La invención de la imagen del indio desde la mirada occidental

The Invention of the Indian American Image: Bodies and Spaces from the Western View

COURSE TAUGHT IN SPANISH

This course will examine the role of visual images in transmitting and constructing social representations, particularly of the native “Latin Americans” or the original population of the Americas. We will analyze how this population has been portrayed in paintings, engravings, photographs, and film since the sixteenth century and beyond, within their “natural environment” and with the intent of defining them as the “tamable” other. Since the first contact between the Europeans and the Native Americans, to the establishment of anthropology as a modern discipline, the “civilized” European generated a variety of resources to represent the “other” (infidels, savages, Indians) who were the object of inquiry, study, and domination.

We will begin our analysis by reviewing images produced during the Discovery of the Americas and the first contact between the Europeans and the Native Americans—sketchbooks, prints, maps—marked by the medieval imagination. Then we will move on to analyze the scientific representations of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries that emerged from fieldwork research shown in prints, paintings, and photographs as media. We will also delve into the ideas of privilege and stereotypes built throughout these centuries and their survival in the present cinematic discourse.

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María Alba Bovisio holds a PhD in the History and Theory of Art from the University of Buenos (UBA). Her doctoral thesis, entitled From Images and Mysteries: The Problem of the Interpretation of “Pre-Hispanic” Art is a theoretical and methodological reflection of pre-Hispanic art from an anthropological and cultural-historical perspective. Since 1990 she has taught undergraduate and graduate classes on Art and Latin American Culture in the Department of Pre-Columbian Art History of the UBA. She is also a full professor of Amerindian Pre-Hispanic Art for the Art History MA Program of the Institute of Social Studies, National University of San Martin, as well as a full professor of Pre-Hispanic and Latin American Art at the University of Palermo. Since 2007 she has also served as a regular faculty member for UGA en Buenos Aires, teaching art and film courses. Currently she is the director of the research project Living Pre-Hispanic Images, funded by the Office of Science and Technology of the UBA. She has developed several research projects as a scholar at the Argentine national research institution CONICET and UBACYT (Office of Science and Technology of the University of Buenos Aires). She has published the results of her research in numerous articles and presented papers in national and international congress on Amerindian and Latin American art, Argentine folk art and crafts, the relationship between folk art, pre-hispanic and contemporary Latin American and issues related to the Study of Latin American art. She is the author of Algo más sobre una vieja cuestión: Arte vs. Artesanía (2002) (Something Else about an Old Question: Art vs. Craft?) for which she obtained the Second Prize of the Telephonic Research Award in the History of Plastic Arts; Arte indígena: categorías, prácticas, objetos (2010) (Indigenous Art: Categories, Practices, Objects; co-authored and co-edited with Marta Penhos); and Arte Indígena en Tiempos del Bicentenario (2011) (Indigenous Art in the Times of the Bicentennial, co-authored with Juan Carlos Radovich).

2:00 - 4:45 daily
SPAN 4120/6120 (CALL 54616/74617)
Maymester 2013

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This course is made possible through the Summer 2013 FRANKLIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM (FISP)

The purpose of the Franklin International Scholars Program is to move beyond traditional paradigms of student study abroad and pursue substantive faculty collaborations with partner institutions throughout the world. In this sense Franklin College shares the mission of UGA's Office of International Education, and FISP is a key element of that mission. Since teaching and research are indissolubly linked, participants in the Franklin International Scholars Program will always be expected to teach as well as to conduct research. Teaching a class will allow international scholars to rehearse their research agendas before an enthusiastic and critical audience of UGA students. As a means of promoting interdisciplinary, when possible the international scholars will teach split-level graduate/undergraduate classes, or cross-listed courses at either level.

Support for FISP in 2013 has been provided by:
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