Until quite recently, few thinkers or writers have employed the term Afro-Latin America to reference peoples or populations who descended from Africans. Though this population has been in existence since the initial arrival of Europeans in the late fifteenth-century, colonial officials, missionaries, conquerors and elites generally employed terms like esclavo/escravo (slave) to identify legal and, secondarily, racial status. From this emerged a proliferation of terms that served to categorize, if not regulate, the various peoples of African descent. Afro-Latin American as a term, however, did not exist prior to the 20th century and if used, it was sparingly mobilized. For this reason, a course entitled: Afro-Latin America both represents an engagement with the present, and constitutes a provocation.

Rather than normativizing this provocation, this course engages it head on by asking and exploring how, when and why the term Afro-Latin America emerged and with it the study of that field of experience.

**Books Being Considered:**


