Premise:
This course will examine the ways by which Latin American architectures (both north and south of the US/Mexico border) have come to be seen within the architectural canon. Until recently and with the exception of Pre-Columbian art and architecture, there has been little scholarly investigation of the topic within the field of architecture particularly as it relates to the contemporary city.

Given recent population trends within the United States, this oversight in architectural scholarship limits our abilities to address a growing and significant portion of the public at large. Therefore, this class will cover a vast geographic and temporal landscape in an effort to ground a critical dialog focused upon the role of Latina/o cultural identities in architecture and urbanism. Due to the nature of the scope of this course, the material covered will not be organized as a traditional historical survey. Rather, this course will examine various forms of Latina/o architectures from a post-colonial perspective rooted in the present via a set of themes that reach back over time.

Objectives: To provide students with an ability to appreciate, interpret, and understand Latina/o cultural landscapes both past and present.

Content: This course will cover pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial contexts in Latin American architecture and urbanism in a thematic format bridging cultural, historical and theoretical discourses.

Method: This course is organized as a seminar and, therefore, student participation is required both with regard to background reading and research as well as in class analysis, discussion, presentations. In this sense, the course will not follow a lecture format; rather, we will work through issues, themes, and texts collectively in each class session.

Attendance & Evaluation: The class will meet once a week and it is crucial that each student attend each class and that each student participate fully. Missing a class or failing to read a set of weekly readings will have a detrimental impact upon your performance in the class. We will work on a collective research project, which will be made up of individual research contributions. This project will be described in detail during the first class session. Grading--Group Presentation & Notes: 30%; Individual Research Project (Drafts & Final Paper): 50%; Class Participation: 20%.

Bibliography:
• An electronic reading list will be posted online (Canvas).