H234 29808 - Literature of Time and Place

Topic: Brazil Imagined
Professor Darlene Sadlier
TuTh 4:00-6:30pm
HU 217

Course Description:
Taught in English, this course will survey issues specific to the history, politics, and culture of Brazil with emphasis to the period after the founding of the Republic (1889) to present day. The course is interdisciplinary and cross-cultural and will provide students with a comprehensive view of the largest country in South America. Among the topics to be addressed in the course are: cannibalism, Brazilian identity and the nation; the sertão (backlands), messianism, modernity and artistic and literary modernism; Getúlio Vargas and the “Estado Novo” (New State dictatorship); Good Neighbor Brazil and WWII, Brasília as modernist frontier; the telenovela (soap opera) and New Cinema movement; the military dictatorship and post-dictatorial Brazil; dystopian cinema; and immigration. In addition to readings, students will be required to view an occasional film. They will write mid-term and final exams and a short paper, which will be the basis for a formal oral presentation in class.