TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES
HISP 646: Minority (dis)courses: Constructing Blackness in Hispanic-American and Afro-Hispanic (con)Texts

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Built mostly upon history, cultural anthropology, sociological criticism, post colonialism and literary criticism discourses, this course is an interdisciplinary endeavor that examines the dynamics of identity construction of the black subject and its relations to issues of race, gender, sexuality, religion and class in Hispanic-American and Afro-Hispanic texts both in the Americas and Africa. We explore the racial politics of State and the evolution of racial constraints as seen through history, culture, literary work, Spanish chronicles legal and religious documents, and visual documents. The course focuses on how the Hispanic African/ Diaspora bodies are constructed and categorized within specific cultural and political contexts by colonial and postcolonial authorities and writers. We study how the “so-called” black subaltern subjects deconstruct and destabilized the colonial and postcolonial orders in their quest for freedom, equality and power. In the context of the Americas we also put an emphasis on the historical encounter between blacks and Indians whose (horizontal/inter-minority) relationship helps to understand the complexity of blackness in Hispanic America. The study of Equatoguinean experience gives a new dimension to the orthodoxy of Hispanism and allows for a transatlantic (south-south) dialogue between Afro-Hispanic identity in the Americas and Africa.

N.B: *The class will be delivered in English and can also count toward the graduate certificate in Africana Studies and Latino/a and Mexican American Studies.
*Advanced undergraduate students can also register for the course.