

# **LAST 1510J THE MAKING OF MODERN BRAZIL**

## **BROWN UNIVERSITY**

**Spring 2010**

**Time: Thursday 4-6:20 p.m.**

**Location:**

**Instructor: Ruben G. Oliven**

**Office: Watson Institute, room 219**

**Phone: 863-9551**

**Office hours: Thursday 2-4 p.m.**

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### **Course description:**

This seminar will focus on crucial aspects of the building of the Brazilian nation and the meanings of social phenomena involved in this process. Using anthropological and sociological studies of contemporary Brazilian society, we will analyze different aspects of the construction of modern Brazil as manifested in images and self-representations, race and ethnicity, regionalism and revival of tradition, individualism, gender and sexuality, urbanization, violence, popular culture, money and consumption, transnationalization of culture.

**Prerequisites:** This seminar is open to upper division undergraduate and graduate students in the social sciences and others with written permission of the instructor.

**Requirements:** Class participation, presentations in which students will synthesize and present selected course readings, a mid-term essay exam and a final seminar paper.

**Grading:** Evaluation will be based on active class participation (25%), presentations (25%), midterm paper (20%) and final paper (30%).

**Book is available at Brown Bookstore**

**Schedule:**

**Week one (January 28): Introduction and Orientation**

**Week two (February 4): Images and Representations of Brazil**

Gilberto Freyre. *The Masters and the Slaves. A Study in the Development of Brazilian Civilization*. New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1971, chapter 1 ("General Characteristics of the Portuguese Colonization of Brazil: Formation of an Agrarian, Slave-holding, and Hybrid Society"), p. 3-80.

Claude Lévi-Strauss. *A World on the Wane (Tristes Tropiques)*. London, Hutchinson, 1961, Part III ("The New World") and Part: IV ("A Land and its People"), p. 75-130.

José Murilo de Carvalho. "The Edenic Motif in the Brazilian Social Imaginary." *Brazilian Review of Social Sciences*, special issue, no. 1, 2000, p. 111-128.

**Week three (February 11): Modernity and the Building of the Nation**

Ruben George Oliven. "Brazil: The Modern in the Tropics". In: Schelling, Vivian. *Through the Kaleidoscope. The Experience of Modernity in Latin America*. London, Verso, 2000, p. 53-71.

Renato Ortiz. "Popular Culture, Modernity and the Nation." In: Schelling, Vivian. *Through the Kaleidoscope. The Experience of Modernity in Latin America*. London, Verso, 2000, p. 127-147.

José de Souza Martins. "Hesitations of the Modern and Contradictions of Modernity in Brazil." In: Schelling, Vivian. *Through the Kaleidoscope. The Experience of Modernity in Latin America*. London, Verso, 2000, p. 248-274.

José Murilo de Carvalho. "Dreams Come Untrue." *Daedalus* 129 (2), 2000, p. 57-82.

Film: *Macunaíma* (Joaquim Pedro de Andrade, 1969)

### Week four (February 18): Race and Ethnicity I

Lilia Moritz Schwarcz. "Racial Doctrines in the Nineteenth Century: A History of Differences and Discrimination" in *The Spectacle of the Races, Scientists, Institutions and the Race Question in Brazil 1870-1930*, Hill and Wang, 1999, p. 44-70

Thomas Skidmore. "Racial Realities and Racial Thought after Abolition." In: *Black into White*. Durham, Duke University Press, 1993, p. 38-77.

Oracy Nogueira. "Skin, Color, and Social Class". *Vibrant Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* ([www.vibrant.org.br](http://www.vibrant.org.br)) 5 (1), 2008: I-XXV.

Peter Fry. "Politics, Nationality, and the Meanings of 'Race' in Brazil." In: *Daedalus* vol. 129, no. 2, 2000, p. 83-118.

Antonio Sérgio Alfredo Guimarães. "The Misadventures of Nonracialism in Brazil". In C. Hamilton, L. Huntley, N. Alexander, A.S.A. Guimarães and W. James (eds). *Beyond Racism. Race and Inequality in Brazil, South Africa and the United States*. Boulder & London, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2001, p. 157-186

### Week five (February 25): Race and Ethnicity II

Jeffrey Lesser. In: *Negotiating National Identity. Immigrants, Minorities, and the Struggle for Ethnicity in Brazil*. Durham, Duke University Press, 1999, ("The Hidden Hyphen", p. 1-12 and "A Suggestive Epilogue", p. 167-173).

Alcida Ramos. "Neither Here nor There: on the Ambiguity of Being Indian in Brazil". *Vibrant. Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* ([www.vibrant.org.br](http://www.vibrant.org.br)) 5 (1), 2008: 7-19.

Oliveira Filho, João Pacheco "Entering and leaving the 'Melting Pot': a history of Brazilian Indians in the National Censuses". *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 4 (2), 2000: 190-211.

Cristhian Teófilo da Silva. "The astonishing resilience: ethnic and legal invisibility of indigenes from a Brazilian perspective". *Vibrant. Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* ([www.vibrant.org.br](http://www.vibrant.org.br)) 4 (2), 2007: 97-119.

Manuela Carneiro da Cunha & Mauro W. B. de Almeida. "Indigenous People, Traditional People, and Conservation in the Amazon". *Daedalus* 129 (2), 2000, p. 315- 338.

### **Week six (March 4): Regionalism and the Revival of Tradition**

Ruben Oliven. *Tradition Matters. Modern Gaúcho Identity in Brazil*. New York, Columbia University Press, 1996, 151 pp.

### **Week seven (March 11): Individual and Person**

Roberto DaMatta. "Do you know who you are talking to?! The Distinction between Individual and Person in Brazil." In: *Carnivals, Rouges, and Heroes*. Notre Dame, Notre Dame University Press, 1991, p. 137-197.

Gustavo Lins Ribeiro. "Macunaíma: to be or not to be, that is the question." *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 4 (2) and 5 (1), 2000, p. 60-77.

Luiz Fernando Dias Duarte. "Person and Psychologization in Brazil. A study in moral regulation". *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 4 (2) and 5 (1), 2000, p. 142-171.

Vídeo: *Linha de Passe* (Walter Salles, 2008)

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### **Week eight (March 18): Gender, Body and Sexuality**

Mirian Goldenberg. "The Body as Capital: Understanding Brazilian Culture". *Vibrant. Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* 6, 2009.

Richard Parker. "Brazilian Homosexualities". In: *Beneath the Equator. Cultures of Desire, Male Homosexuality, and Emerging Gay Communities in Brazil*. New York, Routledge, 1999, p. 27-51.

Adriana Piscitelli. "On 'gringos' and 'natives': gender and sexuality in the context of international sex tourism in Fortaleza, Brazil". *Vibrant, Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* ([www.vibrant.org.br](http://www.vibrant.org.br)) 1 (1-2), 2004: 87-114.

Cristiana Bastos. "Responding to Aids in Brazil: the very early years". *Vibrant, Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* ([www.vibrant.org.br](http://www.vibrant.org.br)) 1 (1-2), 2004: 145-86.

Rebhun, Linda-Anne. "The Language of Love in Northeast Brazil". In: *The Heart is Unknown Country. Love in the Changing Economy of Northeast Brazil*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1999, p. 163-188.

Ruben George Oliven. "Man/Woman Relations and the Construction of Brazilian Identity in Popular Music". *Social Science Information* 27 (1), 1988: 119-138.

### **Week nine (March 25): Popular Culture**

Ondina Fachel Leal and Ruben George Oliven. "Class Interpretations of a Soap Opera Narrative.". *Theory, Culture and Society* 5 (1), 1988: 81-99.

Esther Hamburger. "Politics of Representation: Television in a São Paulo Favela". *Vibrant, Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* (www.vibrant.org.br) 1 (1-2), 2004: 115-137.

Roberto DaMatta. "Soccer: Opium for the People or Drama of Social Justice." In: Banck, Geert and Koonings, Kees (eds). *Social Change in Contemporary Brazil*. Amsterdam, CEDLA, 1988, p. 125-133.

Roberto DaMatta. "The Many Levels of Carnival". In: *Carnivals, Rouges, and Heroes. An Interpretation of the Brazilian Dilemma*. Notre Dame, Notre Dame University Press, 1991, p. 61-115.

Hermano Vianna. "Nowhere at All". In: *The Mystery of Samba. Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil*. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1999, p.93-106.

Video: *Bye-bye Brazil* (Cacá Diegues, 1979)

### **Discuss final paper topic with instructor**

### **Week ten (April 8): Urban life**

Sevcenko, Nicolau. "Peregrinations, Visions and the City; From Canudos to Brasília, the Backlands become the City and the City becomes the Backlands." In: Schelling, Vivian. *Through the Kaleidoscope. The Experience of Modernity in Latin America*. London, Verso, 2000, p. 75-107.

Teresa Caldeira and James Holston. "State and Urban Space in Brazil: from Modernist Planning to Democratic Intervention". In Aihwa Ong and Stephen J. Collier (eds). *Global Assemblages. Technology, Politics, and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Malden, MA, Blackwell, 2007, p. 393-416.

Teresa P. R. Caldeira. "The Increase of Violent Crime". In: *City of Walls. Crime, Segregation, and Citizenship in São Paulo*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000, p. 105-137.

Gianpaolo Baiocchi. "The Dynamism of the Unorganised". In: Daniel Chavez and Benjamin Goldfrank (eds). *The Left in the City. Participatory Local Governments in Latin America*. London, Latin American Bureau, 2004, p. 37-66.

John Collins. "'But what if I should need to defecate in your neighborhood, madame?' Empire, Redemption, and the 'Tradition of the Oppressed' in a Brazilian World Heritage Site". *Cultural Anthropology* 23 (2), 2008: 279-328.

Video: *Tropa de Elite* (Jose Padilha, 2007)

### **Week eleven (April 15): Money and Consumption:**

Geert A Banck. "Mass Consumption and Urban Contest in Brazil: some Reflections on Lifestyle and Class". *Bulletin of Latin American Research* 13 (1), 1994, 45-60.

Brian P. Owensby. "Keeping Up Appearances". In: *Intimate Ironies. Modernity and the Making of Middle-Class Lives in Brazil*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1999, p. 100-129.

Ruben George Oliven. "Looking at Money in America". *Critique of Anthropology* 18 (1), 1997: 35-59.

Ruben George Oliven. "Singing Money: money in Brazilian and North American popular music". In: David F. Ruccio (ed). *Economic Representations: Academic and Everyday*. London & New York, Routledge, 2008, p. 211-232.

Aaron Ansell. "'But the winds will turn against you': An analysis of wealth forms and the discursive space of development in northeast Brazil". *American Ethnologist* 36 (1), 2009: 96-109.

### **Week twelve (April 22): Becoming Transnational**

Ari Pedro Oro and Pablo Seman. "Brazilian Pentecostalism crosses National Borders." In: Andre Corten and Ruth Marshall-Fratani (eds). *Between Babel and Pentecostalism. Transnational Pentecostalism in Africa and Latin America*. London, Hurst and Company, 2001, p. 181-195.

Claudia Fonseca. "Inequality near and far: International Adoption as Seen from a Brazilian Favela". In: Matthew C. Gutmann, Felix V. Matos Rodríguez, Lynn

Stephen, and Patricia Zavella, eds., *Perspectives on Las Américas, A Reader in Culture, History, and Representation*. Malden, Blackwell, 2003, p. 174-191.

Keiko Yamanaka. "Return Migration of Japanese-Brazilians to Japan: The Nikkeijin as Ethnic Minority and Political Construct." *Diaspora* 5 (1), 1996, p. 65-97.

Daniel Touro Linger. "Eating Brazil." In: *No One Home. Brazilian Selves Remade in Japan*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2001, p. 74-92.

Daniel Touro Linger. "National Banners." In: *No One Home. Brazilian Selves Remade in Japan*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2001, p. 275-289.

Bela Feldman-Bianco. "Brazilians in Portugal, Portuguese in Brazil: constructions of Sameness and Difference". *Vibrant, Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* (www.vibrant.org.br) 1 (1-2), 2004: 138-189.

Igor José de Renó Machado. "Brazilian Immigration and the Reconstruction of Racial Hierarchies of the Portuguese Empire". *Vibrant, Virtual Brazilian Anthropology* (www.vibrant.org.br) 1 (1-2), 2004: 1-21.

### **Week thirteen (April 28): Review**

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