

FORMATO DE PROGRAMA DE THE COLOMBIAN PACIFIC REGION: HISTORY AND CULTURE

1. IDENTIFICATION:

NAME:	The Colombian Pacific Region: History and Culture		CODE:		
COLLEGE / DEPARTMENT:	College of Humanities and Arts. Department of Humanities.		AVAILABLE TO:		
CARÁCTER DE LA ASIGNATURA:	Elective		CREDITS:	3	
VALIDABLE:	SÍ	NO	HOMOLOGABLE:	SÍ	NO
	X			X	
HABILITABLE:		X			
PRE-REQUIREMENTS:	Ninguno				

2. PRESENTATION:

This course presents an overview of the social, cultural, and political history of black communities in the Colombian Pacific Region. Combining approaches from anthropology, sociology and history, it tackles questions concerning race, culture, and racialization; collective identities; territory, migration and urbanization; and human rights from a racial perspective.

The four units that structure this course deal with a series of historical and contemporary problems affecting afro-Colombians in the Pacific region. They also show how they have historically managed to navigate and overcome such issues through a series of social, civic, political, and cultural strategies. After a brief introduction to the problems and concepts that the course tackles, Units 2, 3, and 4 reconstruct the social and environmental making of the Colombian Pacific, explore some of the most important struggles for freedom, autonomy, and recognition in the region, and address a series of contemporary conflicts and struggles that have shaped the trajectories of afro-Colombian communities in the Pacific. By the end of Unit 4, students will be able to critically reflect on the multiple ways in which afro-Colombians in the region contest exclusion and discrimination and manage to both challenge their present and re-imagine their future.

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<i>Elaborado por: Adrián Alzate</i>		
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3. COMPETENCES:

- Applying critical thinking skills to the practice of an active and democratic citizenship within contexts of diversity, pluralism, and interculturalism.
- Creating digital contexts with a critical sense, to exchange and transform them within glocal contexts.

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Characterizing some of the major social, cultural, and environmental processes and conflicts that have historically shaped afro-Colombian territories and communities in the Colombian Pacific.
- Reflecting critically on the historical challenges that afro-Colombians have faced to gain visibility and recognition in the social, cultural, and political context of both the Colombian nation and the Pacific region.
- Analyzing current and contemporary experiences of mobilization, resistance and civic engagement through which afro-Colombians aim to challenge racism, exclusion, violence, and de-territorialization both in Colombia and the Pacific region.

5. CONTENTS:

UNIT 1. Introduction: Tackling Blackness, Race, and Racism in Colombia and Latin America

Unit 1 offers a brief introduction to some of the major problems and concepts this course addresses. Students will get in touch with notions such as "Race", "Ethnicity", "Racism", and "Territory". They will also learn about different ways and perspectives to study race and racial issues both in Colombia and Latin America.

-Week 1 (Jan 23-27): Presentation and basic concepts: Territory, Race, Ethnicity, Racism
***No reading**

-Week 2 (Jan 30-Feb 3): Studying and problematizing Afro-Latin America
***Reading:** Reiter, Berdn and John A. Sánchez (eds). *Routledge Handbook of Afro-Latin American Studies*. New York: Routledge, 2022. (Selection)

-Week 3 (Feb 6-10): Race, racism, and discourse in Colombia
***Reading:** Soler Castillo, Sandra and Neyla G. Pardo. "Discourse and Racism in Colombia: Five Centuries of Invisibility and Exclusion". In *Racism and Discourse in Latin America*, edited by Teun Van Dijk. New York: Rowan and Littlefield, 2009.

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UNIT 2. The social, cultural, and environmental making of the Colombian Pacific

Unit 2 gives students an overview of the social, political, cultural, and environmental making of the Colombian Pacific Region. This section deals with historical and contemporary problems including migration, violence, social and environmental change, urbanization, and urban poverty.

-Week 4 (Feb 13-17): The Colombian Pacific: an introduction

***Reading:** Wade, Peter. "Introduction: The Colombian Pacific in Perspective". *The Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 8(2): 2-33, 2002.

-Week 5 (Feb 20-24): The Pacific Coast: a social and environmental history

***Reading:** Leal, Claudia and Sean Van Ausdal. *Landscapes of Freedom and Inequality: Environmental Histories of the Pacific and Caribbean Coasts of Colombia*. Working Paper 58. Berlin: Desigualdades.net, 2013.

-Week 6 (Feb 27-Mar 3): Race and racialized urban spaces: the case of Cali

***Reading:** Alves, Jaime Amparo. "Refusing to Be Governed: Urban Policing, Gang Violence, and the Politics of Evilness in an Afro-Colombian Shantytown". *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 42 (1): 21-36, 2019.

**First assignment due by the end of week 6 (March 3)*

UNIT 3. From Freedom to Recognition: Experiences of Resistance

Unit 3 explores historical and contemporary experiences of resistance and social/civic mobilization within afro-Colombian communities in the Pacific region. Students will have the opportunity to learn about how, in different times and contexts, afro-Colombians have struggled to gain visibility as political actors and claim recognition and autonomy as part of an ethnic group.

-Week 7 (Mar 6-10): Freedom, property, and autonomy in the Early Republic

***Reading:** Sanders, James. "'Citizens of a Free People': Popular Liberalism and Race in Nineteenth-Century Southwestern Colombia". *Hispanic American Historical Review* 84 (2): 277-313.

-Week 8 (Mar 13-17): The challenges of inclusion

***Reading:** Arocha, Jaime. "Inclusion of Afro-Colombians: Unreachable National Goal?" *Latin American Perspectives* 25 (3): 70-89, 1998.

-Week 9 (Mar 21-24): Paving the way for Law 70 of 1993

***Reading:** Asher, Kiran. "A Retrospective Look at the Winding Paths to Legalizing Afro-Colombian Rights in Law 70 of 1993". *Revista de Estudios Colombianos* 47: 67-77, 2016.

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-Week 10 (Mar 27-31): The struggles for land, territory, and territorial rights in the Colombian Pacific
***Reading:** Bratspies, Rebecca. "Territory is Everything": Afro-Colombian Communities, Human Rights and Illegal Land Grabs". *HRLR Online* 4, 2020.

-Week 11 (Apr 10-14): Race, ethnicity, "blackness", and recognition under the "multicultural" paradigm
***Reading:** Restrepo, Eduardo. "Talks and disputes of racism in Colombia after multiculturalism" *Cultural Studies* 32 (3): 460-476, 2018.

**Second assignment due by the end of week 11 (April 14)*

UNIT 4.

Unit 4, finally, explores a series of contemporary conflicts and struggles that have shaped the trajectories of afro-Colombian communities in the Pacific Region. These conflicts reflect a wide series of concerns including identity, arts and culture, gender, environmentalism and sustainability, de-territorialization, violence, peacebuilding, and life itself.

-Week 12 (Apr 17-21): Culture and identity politics in afro-Colombian communities from the Pacific Coast
***Readings:** Option 1: Wade, Peter and K. Yelvington. "Understanding 'Africa' and 'blackness' in Colombia: Music and the Politics of Culture", 2006. Option 2: Wade, Peter. "The Cultural Politics of Blackness in Colombia". *American Ethnologist* 22 (2): 341-357, 1995.

-Week 13 (Apr 24-28): Resistance and recognition through arts and folklore
***Reading:** Marín, Paola and Gastón Alzate. "Ethical and political implications of 'performance' in a rural cultural practice: Afro-colombian women singers from the town of Pogue". *Tiyatro Eleştirmenliği ve Dramaturji Bölümü Dergisi* 32, (2021): 1-22.

-Week 14 (May 2-5): Black women's activism in the Pacific Region
***Reading:** Asher, Kiran. "Ser Y Tener: Black Women's Activism, Development, and Ethnicity in the Pacific Lowlands of Colombia". *Feminist Studies* 33, no. 1: 11-37, 2007.

-Week 15 (May 8-12): Victimization, resilience and peacebuilding in the Pacific
***Reading:** Davis, Lisa. "Afro-Colombian Voices in the Colombian Peace Process: How a Group of Afro-Colombian Women's Rights Activists and New York Law Professors Came Together to Raise Awareness". *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* 4.2 (247), 2020.

-Week 16 (May 15-19): Between the "Buen vivir" and the "vivir sabroso": Contesting western models of life and development in indigenous and afro-Colombian communities.
***Reading:** TBD

**Final (3^d) assignment due by the end of week 16 (May 19)*

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6. METHODOLOGY:

This is an in-person class. Students are expected to attend every session and prepare their readings beforehand. They are also expected to actively participate in class discussions. The course draws on active and participatory pedagogies, which implies that the professor will only be a guide and a moderator.

Regular class sessions involve a series of pedagogical tools and strategies including discussions and debates, in-class workshops, online questionnaires, interactive digital resources, collaborative documents, and audio and video pieces. In-class assignments will be graded and will account for 25% of the final grade. In addition, there will be at least one field trip throughout the semester.

Students will have to turn in three major assignments. Each assignment represents 25% of the final grade. Due dates are indicated above. They include:

Assignment 1 (Units 1 and 2). Students will design a digital, interactive cartography of the Pacific Region that traces and describes some of the social, cultural, and environmental processes and conflicts explored in Unit 2.

Assignment 2 (Unit 3). Students will make either a video-presentation or a podcast presenting their own arguments and reflections on how afro-Colombian communities in the Pacific region have responded to historical conditions of racism, exclusion and invisibilization.

Assignment 3 (Unit 4). Students will design an artistic piece (or an artistic performance) representing and reflecting on a contemporary experience of resistance to racism, exclusion, violence, and de-territorialization in the Pacific region.

7. ASSESSMENT:

Actividad	% of final grade	Units	Due dates
In-class assignments	25	1 - 4	Throughout the semester
Assignment 1	25	1 and 2	Week 6
Assignment 2	25	3	Week 11
Assignment 3	25	4	Week 16

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8. ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Almarío, Oscar. "El Pacífico, el Caribe y el país colombiano", en: Roberto Burgos Cantor. *Rutas de libertad :500 años de travesía*. Bogotá. Ministerio de cultura-Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2010., PP. 236-272.
- Arboleda, Santiago. Conocimientos ancestrales amenazados y destierro prorrogado: la encrucijada de los afrocolombianos. En: Mosquera Rosero-Labbé, Claudia Luiz Claudio Barcelos. Afro-reparaciones: Memorias de la Esclavitud y Justicia Reparativa para negros, afrocolombianos y raizales / eds. – Bogotá: Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Centro de Estudios Sociales (CES), 2007. PP. 467-286
- Aprile-Gnisset, Jacques. Notas sobre la trayectoria del poblamiento del Pacífico, ____ (S.F), PP. 1-12.
- Caicedo, J. A. (2008). Diáspora africana. Claves para comprender las trayectorias afro descendientes. En A. A. Rojas, *Cátedra de estudios afro colombianos. Aporte para maestros* (págs. 82-97). Popayá: Editorial de la Universidad del Cauca.
- Erazo Gómez, Alejandra. La ley 70 de 1993 y la participación política de las comunidades negras. Universidad Icesi, Cali-Colombia, En: *Traspasando fronteras*, Núm. 2, pp31-45, 2012
- Estrada, Víctor Mario. La importancia geopolítica del Pacífico. En: *Revista Pacífico Sur*, N° 2 Diciembre 2003 a Marzo 2004, PP. 28-32.
- Friedemann, Nina S de. "Los códigos del sol" en: *De sol a sol: génesis, transformación y presencia de los negros en Colombia*. Planeta colombiana Editorial. 1986, PP. 15-47
- Friedemann, Nina S de. "Ríos de oro". En: *De sol a sol: génesis, transformación y presencia de los negros en Colombia*. Planeta colombiana Editorial. 1986, PP. 231-240; 270-299
- Maya, Adriana. Demografía de la Trata por Cartagena 1533-1810. En: Adriana Maya (Ed.) *Geografía Humana de Colombia. Los Afrocolombianos*. Instituto Colombiano de Cultura Hispánica, Santa Fe de Bogotá, 1998, PP. 9-53
- Ministerio de Educación Nacional. *Africa en Colombia*, (2013) ,en Colombia aprende <https://www.yumpu.com/es/document/view/13436201/africa-en-colombia-1-colombia-aprende>
- Vanin, A (2001). Violencia, lenguaje y ritos de muerte en el litoral Pacífico colombiano en la encrucijada de dos siglos. II Encuentro para la promoción y difusión del patrimonio colorístico de los países andinos. Influencias Africanas en las culturas tradicionales andinas. Memorias. Santa Ana de Coro (Venezuela). Noviembre.
- Villa, William. "La gesta territorial de los afrodescendientes en el Pacífico", en: Roberto Burgos Cantor. *Rutas de libertad 500 años de travesía*. Bogotá. Ministerio de cultura-Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2010. 256-272.
- Zuluaga, Francisco. "El Palenque de El Castigo"; "Las guerrillas patinas del siglo XIX" En: *Guerrilla en el Patía: una relación entre clientelismo político y la insurgencia social*. Universidad del Valle, Cali, 1993.

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