radphilrev_2017_0999_3_27_68

*Manuel Vargas "Eurocentrism and the Philosophy of Liberation" *APA Newsletter on Hispanic/Latino Issues* Vol. 4, no. 2 (2005) 8-17.

*Maria Lugones "Heterosexualism and the Colonial/Modern Gender System" (pdf)

https://www.jstor.org/stable/4640051?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

*Ofelia Schutte, "Origins and Tendencies of the Philosophy of Liberation in Latin American Thought: A Critique of Dussel's Ethics."

Philosophical Forum 22 (3):270-295 (1991) Chapter 6 "The Philosophy of Liberation in Critical Perspective" (pdf)

[Linda Alcoff, (2000). "Power/Knowledge in the colonial unconscious: a dialogue between Dussel and Foucault." In L. M. Alcoff & E. Mendieta (Eds.). *Enrique Dussel's philosophy of liberation* (pp. 249-265). Boston: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc.

Linda Alcoff "An Epistemology for the Next Revolution"(pdf)

Ricardo Salvatore "The Postcolonial in Latin America and the Concept of Coloniality: a Historian Point of view" http://www.ncsu.edu/acontracorriente/fall_10/misc/Salvatore_debate.pdf

https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/the_americas/v066/66.3.prado.pdf

Pheng Cheah "The Limits of Thinking in Decolonial Strategies"

<http://townsendcenter.berkeley.edu/publications/limits-thinking-decolonial-strategies>

http://materializmidialektik.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Zizek_Politics.pdf

Oct 25

Zapatismo and Luis Villoro (1922-2014)

[A Place Called Chiapas

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TffwElt_UU]

[Luis Villoro (1922-2014) https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Villoro]

*Hurtado, Guillermo “Portraits of Luis Villoro”

[*The American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Hispanic/ Latino Issues in Philosophy* 15 \(1\):24-27 \(2015\) \(pdf\)](#)

*Diaz, Kim “Luis Villoro’s Political Thought: An Introduction” (pdf)

*Pappas notes and translated passages of *El poder y el valor: Fundamentos de una ética política* (1997) (pdf)

*Luis Villoro “Which Democracy?”

http://www.ipu.org/PDF/publications/DEMOCRACY_PR_E.pdf

*Luis Villoro “On Consensual Democracy: Concerning Kwasi Wiredu's Ideas”

<http://them.polylog.org/2/fvl-en.htm>

*Gregory Fernando Pappas “ Zapatismo, Luis Villoro, and American Pragmatism on Democracy, Power, and Injustice” *The Pluralist* Vol. 12, No. 1, (Spring 2017), pp. 85-100 (pdf)

*Villoro, Luis “The Meaning of Silence” (pdf)

<http://ijp.tamu.edu/blog/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/The-Meaning-of-Silence1.pdf>

Nov 1

Latin American Philosophy on Identity

*Gracia, Jorge J.E. “Identity and Latin American Philosophy” *Blackwell Companion to Latin American Philosophy* pp. 253-269 (pdf)

Introduction, pp.219-229 (GM)

*Paula Moya, “Why I am Not Hispanic: An Argument with Jorge Gracia”

<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/publications/newsletters/v00n2/hispanic/02.asp>

*Gregory Fernando Pappas, "Jorge Gracia’s Philosophical Perspective on Hispanic Identity” in *Philosophy and Social Criticism* volume 27, no 2, 2001, pp.20-28.

*Linda Alcoff, “Is Latino/a identity a racial identity?” pp.311-334 (GM)

Linda Alcoff “Latinos Beyond the Binary”

<http://www.alcoff.com/content/beyondbinary.html>

Interview with Linda Martin Alcoff about identity.

<http://home.uchicago.edu/~teichman/podcast.html>

Review of Linda Martín Alcoff, *Visible Identities: Race, Gender and the Self*, Oxford University Press, 2006 by Ronald Sundstrom.

<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/visible-identities-race-gender-and-the-self/>

*Ofelia Schutte, pp.335-354 (GM)

Nov 8

Border Cultures, the Self, and Justice: Anzaldua and Lugones (USA)

*Gloria Anzaldua *Borderlands [Light in the Dark/Luz en lo Oscuro: Rewriting Identity, Spirituality, Reality* (Latin America Otherwise) Paperback – October 2, 2015]

*Maria Lugones *Pilgrimages*, especially “Purity, Impurity, and Separation” chapter.

*Gregory Fernando Pappas, “John Dewey, Latina Lesbians and the Quest for Purity,” *Journal of Speculative Philosophy* , volume 15, issue 2, 2001 pp.152-161.

*Mariana Ortega. “Introduction”, “Chapter One” from *In-Between: Latina Feminist Phenomenology, Multiplicity, and the Self*.

[Barbara Lowe “Ethereal Identities and Ethereal Subjectivity: An American Pragmatist Appreciation of María Lugones’ Theory of Oppression and Resistance” *IJP*: Andrea Pitts “Toward an Aesthetics of Race: Bridging the Writings of Gloria Anzaldua and Jose Vasconcelos” *IJP*, Jonathan Bolívar Espinosa “Dominican, Black, and Afro-Latino: Una Confesion” <http://www.lagaleriamag.com/dominican-black-and-afro-latino-a-confessiondominicano-negro-y-afro-latino-una-confesion/>, Ofelia Schutte, "[Engaging Latin American Feminisms Today: Methods, Theory, Practice](#)" in *Hypatia*, 25 (4), 2011, 784-803.]

Nov 15

*Maria Lugones *Pilgrimages*, especially “Hablando Cara a Cara”, “Playfulness. “world-traveling and Loving Perception”

*Jose-Antonio Orosco “Introduction”, “Cesar Chavez and the Pluralist Foundations of USA American Democracy” from *Toppling the Melting Pot: Immigration and Multiculturalism in American Pragmatism*. (pdf) "[Pragmatism, Latino Intercultural Citizenship, and the Transformation of American Democracy](#)" in *Pragmatism in the Americas*.

*Gregory Fernando Pappas “The American Challenge: The Tension Between The Values of The Anglo And The Hispanics”
<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/publications/newsletters/Vol05n2/Hispanic.pdf>
[Samuel P. Huntington “The Hispanic Challenge” by, *Foreign Policy* (March/April 2004)]

Nov 29

Liberation Theology and Philosophy of Education

*Gustavo Gutierrez “The Task and Content of Liberation Theology” *Cambridge Companion to Liberation Theology* (pdf) “Towards a Theology of Liberation” (pdf)

[Gustavo Gutierrez *The Truth Shall Make You Free*, Oscar Romero: Movie and excerpts from *Six Homilies* (pdf), <http://www.landreform.org/boff2.htm> <http://liberationtheology.org/>

<http://liberationtheology.org/library/a-concise-history-of-liberation-theology.pdf>

<http://www.landreform.org/boffl.htm>,

<http://www.marquette.edu/theology/documents/SalvationandliberationinGutierrez.pdf>]

*Introduction to [Ignacio Ellacuria: Essays on History, Liberation, and Salvation](#)
by Michael E. Lee (pdf)

*Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz “Justice as reconciliatory praxis: a decolonial *Mujerista* move” (pdf)

Dec 4

*Paulo Freire “Pedagogy of the Oppressed” pp. 162-174 (pdf)

<http://www.infed.org/thinkers/et-freir.htm>

<http://www.unomaha.edu/~pto/paulo.htm>

*“Interculturalidad: Intercultural Bilingual Education Among Indigenous Peoples in Latin America Luis Enrique López, Inge Sichra Reaching the unreached: indigenous intercultural bilingual education in Latin America” by Luis Enrique López 2009

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001866/186620e.pdf>