I. Course Description
This course focuses on Haiti through an interdisciplinary approach. It is designed for students who have little or no knowledge of Haiti and its language, culture and society. Its offers the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the social, historical and political development of the Haitian society and to discover various aspects of the Haitian culture.

II. Course Activity
Among the topic that will be discussed are:
- Haiti: From the Colonial Period Through the era of Independence
- Family Structure, Property, Labor
- Language and Social Identity
- Literature
- Music.

III. Assignment Schedule
First Week August 25
Course Introduction
Film: The Haitian Eksperyans
August 27
Key dates in Haiti’s history
Haiti’s Contribution to the world

Second Week September 1
Landscape
Geographical data
September 3
Division geographic
Politic organization

Reading for week 3

Third Week September 8
Theme I: From Colony through Independence
Carolyn Fick
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations

Reading for week 4
David Nicholls (1996) *From Dessalines to Duvalier: Race, Colour and National Independence in Haiti* (Introduction)

**Fourth week**

**September 10**
Oral Presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture

**September 15**
*Theme II: Lessons of History*
David Nicholls
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations

Readings for week 5
Michel-Rolph Trouillot, “Culture, Color and Politics” in *State Against Nation* (chapter 4)

**Fifth Week**

**September 22**
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture

**September 24**
*Theme III: Difficult decolonization*
Rolph Trouillot
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations

Reading for week 6

**Sixth Week**

**September 29**
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture

**October 1**
*Theme 4: The American occupation*
Brenda Gayle Plummer
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations

Reading for week 7

**Seventh week**

**October 6**
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture

**October 8**
*Theme 5: Identity/Class and social stratification*
Léon-François Hoffmann
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations
Eighth Week  
October 13
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture  
October 15
Film  

Reading for week 9  

Ninth week  
October 20
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture  
October 22
Ira Lowenthal  
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations  

Reading for week 10  

Tenth week  
October 27
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture  
October 29
Léon-François Hoffmann  
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations  

Reading for week 11  

Eleventh Week  
November 3
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture  
November 5
Alfred Métraux  
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations  

Reading for week 12  

Twelfth Week  
November 10
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture  
November 12
Elizabeth McAlister  
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations
Reading for week 13

**Thirteenth Week**

**November 17**
Oral presentation on a topic related to Haitian culture

**November 19**
Jean-Robert Cadely
Seminar/Discussion/Oral presentations

**Fourteenth week**

**November 24**
Film

**November 26**
Thanksgiving

**Fifteenth week**

**December 3**
General discussion

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**IV. Evaluation**

Grade will be calculated on the following criteria:

**Oral Presentation** 15%
Students are expected to give an oral presentation on a topic related to Haiti.

**Attendance/participation** 15%

**Summaries** 20%

**Log of readings** (5 articles). Students are asked to provide a short summary (2-3 pages) of each paper discussed in class. These summaries must be computer-written.

**Final paper** 50%
**Final paper** (10 pages). The final paper primarily will present your point of view on a topic covered during the semester.

In order to keep the cost of books down and the reading list pertinent, several articles will be compiled in a packet of reading.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

“Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.”