COURSE GOALS:
This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of women as significant actors in Latin American cultures. It will pay particular attention to the representation of Latin American women as depicted by the women themselves. Class materials will be drawn from a wide variety of sources such as fiction and poetry; personal documents such as autobiographies, life histories and personal testimonies as well as social science studies. Oral presentations and use of the Internet are required.

GRADING POLICY:
Students earn grades based on the following formula:
- Book review 1 = 20%
- Book review 2 = 20%
- Class attendance and discussion = 20%
- Final Examination = 20%
- Working Group Class Presentation = 20%

Please note that grades are not negotiable. I will be glad, however, to review any graded work to analyze how a student’s performance could be improved.

BOOK REVIEWS:
Students are required to write critical book reviews of Benedita da Silva: An Afro-Brazilian Women’s Story of Politics and Love and Caramba! A Tale Told in the Turns of the Card. The reviews are to be 3-4 pages typed, double-spaced, pages stapled and a cover page included. Publications such as the Sunday book review section of the New York Times or the New York Review of Books are examples (usually) of well-written book critiques. Most professional journals in the humanities and the social sciences also contain such reviews. Reviews are to be written to analyze the book not merely summarize it. Students are encouraged to give their own opinions and bolster them with well-founded arguments. No e-mail papers are accepted.

CLASS PARTICIPATION and CLASS DISCUSSION:
Class participation implies on time class attendance at all classes and an active engagement in class discussions. All students are encouraged to participate in class discussions by asking questions and offering comments on course material. Students are also asked to watch for media reports that may appear or museum exhibits, artistic performances, lectures, films, etc. pertaining to Latin American women that may take place in South Florida this fall.

FINAL EXAMINATION:
The final examination will be essay and cover all class materials up to the date of the examination. A selection of questions will be offered.

WORKING GROUP CLASS PRESENTATION:
Students will work in groups investigating a particular theme related to this course and present their work in a half-hour presentation to the class. Guidelines for working groups are available on dept. website. www.fiu.edu/~socant.
LATE and/or MISSED ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS:
Late assignments will lose one letter grade with each class period the assignments are late. Missed assignments or absence from the final examination or working group presentation will earn a 0 and be averaged into the calculations for the final grade. The only exceptions to these rules are religious holidays and medical emergencies (physician's note required).

REQUIRED BOOKS:
The following books constitute the required reading for this course.

(1) Allende, Isabel
(2) da Silva, Benedita as told to Medea Benjamin and Maisa Mendonca.
(3) Martinez, Nina Marie
(4) Tupac, Diana Miloslavich, ed.
(5) Reader of articles I have assembled. Available from Ms. LaMarre, at Dept. of SOC/ANT. DM, 3rd Fl. at cost, cash only.

Class Schedule and due dates.
Aug. 28: Syllabus and select working groups.
Aug.30: Overview and methodology.
Sept. 4: No Class, Labor Day.
Sept.6: Historical underpinnings: Miller, Martin 1
Sept. 11: Historical underpinnings: Cross & Gray
Sept.13: Women and Ethnicity: Martin 2
Sept.18: Women and Socio-economic class: Naranjo, Hondagneu-Sotelo, Brennan
Sept.25: Women and faith: McAdams; Ferre; Menchu; Castillo; Cadena & Medina
Sept.27: Women and men: Guttman, Cabezas, 1 & 2 Zamora, Lynch, Sor. Juana
Oct. 2: Lesbians: Torres, Klein
Oct. 4: Women and violence: The Femicides; Nelson, 1 & 2 Peterson, No author, Lozano, Peralta
Oct. 9: Women in politics: Kampwirth, Martin 3
Oct.11: Discussion of Tupac's The Autobiography of Maria Elena Moyano.
Oct.16: Indigenous Women
Oct.18: Women in the arts: writers: Alegria, Zamora 3
Oct. 25: Women in the arts: painters
Oct. 30: Sex and sexuality: Montoya, Lamas
Nov. 1: Crossing Borders: Latinas in the USA.: Alvarez, Hernandez, Cisneros
Nov. 6: Book Review of Caramba! A Tale Told in the Turns of the Card due, class discussion.
Nov. 8: Special presentation by Dr. Martin.
Nov. 13: Working Group workshop; Dusan Urgina.
Nov. 15: Film about Sr. Juana, “I the worst of all”; Dusan Urgina. Andre
Nov. 20: Film con’t. Dusan Urgina.
Nov. 22: No class for this course.
Nov. 27: Feminism in Latin American: Stoner; Jaquette, Navarro and de Silva.
Nov. 29: Working Group Presentations.
Dec. 4: Working Group Presentations.
Dec. 6: Class’s class. We decide.
Dec.11: Final Examination, 12:30PM in classroom
GUIDELINES for WORKING GROUPS for CLASS PRESENTATIONS

GOAL: To produce a class presentation of 30 minutes on a pre-selected topic with all working group members contributing. Each member of the working group earns the same grade.

CONTENT of PRESENTATION: (a.) Explain what your topic is and why it is important. (b.) Analyze the topic critically including any debate concerning it. (c.) Remember to include at least two different Latin American cultures as examples. (d.) Summarize and conclude. Please note that a hard copy bibliography of sources employed in the presentation and a list of the participating students with their signatures are required the day of the presentation.

ADVICE for WORKING GROUPS: Respect for all working group members and their opinions should be the basis of the conduct of the group.

A consensus model of decision-making is likely to be the most successful. Learn to listen, encourage quieter group members to participate and don’t allow one or two people to dominate.

Try to delegate tasks based on group members’ interests, abilities and expertise.

Remember to cooperate and solve your own group issues within the group should any arise. If a problem within the group proves irresolvable, I will make an intervention.

MOTIVATION: Remember the working group presentation represents 33 1/3% of your final grade and that all working group members will earn the same grade. Also remember that each class member selected her or his own working group.

Please remember in use relevant sources for information, including non-web based sources, i.e. professional journals and books.

Please remember that requests for special equipment (portable computer, projectors, etc.) need to be made through me. I would need the name and panther number of the student who will be obtaining the equipment from the Media Equipment Office in the Greene Library. I will then forward students’ requests to the ME Office. Please make these requests one week in advance of the date for which the equipment is needed.