PORT 365

This course will focus on how contemporary Brazilian movies have presented and discussed Brazilian history, culture and society. We will discuss how documentaries and fictional movies have either reinforced or destroyed several stereotypes about Brazil, and analyze how different films have dealt with similar cultural issues. Students are expected to achieve a broad understanding of the various phases of contemporary Brazilian cinema, as well as of the main issues that these films have explored. Among some of the topics studied are racial, social, and economic relations, the Brazilian family, Brazilian colonial past, the Brazilian “Sertão,” and the contemporary urban and metropolitan Brazil. Besides watching the movies, students will read critical and theoretical essays by cinema scholars, movie directors, and historians, about the films or the contexts they present, and the issues they raise. Students will be expected to attend film screenings in addition to regular class meetings. MW-11-12:15