

LACS 330.61- Brazilian Music: Understanding the Historical Richness of Brazil

Dr. Cristina Tourinho

Salvador, January 2015

Meetings: Monday through Thursday: 9:00 to 12:00 noon

Office hours by appointment

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About the Course

This course is about Brazilian music, its history and appreciation. It will include music made in Brazil from the 1500s to nowadays, by Brazilian composers or others who have lived here. We believe in a holistic view, without distinction among any kind of style, genre or period. The objectives of the class are to gain the large insight into variety of Brazilian music. The class meetings will primarily comprise cultural Brazilian context and historical background, through the use of DVDs, CDs, photos, power point texts and also live music. Students are expected to do exercises, singing, and writing reflective response essays to be completed during class

Grade requirements and class policies:

We expect to encourage the students to recognize composers, players, pieces and styles. The course also aims to give students the opportunity to share their knowledge with other members of the class. We will use quizzes and appreciation exercises.

a) Attendance is a required and necessary component of the course (10%)

b) There will be 3 (three) quizzes in order to assess students' comprehension, using small excerpts of the pieces, from which they should identify the author, the player, the style and the name of the piece (20% each one = 60%)

c) Finally, there will a paper (1.500-2.000 words, with abstract and bibliographic references), to be sent by e-mail to cristtourinho@gmail.com no later than February 25. (30%)

Topics:

The following topics will be covered during the course:

Subject
General overview of the Brazilian music and the topics that will be studied.
The Modinha and the Lundu: influences in the Brazilian music after 1808. The Legacy of the African slaves. Influences of European composers. Samba, Brazilian national music Varieties of samba: samba-de-roda, samba-de-breque; samba-canção, samba-funk; samba-côco; afro-samba. From Carmen Miranda to the samba of today
Choro: an early instrumental style. Varieties of choro: choro-canção; chorinho; samba-choro.
The legacy of Brazilian music schools: how teaching/learning music developed. The nationalism in Brazil. Brazilian Instrumental music
Music from "Bahia of All the Saints"
Bossa Nova: the samba known worldwide; bossa nova and jazz

Quiz nº 1.
Tropicália
North by Northeast
The music and Carnival. Carnival in the streets of Salvador, the Samba's Schools of Rio and the Frevo in Recife.
MPB: sophisticated lyrics and songs, a musical rainbow
Quiz nº. 2.
Música Brega and Música Caipira, loved by millions. The Romantic Music of Roberto Carlos and Jovem Guarda.
Some Brazilian music of regional identity: capoeira music; bumba-meu-boi; maracatu; baião and forró: more Brazilian sounds
Quiz nº 3

Required material:

The students should acquire this book before leaving the United States:

McGowan, Chris, and Pessanha, Ricardo. *The Brazilian Sound. Samba, Bossa Nova, and the Popular Music of Brazil*. Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 2008.

The students will receive a packet in the beginning of the course, provided by the professor: this packet comprises one recorded CD with music examples, a detailed class schedule, and a selection of texts.