Brazilian Culture Through Music

**Director:** Clélia F. Donovan, UCB Department of Spanish & Portuguese  
**Coordination:** Clara Ramos, ACBEU Coordinator of Portuguese and Culture Program  
**Professor:**  
**GSI:**

**Objective:** This course will offer a comprehensive examination into Brazilian cultural history through the prism of popular music, one of Brazil’s most accomplished fields of artistic production. Brazil’s self-definition has been elaborated through the production and consumption of popular music. No other field of cultural production has had quite the same universal appeal among Brazilians, nor reached the same degree of international acclaim. The study of popular music is particularly useful for understanding Brazilian social and cultural history. In this course, students will be introduced to some formal aspects of Brazilian music and well as acquire extensive knowledge of its history during the past one hundred years. Genres and cultural phenomena to be covered include: samba, choro, bossa nova, protest music, Tropicália, as well as regional forms such as forró and xaxado, and international musics appropriated in Brazil such as rock, reggae, and rap. The study of music will provide the basis for the exploration of issues such as nationalism, regionalism, authoritarianism, and globalization.

**Structure:** The course is divided into 12 topics of Brazilian music. Classes will meet 3 times per week, and students will meet weekly with the GSI for a discussion session. Additionally, there will be guest lectures, cultural activities as well as concerts. There will also be two field trips.

**Requirements and Grades:**
- Attend all class sessions and activities, and do all required reading. The **fourth and subsequent unexcused absences** from lectures and activities will be tallied as grade-lowering absences. Each grade lowering absence will reduce the student’s final grade by one third, for example A= A-, A- => B+, etc.
- Discussion session: Attend the required sessions on a weekly basis and bring questions and critical comments to be discussed in section.
- Midterm and final exams.
- Four 3-page papers. The papers should critically discuss a topic based on the readings to be drawn from the reader or other academic sources. Paper dues dates: see calendar.
- Late papers will be penalized by one-third of a grade per day.
- The final grade will be calculated as follows:  
  - Active participation in discussion section: 20%
  - Papers: 10% each  
  - Midterm: 20%  
  - Final: 20%

Please note: Arriving more than **10 minutes** late to class or other activity will be considered an absence for the student.
COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 19 – Arrival

Thursday, June 20, 9am – Orientation with Prof. Clara Ramos and Prof. Clélia Donovan. Welcome Lunch with Host Families at Sol Vitória Marina Hotel.

Friday, June 21 – City Tour and Dinner at Boi Preto Churrascaria. Meet at ACBEU Patio Panoramic city tour: guided visit to main points of interest in Salvador with Fred Bomsucesso.

Tuesday, June 25, 2pm – Historical Overview

Required: Chris McGowen and Ricardo Pessanha. The Brazilian Sound; Caetano Veloso, "Carmen Mirandadada" in Brazilian Popular Music and Globalization
Portuguese section: Marcos Napolitano, "A invenção da música popular brasileira: um campo de reflexão para a história social"; José Miguel Wisnik, "A gaia ciência: literatura e música popular no Brasil"

Wednesday, June 26 – Roots and Routes of Brazilian Popular Music
7pm - Meet at ACBEU Patio for a Cultural Activity

Required: Peter Fryer. Rhythms of Resistance (Introduction, chapters 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8)
Portuguese Section: Muniz Sodré, Samba, o dono do corpo; Claudia Neiva de Matos, "O malandro no samba"
Featured artist: Pixinguinha

Thursday, June 27 – Samba, Modernism, and National Self-Fashioning
Required: Hermano Vianna. The Mystery of Samba; Bryan McCann, "The Nationalist Logic of Noel Rosa"
Portuguese section: Mario de Andrade, selections from Ensaio sobre a música brasileira; José Miguel Wisnik, "Nacionalismo musical"; Affonso Romano de Sant'anna, "As origens do samba, Noel Rosa e o modernismo" and "Ufanismo de Ari Barroso e o Verde-amarelismo de Cassiano Ricardo"
Featured artist: Noel Rosa

Friday, June 28 – Meet at ACBEU Patio for a Cultural Activity at
Afro-Brazilian dance with prof. Roberto Mesquita.

Monday, July 1 – Discussion with GSI.

Tuesday, July 2 – Holiday (Bahia’s Independence Day)

Wednesday, July 3 – Samba and Beyond
Required: Alma Guillermo Prieto. Samba
Portuguese section: Antonio Risério, Caymmi: Uma utopia de lugar
Featured artists: Dorival Caymmi and Luiz Gonzaga
Thursday, July 4 – The Finished Product: Bossa Nova
Required: Ruy Castro. Bossa Nova (1-158)
Portuguese section: José Ramos Tinhoro, Música popular: um tema em debate (9-87);
Selections from Augusto Campos, Balanço da bossa (17-125)
Featured artist: Clementina de Jesus

Friday, July 5 – Discussion with GSI – Cultural Activity: Visit Bagunçaço NGO

Monday, July 8 – Guest Lecture
Paper 1 Due

Tuesday, July 9 – From Bossa Nova to MPB
Required: Ruy Castro. Bossa Nova (159-335); David Treece: "Guns and Roses: bossa nova and Brazil’s music of popular protest, 1958-68"
Featured artist: Paulinho da Viola

Wednesday, July 10 – The Tropicalist Moment
Required: Christopher Dunn. Brutality Garden (chapters 1-4); Roberto Schwarz: “Culture and Politics in Brazil, 1964-69"
Portuguese: Campos, Balanço da bossa (141-207); Caetano Veloso, Verdade Tropical, "Antropofagia"
Featured artist: Tom Zé

Thursday, July 11 – Beyond Tropicália: The Brazilian Counterculture
Required: Christopher Dunn, Brutality Garden (chapters 5-6), Charles Perrone, Masters of Contemporary Brazilian Song (47-128)
Portuguese section: Silviano Santiago, "Caetano Veloso enquanto superastro" and "Bom Conselho"; Affonso Romano de Sant’anna, "Curtição e esoterismo na marginalidade"; Jorge Mautner, "Cultura negra sem fronteiras"
Featured artist: Jorge Ben

Friday, July 12 – Discussion with GSI

Saturday, July 13 – Trip to Morro de São Paulo

Monday, July 15 – Guest Lecture

Tuesday, July 16 – MPB and the Tradition of Samba: Chico Buarque and João Bosco
Required: Charles Perrone. Masters of Contemporary Brazilian Song (1-44, 165-216)
Portuguese: Interviews with Chico Buarque (1970 & 1974); Jorge Mautner, “Chico Buarque e Jorge Ben” and “Chico, símbolo e herói”; José Miguel Wisnik, “O minuto e o milênio ou Por favor, professor, uma década de cada vez”
Featured artist: Raul Seixas
Wednesday, July 17 – Minas, Milton, Metal, and Memory
Required: Charles Perrone. Masters of Contemporary Brazilian Song (130-62); Brazilian Popular Music and Globalization (chapter 7); Martha Ulhoa, "Canção da America: style and emotion in Brazilian popular song"
Portuguese Section: Marcio Borges, Os sonhos não envelhecem (155-270)
Featured artist: Elis Regina

Thursday, July 18 – Midterm Exam
Paper 2 Due

Friday, July 19 – Guest Lecture
7:30pm - Balé Folclórico da Bahia: Afro-Brazilian Dance Group
Meet at Teatro Miguel Santana Rua Gregório de Matos, 49 – Pelourinho.
For information on this dance group, visit: http://balefolcloricodabahia.com.br

Saturday-Sunday, July 20-21 – Field Trip to Praia do Forte

Monday, July 22 – Discussion

Tuesday, July 23 – Cultural Activity
Visit a Candomblé Terreiro, Ilê Ayé Opô Afonjá, with Prof. Fred. Meet at ACBEU Patio.

Wednesday, July 24 – Afro-Bahia and the Diasporic Imagination
Required: Brazilian Popular Music and Globalization (chapters 9, 10, 11, 13)
Portuguese Section: Selections from Antonio Risério, Carnaval Ijexá; Goli Guerreiro, "Um mapa em preto e branco da música na Bahia"
Featured group: Ilê Aiyé
Paper 3 Due

Thursday, July 25 – Contemporary Trends: Funk, Hip-Hop, and Mangue Beat
Perrone and Dunn. Brazilian Popular Music and Globalization (Chapters 8, 14, 16); George Yûdice, "The Funkification of Rio"; Cristina Magaldi, "Adopting Imports: new images and alliances in Brazilian popular music of the 1990s"
Portuguese: Interview with Mano Brown in Caros Amigos
Featured group: Chico Science e Nação Zumbi

Friday, July 26 – Guest Speaker

Monday, July 29 – Paper 4 due and Final exam

Tuesday, July 30 – Farewell dinner