Syllabus
This course will discuss transformations in Brazilian society from colonial times to the present, with an emphasis on the period of 1808 to 1954. It will cover the Independence, the Empire, end of slavery, beginning of a Republican system, the Vargas Era, ending with a discussion of the transition from the military in power to the Lula Era. We will focus on such topics as modernization, social protests, popular culture, nation building and changes in the politics of social dominance, exploring the creation of the most populous and industrialized country in Latin America.

Week 1: Colonial times: a general view
1) Gilberto Freyre, *The mansions and the shanties* (NY:Knopf, 1963), chapters I and II. (pp. 3-56).

Week 2: Colonial economy, politics and society
5) Skidmore, *Brazil, five centuries of change*, chapter 2, p.29-42.

Week 3: Independence and Nation

Week 4: To be a slave in Brazil

Week 5: Private Life
Week 6: Tropical Belle Époque (race, politics, slave revolts)

Week 7: End of Empire/ Republic

Week 8: Worlds of Work and Workers

Week 9: From “República Velha” (“Old Republic”) to Populism
20) Levine, Vale of Tears: Revisiting the Canudos Massacre in Northeastern Brazil, 1893-1897 (University of CA Press, 1992), chapter 1, pp.11-65.

Week 10: From the military dictatorship to Lula’s government: a general view.
Suggested reading: Skidmore, Brazil, five centuries of change, chapters 7 and 8;

EVALUATION:
1) Analysis of one of the following books: (1/3 of total grade).
   II) Graham, Sandra Lauderdale, Caetana Says No: women’s stories from a Brazilian slave society. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002

2) Mid-term exam: week 6 (1/3 of total grade)

3) Final exam: December 10th - 14th. (1/3 of total grade)

4) For extra credit: oral presentation (up to 15 minutes) highlighting the main arguments of the week’s texts. (Discuss during office hours before presentation).