DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE



SPAN 7650: Musical Migrations and Latin American Identities

Dr. Michelle Wibbelsman

Autumn 2021 Semester - Wednesdays 2:30-5:15 PM Caldwell Lab 183 (In-Person Modality)

This course delves into an understanding of Latin American identities from the unique perspective of musical expression, exchange, and migration. This point of entry presents a different vantage point and also alternative methods of analysis for approaching Latin American identities "on the move." In doing so, it elicits a nuanced discussion of theories of migration, globalization, diaspora, transnationalism, locality, displacement, identity, and border studies, and places the insights we gain from these perspectives at the intersection of global and local music making and cultural consumption. The course is organized as a series of short lectures that introduce topics and prompt discussion, class discussion, and student projects and presentations. The course includes 30% content on Brazilian music and identities.

The course will be taught in Spanish or English depending on the makeup of the class. Papers will be accepted in English, Spanish or Portuguese. Students may choose to focus their final course projects on a cultural area of their interest in comparative perspective to Latin America and/or in dialogue with course content.