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LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT
A COURSE PROPOSAL: AFRO LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION

PROJECT SUMMARY

- I. Development of a one-semester Afro Latin American culture course. The new course will be entitled *Afro Latin American Culture and Civilization*. The course will include both a global and a language specific component.
- II. The target language specific components will include:
 - a. Brief historical and geographical overviews
 - b. Comprehensive cultural legacies
 - c. Both mainstream and ethnic literary overviews
- III. In addition to target language specific course content, this course will include in its comprehensive focus:
 - a. African ethnicities and legacies among Spanish, French, Portuguese and indigenous peoples in the Americas
 - b. Strong focus on the various Afro-Caribbean ethnic groups, often neglected, especially in Spanish
 - c. Geographic, historical, and socio-economic conditions and realities, political inferences, religion, and the arts, (both visual and performance), such as cuisine, music, oral literature, dialect variations in the lingua franca, etc.
 - d. Comparative linguistic influences and cultural developments among various peoples
 - e. Geographic ethnic heritages, including many cultural ramifications which derive strongly from ethnic roots but are not recognized as such.

This course will enhance existing departmental and university academic initiatives and course offerings. It will integrate student, faculty, and community activities at the regional, national and international levels by providing a rare and very significant opportunity for active collaboration among members of the Xavier family and numerous representatives of many cultural groups throughout the area.