

Spring 2015

HIST 585-003: Special Topics in History:

Topic: Nations and Identities

Instructor	Day(s)	Time(s)	Maximum Enrollment
Lesser & Teixeira	TU	1:00 – 4:00 pm	18

Semester Description:

This graduate seminar focuses on a comparative study of Lusophone Africa, Brazil, and Portugal, from the end of World War II to today. By focusing on the so-called Afro-Luso-Brazilian triangle we will explore the multidirectional exchanges of people, memories, ideas and goods in these three continents. Selected literary, cultural, historical, anthropological and religious texts, along with films and music, will serve as vehicles for analysis of major political and social shifts that have affected the landscape of the contemporary Portuguese-speaking world and beyond: from Brazil's military dictatorship to its transition to democracy; from Portugal's New State to membership in the European Union; and from the wars of independence in Africa to the formation of newly independent nations. We will examine a variety of topics relating to memory, trauma and war including the formation of national, local and individual identities, gender and family dynamics, generational change, rural and urban relationships, migration and diaspora, and race and ethnic relations.

Required Textbooks, Articles, and Resources:

TBA.

Grading:

TBA